

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Facilities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, the Amenity Centre, Main Street, Yaxley on
25th April 2023 at 7.00pm.**

Present:- Councillor J Lusted - Chairman

Councillors R Butcher, B Edwards, D Chapman and S McMullon.

In attendance – Reg Bingham and Grahame Middleton from the Yaxley Countryside Volunteers, Councillor A Wood and Mrs H Taylor – Parish Clerk.

CF69. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received and accepted on behalf of Councillors K Gulson, A Minns and M Oliver.

CF70. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor S McMullon declared a pecuniary interest in Item No.CF78 by virtue of being an allotment holder.

CF71. MINUTES

Councillor R Butcher proposed approval of the Minutes of the Committee held on 28th February 2023. This was seconded by Councillor S McMullon and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

CF72. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Member of the Public wished to speak.

CF73. PARISH SPORTS PROGRAMME

Members noted that the next sports session for under 11's would run on Tuesday 30th May between 2pm and 4pm. Discussions are being held with the Healthy Lifestyle team at the District Council regarding the summer holiday programme for Yaxley.

CF74. ANNUAL PLAYGROUND INSPECTION SAFETY REPORT

Consideration was given to the content of a report produced by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) summarising the annual inspection of all nine of the Parish Council's Play Areas and Outdoor Gym. Members were pleased to note that there were no high risks items requiring attention which reflected the weekly inspection routine and the ongoing maintenance programme in place. The Clerk referred to the eight medium risks which mainly related to rubber tile surfacing being worn. She reminded Members that the Parish Council has a programme for replacing the worn surfaces with sufficient funds in the budget to do one area on Middletons Road Recreation Ground this year. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher that the report be received. This was seconded by Councillor B Edwards and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

CF75. YAXLEY CALENDAR AND CAMERA CLUB

The Clerk reported that the first meeting of the Yaxley Camera Club would be held on Thursday 4th May at 7.00pm in Queens Park Hall. Interest so far has been high and it will be beneficial to get everyone together to discuss what they would like from a club.

John
20/5/23

CF76. BULKY WASTE COLLECTION

The Clerk reported that this year's bulky waste collection would be held on 8th July 2023 at Queens Park.

CF77. COMMUNITY FRIDGE UPDATE

Councillor R Butcher reported that the Community Fridge remains busy with an average of 40 – 50 bags being given out every Wednesday and Friday. A new fridge has recently been donated which has come in very handy for storing the high levels of surplus bread being received. Members were pleased to note that after many years of discussions, the Co-op in Yaxley has started to donate their surplus items to the fridge and arrangements have been made for the volunteers to collect these every day.

CF78. ALLOTMENT UPDATE

Members were advised that there would be an allotment inspection later that week. Both the Bellvue and Whiteheads sites have no vacancies and the two remaining half plots on Yards End are on the verge of being taken.


CF79. ALTERNATIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

By way of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book), Members were advised of various changes to the Parish Council's grass management arrangements including leaving areas of meadow grass in suitable locations and sowing low growing wildflower mix in areas around trees on Foxglove and Jasmine. The changes were being made to improve the biodiversity, bringing benefits to the wildlife and long term sustainability for future generations. Both representatives of the Countryside Volunteers praised the Parish Council on this new approach and suggested that residents be asked for their suggestions on other areas that could be developed.

Members' attention was drawn to two requests asking that areas be left uncut or seeded. In considering the requests Members felt that the homeowner be advised that although it was not possible to leave the grass area outside their property on Windsor Road/Broadway uncut it would be possible for them to plant some bulbs along their fence line. With regard to a request to sow wildflowers at St. Peters Churchyard, it was suggested by Mr Middleton of the Countryside Volunteers that an alternative option may be the propagation of the primroses within the churchyard with the new primroses being planted in other areas. Members agreed that this would be a better way forward.

Finally, Members congratulated Reg Bingham of the Countryside Volunteers for being shortlisted in the Green Category of the BBC Radio Cambridgeshire Make a Difference Awards 2023 for his environmental work. The awards ceremony is due to take place in Peterborough in September.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signed  30/5/23

Chairman.