

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at  
7.30pm in the MSC Pavilion**

**Present**

Cllrs. J. Walker (Chairman), K. Merritt and K. Sammons.  
M. Cowan and J. Norton.  
R. Medley (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Girling.

**2. Declarations of interest in agenda items**

None was declared.

**3. Minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

These were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising**

Item 4 of previous meeting – Use of small goals by the Football Club. A reply was awaited.

**5. Correspondence**

An invoice for the sum of £360 (including vat) had been received from David King for marking out the area around the War Memorial.

**6. Playground**

6.1 Safety Inspection. Monthly summaries covering the period up to the date of removal of the playground equipment on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April were handed in.

6.2 Playground Refurbishment.

6.2.1 Arrangements for Opening Ceremony. Work was due to start on installing the new equipment on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April and the target date for completion and handover was Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May. A possible date for the opening ceremony would be Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Progress would be more obvious by the next Parish Council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April and Annual Parish meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr. Walker would make contact with Sandy Wood of MSC to discuss preliminary arrangements and the Clerk would contact W.I. to see if their members wished to be involved.

6.2.2 Reinforcing Playground Entrance. Cllr. Walker had discussed this with MSC representatives and it was agreed that the surplus rubber matting, through which grass can grow, would be used.

6.2.3 Lease. An invoice for the first year's rent was awaited.

6.3 Bury Road playground – update. The playground was part owned by Havebury Housing and Suffolk County Council. The Parish Council was unwilling to take over responsibility until ownership was simplified and had informed both part owners of this response.

**7. Tree Warden' Report**

7.1 Jubilee Oak. This was planted on 7<sup>th</sup> March by children from Wickhambrook school. Members of the Bowls Club had offered to water the tree regularly during the summer.

**8. Cemetery**

8.1 Safety Inspection. Reports were handed in.

8.2 Marking of war memorial area. Flagstones and a North direction sign had been installed.

8.3 Chapel Rates. The rate demand for 2013/14 had been received. The rateable value was £710 but after application of Non-Domestic rating multiplier and the Small Business Rate Relief there was nothing to pay.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**

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**8. Cemetery (continued)**

8.4 Iron gates. The Clerk would remind JT Finishing Solutions about replacing the cemetery gates.

**9. Churchyard**

9.1 Safety Inspection. A report was handed in. There were no matters of concern.

9.2 Church Memorial Clock. Cllrs. were considering entering into an annual service agreement with Haward Horological Ltd. at a fee of £175 plus vat.

**10. Teen Project**

10.1 Safety Inspection. Weekly reports had been completed. There were no new concerns.

**11. Six Acres**

11.1 Monthly inspection reports had been completed. Cllr. Merritt had noticed some minor sinkage of the surface following the winter. He had also seen youngsters swinging on the crossbar of the small goals. Cllrs. understood that there was a possibility that they could be liable if an injury occurred. The Clerk was instructed to investigate how other landowners dealt with this situation.

11.2 Irresponsible dog owners. '£1000 fine' notices had been placed at all four entrances to the playing fields. The Clerk would remind St Edmundsbury about the request for temporary chalk stencils on the grass.

11.3 Village Carnival on 13<sup>th</sup> July. Cllrs. had agreed that their contribution to the event would be to pay for St Johns First Aid cover, the temporary events licence and insurance for the day.

**12. Village Greens**

12.1 Reports were handed in. John Norton offered to clean and treat the benches at Genesis and Coltsfoot Greens.

**13. Litter pick**

Cllrs. agreed the date of Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April. The usual arrangements would apply. Volunteers should gather in the MSC Pavilion at 10.30am and coffee and biscuits would be provided at midday. The Clerk would ask the Police for support.

**The Meeting closed at 8.33pm**

**Next Meeting** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in the MSC Pavilion.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**