

**Minutes of the meeting of the Wickhambrook Parish Council Estates Committee 9 August 2018  
at 7.30pm in the MSC Pavilion**

**Present**

Cllrs K. Merritt (Chairing the meeting), J. Barton and M. Jolland

Lay members J. Girling and J. Norton

Footpaths Officer R. Medley

Clerk S. Thorburn

There was one member of the public present.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Chairman Cllr K. Sammons and Lay member R. Merry

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

None were recorded

**3. Minutes of the meeting of 14 June 2018**

These were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising**

For information.

12.1 The cemetery gate had been attended to.

14.1 The contractor had been requested to attend to the protective post.

**5. Open Session – opened 7.35 p.m.**

Lay member J. Girling, the Tree Warden, had given his resignation to the Chairman and this was confirmed. The Chairman, Cllr Sammons, had accepted the resignation and sent thanks to Mr Girling for many years of excellent service to the Estates Committee. Cllr Merritt (Chairing the meeting) thanked Mr Girling on behalf of the Parish Council.

The member of the public expressed an interest in becoming a Lay Member of the Estates Committee and the Clerk was instructed send further details.

**Open Session closed 7.45 p.m.**

**6. Footpaths Officer Report**

R. Medley submitted the following report on the progress on Discover Suffolk Footpath Leaflet I met the Suffolk County Council representatives, David Falk and Anna McGowan, on Monday last and discussed our proposals. I gave the maps and walking instructions for the three suggested routes. They were slightly concerned about a short section walking along the top of the bank beside the B1063 (despite my obtaining the landowner's permission) because of uneven surface. They will walk the routes then come back with any queries. There is a possibility of doing a joint leaflet with Lidgate. They were keen on publicising the 'Greyhound' on the assumption that visitors to the area would wish to buy refreshments.

On current costings the price could be nearer £400 rather than the £300 already approved by the Parish Council.

The Footpaths Officer also described an anti-dog fouling notice seen locally and the Clerk was instructed to investigate how to obtain these.

**7. Lay member vacancy**

The Clerk had nothing to report regarding this vacancy, although one resident had been approached by email a reply had not been received.

*J Barton*  
Chairman

Date: 11 October 2018

**8. Youth Facilities****8.1 Main Playground**

8.1.1 Inspection . These were up to date. There had been an accident reported when a child had sustained an injury while on the equipment. Inspections had been immediately undertaken and all reports given in writing to the Clerk. No problem with the equipment or surrounding area was found. The Clerk had contacted the Borough Council to confirm that the correct reporting procedure had been followed.

**8.2 Teen Project and Games Area**

8.2.1 Inspections These were up to date.

**8.2.2 Games area report from site visit by Cllr Barton and R. Merry**

The benches had been reported as having splits in the wood and these had been removed for repair. Replacement wood was required and the large metal brackets reshaped by a blacksmith. All agreed the spend on the benches as they were a safety issue and these repairs had been identified as required by the Borough Council inspections.

**8.3 Bury Road playground**

8.3.1 Inspections . These were up to date.

**8.3.2 Litter problem**

The bin was being used for household waste and there was no means of disposing of this so that it could be used for litter and dog fouling waste. The Borough Council had been contacted and the Clerk had printed out notices requesting that this practice cease immediately and these had been fastened to the bin. The situation was to be monitored and further action taken if necessary.

**9. Tree Warden's Report****9.1 Acacia Trees inspection report**

The Tree Warden had identified the trees with high priority needs for attention. These were discussed by the committee and would be taken to the next Parish Council meeting for a decision on a course of action due to the cost involved.

**10. Cemetery**

10.1 Safety inspection . All inspections had been undertaken by Lay Member Norton

**11. Churchyard**

It was noted that the churchyard wall had not yet been repaired. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Church Warden had instructed the contractor to undertake the repair after agreement from the Parish Council.

**12. Six Acres**

12.1 Inspection . Cllr Merritt had submitted a report and dog fouling was on the increase. The Clerk was instructed to try and procure new signs for this area. The wooden post to protect the field had not been replaced to date.

**13. Village greens**

13.1 Inspections . Lay member John Norton had inspected all the greens and would work with Julian Girling to renovate the bench at Genesis Green.

**The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.**

**Next Meeting** Thursday 11 October 2018 in the MSC Pavilion.

I confirm that the above is a correct record of the meeting held on Thursday 10 August 2017.

***J Barton***  
**Chairman**

**Date: 11 October 2018**