



# **YAXLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

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**To: All Members of the Community Facilities Committee**

Sir/Madam

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the **Community Facilities Committee** of the Yaxley Parish Council to be held **on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers, the Amenity Centre, 48 Main Street, Yaxley, PE7 3LU, followed by a meeting of the Planning Committee.**

*H. Taylor*

**Helen Taylor**  
**On behalf of Yaxley Parish Council**

**18<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

## **AGENDA**

- CF69. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
- CF70. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS**  
To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, as set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and the nature of those interests relating to any Agenda Item.
- CF71. MINUTES**  
To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Facilities Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – attached.
- CF72. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
A maximum of 15 minutes is permitted for members of the public to address the Council.
- CF73. PARISH SPORTS PROGRAMME**  
To note that the May session for Yaxley will be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023 2pm to 4pm.
- CF74. ANNUAL PLAYGROUND INSPECTION SAFETY REPORT**  
To receive a report by the Clerk – attached.
- CF76. YAXLEY CALENDAR AND CAMERA CLUB**  
To receive an update.
- CF79. BULKY WASTE COLLECTION**  
To note arrangements to hold a bulky waste collection on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**CF80. COMMUNITY FRIDGE UPDATE**

To receive a verbal report

**CF81. ALLOTMENT UPDATE**

**CF82. ALTERNATIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND BIODIVERSITY**

To consider a report by the Clerk – attached

**Cut off time for the meeting is 20.00**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Facilities Committee  
held in the Council Chamber, the Amenity Centre, Main Street, Yaxley on  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.00pm.**

Present:- Councillor J Lusted - Chairman

Councillors R Butcher, S McMullon and M Oliver.

In attendance – Mrs H Taylor – Parish Clerk.

**CF57. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received and accepted on behalf of Councillors D Chapman, B Edwards, K Gulson, A Knight and A Minns.

**CF58. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor S McMullon declared a pecuniary interest in Item No.CF65 by virtue of being an allotment holder.

**CF59. MINUTES**

Councillor R Butcher proposed approval of the Minutes of the Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022. This was seconded by Councillor S McMullon and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

**CF60. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No Member of the Public wished to speak.

**CF61. WILLOW POND INTERPRETATION BOARD**

Members were pleased to note that the interpretation board for Willow Pond had been installed in the Recreation Ground.

**CF62. GRAFFITI WALL**

Having received a proposal put forward by the Clerk to install a graffiti board on an area of land near to the pavilion, it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher, seconded by Councillor M Oliver and unanimously **RESOLVED** that a graffiti board be built on the old garage base in the Recreation Ground, the cost to be met from the youth projects budget.

**CF63. CHARGING OF VAT FOR SPORTS FACILITIES**

By way of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) Members were advised of a change to existing guidance from HMRC for sports and leisure services and the implications for the Parish Council. Having been advised that HMRC now accept that local authority sports services can be treated as non-business and outside the scope of VAT it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that:

- with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, VAT no longer be charged on the football pitches, cricket and 3G facilities, with the overall price remaining the same, given that the facilities are subsidised by the Parish Council; and
- guidance be awaited from HMRC over the possibility of reclaiming and refunding past payments.

This was seconded by Councillor S McMullon and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

**CF64. CORONATION WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS**

By way of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), Members were apprised with various events being planned for the Coronation Weekend.

**CF65. ALLOTMENT UPDATE**

Members noted that fees were outstanding on three plots and these had been sent reminders. There are currently 27 people on the allotment waiting list, 5 of which were non-residents of Yaxley.

**CF66. REPAIR CAFE**

Members were advised that Peterborough Repair Café would be returning to the Owen Pooley Hall on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023 between the hours of 11am and 4pm. The Parish Council continues to support this project by giving the use of the hall for free.

**CF67. COMMUNITY FRIDGE UPDATE**

Councillor R Butcher reported that the Community Fridge remains busy with an average of 50 – 60 bags being given out every Wednesday and Friday. Having mentioned the work of the volunteers, the Chairman thanked all those who give up their time to help with the Community Fridge adding that it wouldn't be the success it is without them.

**CF68. COMMUNITY LITTER PICK**

Members were advised that the next Group Community Litter pick would be on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023, volunteers should meet at the Pavilion at 9.30am. Refreshments would be provided afterwards.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm

Signed .....

Chairman.

**YAXLEY PARISH COUNCIL – COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

**DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

**SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND BIODIVERSITY**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To be advised of small changes to the Parish Councils grass management arrangement and to consider two requests for rewilding and a wildlife meadow.

**BACKGROUND**

The Parish Council are keen to support/promote wherever possible biodiversity projects in the village, this year this includes:

- Leaving an area of meadow grass at Daffodil Court uncut as well as a strip along the footpath at Primrose
- Leaving some banked grass areas uncut – Church Street, Middletons Recreation Ground, Queens Park
- Sowing various places with a low growing wildflower grass mix, including an area around the trees at Foxglove and Jasmine
- Planting trees around the village
- Supporting Yaxley Countryside Volunteers in planting bulbs on the recreation ground and creating a wildflower area on the Recreation Ground by providing the space and purchasing the bulbs and seed
- Supporting Yaxley Countryside Volunteers in works they have done to improve both Willow Pond and Pound Lane Pond

A past trial to leave the churchyard at St Peters Church uncut raised a number of issues and having spent a considerable amount of time to get the grass back to its original state it was agreed with the Church that the GroundsTeam went back to regular cuts.

The Clerk and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor have met with Emma Stannard, Grounds Maintenance Manager at the District Council to discuss the District's projects for Yaxley. The District are only able to do small sections in Yaxley as the areas they are responsible for are only small. During the meeting mention was made of the preparation required for wildflower areas and both sides agreed that the majority of grassed areas need to be prepared as they are too small or in the wrong location to let the whole area become a meadow. It is best to remove the grass first prior to sewing a wildflower mix, this stops the grass from taking over the area.

## **REQUESTS**

A resident has asked that we leave an area adjacent to their property at the top of Windsor/Broadway uncut. The resident has referred to the area having primroses, dandelions, violets and celandines growing. The area was previously left but due to the rye grass becoming tall the Grounds Team started to cut it again. All the area in question is next to the highway and the long grass has an impact on visibility, it also looks unkempt when not cut.

A representative of the Countryside Volunteers has asked that an area of the Churchyard at St Peters Church be turned into a wildflower area. They have suggested perhaps along the church wall, to do this successfully then the grass needs to be removed and a mix of dwarf wildflower mix sown. Part of the church wall adjacent to the field requires rebuilding this year and therefore it is not recommended that this area be included in any plans. However, if the Volunteers wish to prepare the ground and sow dwarf seed in other areas than this could be possible.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- That the report be received and the requests outlined above be considered.

**Helen Taylor - Clerk**

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