

EC175

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee
8th February 2011 at 7.30pm in the MSC Pavilion**

Present

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman), V. Mayes, K. Merritt, and K. Sammons
Pam and Peter Miller.
R. Medley (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from M. Cowan

2. Declarations of interest in agenda items

None declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 7th December 2010

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

4.1 The letter to the 'Players' concerning the donation for use of the Chapel in 2010 was tabled.

5. Correspondence

5.1 'Wos Up' Mobile Youth Project. The Clerk gave a brief outline of the project. As there had been recent instances of vandalism in the youth facilities, Cllrs. agreed that Simon Pickering, Development Officer for the Borough Council, should be invited to the next Parish Council meeting.

6. Playground

6.1 Safety Inspection. The monthly summaries were handed in. No problems were noted.

6.2 Finance for Playground Improvements. A donation of £402.30 had been received from the MSC Supporter's Association; this being half the profit from the 2010 Village Show. A note of appreciation would be placed in the 'Scene'.

The total from donations now stands at £3,275.46.

Cllrs. Sammons and Taylor and the Clerk had completed an application form for a £60,000 grant from Jubilee People's Millions; this being a 'filmed by ITV/public vote who gets the money' scheme.

Cllr. Sammons understood that the award of a Biffa grant (Wickhambrook should be eligible as the playground was 9.8 miles from the nearest landfill tip) would allow access to additional grants.

6.3 Publicity for Playground Improvements. Cllr. Sammons had requested exploded diagrams of the play items so that individuals or groups could sponsor a piece of equipment e.g. an individual stepping stone could be sponsored for about £70. Cllrs. resolved that the names of all those contributing would be listed on a plaque and displayed on site.

Publicity events were being planned. Cllr. Sammons had visited a Miracle playground which had been in use for eight years and described it as 'appearing brand new'.

7. Tree Warden' Report

7.1 Tree Planting. The Clerk had contacted the Scouts to seek clarification of the situation with regard to the trees offered by the Woodland Trust. The 2010 batch has been used in Hundon but Andrew Hattam, Group Leader, understood that a batch of 6 native species whips was likely to be offered in the Autumn of 2011.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

EC176

8. Cemetery

8.1 Safety Inspection. The inspection had been completed and would be handed in.

8.2 Funeral Biers. Cllrs. understood that these were the property of the Parish Council. The Parochial Church Council did not wish to have a bier in the Church. The Clerk was instructed to contact the Village Recorder, the History Society and the Chapels and put a note in the 'Scene/What's On' to see if any organisation was interested in homing them.

8.3 Dog Fouling. Evidence of recent fouling by dogs had been noted. Cllrs. resolved that a sign be placed at the rear of the Chapel on what appeared to be the most regularly used path. Peter Miller had a spare sign.

9. Churchyard

There was nothing to report.

10. Teen Project

10.1 Safety Inspection. Reports were handed in.

10.2 Vandalism. Peter and Pam Miller reported some minor vandalism.

The new sign listing safety regulations would be installed in the near future.

11. Six Acres

11.1 Safety inspection. The report was handed in.

11.2 Resurfacing of tennis courts. A letter had been received from Wickhambrook Tennis Club requesting permission 'to resurface and paint the courts in spring of 2011'. Cllr. Sammons offered to investigate the VAT situation.

12. Village Greens

12.1 Safety Inspection. This was handed in. Concern was expressed about the gradual erosion of Attleton Green by lorries cutting the corner.

12.2 Registration of Village Greens. All the necessary documentation and payments had been returned to the Land Registry. Confirmation in writing was awaited from their legal department but a phoned response gave the impression that there would be no problem with qualified title for the four greens but there could be a problem with Badmondisfield End. This could be traced back to the Commissioner's hearing of 1968 when the Parish Council representatives offered no evidence. If the Parish Council wished to apply for registration it would need to produce evidence of past ownership. This matter would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

12.3 New dog bins. Staff from St Edmundsbury Borough Council had visited both Coltsfoot and Attleton Greens and recommended the best positions for two bins. The Coltsfoot Green bin should be placed at the northern end of footpath 24 which runs between Cloak Lane and Coltsfoot Green, and the Attleton Green bin at the northern end of footpath 1 which runs between Farley Green and Attleton Green.

Date of next meeting.

This would be held in the MSC Pavilion on Tuesday 12th April 2011.

Meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on 8th February 2011.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date