

Minutes of the Facilities Committee of Aston Clinton Parish Council, held on
21st October 2015 at 7.00pm
at Aston Clinton Parish Meeting Room

Present:

Councillors: -

A Mooney - Chairman

P Wyatt

C Birch

P Hughes

L Ronson

J Egglesfield

S Beaumont

T Comerford

L Tubb

M Osborn

C Birch

Clerk: G Merry

0 members of the public

15.097 Apologies:

There were no apologies

15.098 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest

15.099 To Approve the Minutes of the Facilities Committee held 23rd September 2015.

The minutes were PROPOSED By Cllr Tubb, SECONDED by Cllr Read approved and signed.

15.100 Public Participation

There were no items

15.101 Invoices

There were 3 late invoices requiring payment: Architects fee for Community Centre Feasibility Study, Quantity Surveyor's fee for Community Centre and annual Insurance.

MOTION: to agree that the Clerk could pay the invoices PROPOSED By Cllr Comerford, SECONDED By Cllr Ronson and AGREED

15.102 Sports and Recreation

- i **Events:** 7-8 councillors confirmed they would be attending the Remembrance Day service with approx. 9 attending at the War Memorial. Cllr Ronson agreed to get out the P.A. system and test it.
Santa Float: It as discussed and agreed that as many scouts and guides as possible would be requested. The Clerk would contact Rennie Grove Hospice for the collection materials and would organise Santa's costume. It was felt that building the sleigh the day before the event would not allow time for things to go wrong. It was agreed to meet on Saturday 12th December instead. Cllr Birch would speak to Mr Lane re. use of the truck and Mr Maskell had offered use of his generator.
- ii **Play Park:** The new working party would meet with a play provision consultant on Friday 30th October to start planning. Cllr Wyatt reported that ACFC have bought the new dug-outs and are awaiting installation.
- iii **Village show/fete:** The Clerk reported that Cllr Collins (AVDC) had requested council's help to run a village fete/show in August alongside the Horticultural show. It was strongly felt that for an event of this nature to be successful, planning should have started months ago. There is already significant provision in the village and the P.C. does not have the manpower

to provide the admin and other necessary support. The Horticultural Society would be offered to erect a marquee without charge, although any arrangement with the Pavilion would be between them and the Café. It was also agreed that a music festival would be preferable and unique for the area.

15. 103 Grounds Maintenance

- i **Visit by Youth Group from Kent:** The Clerk reported on the expected timeframes for the day and that the play bark would be delivered the day before. There had only been a few offers of wheelbarrows and shovels so it was agreed that the Clerk would rent these from HSS hire. Cllr Read requested that any excess bark should be placed on the path to the bowls club where the ground is soggy.
- ii **The Chilterns:** Cllr Mooney stated that parish councils are increasingly being asked to adopt and therefore finance, play areas and other amenities in new developments. So far the P.C. has turned down requests to do this as money allocated was deemed to be insufficient and/or unsustainable. He suggested there is the argument that other village residents get their amenities paid for out of the precept but the new residents would not and would still be paying into the precept. There may a risk of annexing new communities within the village. Points were made as follows: That the P.C. would have to pay to maintain every play area, green space and LEAP in the many new developments that are planned; residents had been consulted and were concerned about insurance and the likelihood of being sued; only the residents in the new developments will use those facilities; there is no more minimum standard of quality for what is to be installed; residents in those areas would take more pride in their amenities because of paying their management fee. Cllr Mooney stated that the P.C. has never engaged with any developers to find out what they are offering. Cllr Hughes added that there would be a sum from AVDC to pay for maintenance but it would only last 10 years and would not be index-linked. Cllr Ronson had spoken to 8 other P.C. clerks, none of whom had adopted amenities in new developments. On the basis of this opposition, the proposed **motion** was not brought but Cllr Mooney signalled his intention to raise the matter again.
- iii **Quotes - Painting of Play Park:** Only one quote had been received and although it was acceptable, it was decided to defer painting until the working party had made its recommendations for the long-term future of the play park.
Play Park Surfacing: 3 quotes had been received. However, it was decided to defer surfacing until the working party had made its recommendations for the long-term future of the play park.
Access Path: The Clerk signalled her frustration at the delays to the S106 application process, as it seemed like AVDC were placing obstacles for obstacles sake. She was advised to involve local district councillors. The Clerk presented 3 quotes for the new access path, also including alternatives to tarmac.

Motion: To agree and recommend the supplier for the access path installation, it was PROPOSED by Cllr Ronson to engage the supplier offering the block paving option, SECONDED by Cllr Tubb and AGREED. It would not be possible to order the work though until the hold-up with the MUGA was resolved.
- iv **Working Party:** Cllr Mooney advised that it was time to draw up the specification for next year's ITT for the Grounds Maintenance contract and asked for volunteers for a working party. Cllrs Read, Ronson and Eggesfield all volunteered.

- v **Use of Compound:** It had been agreed to issue an agreement for the shared use of the compound by ACFC, AC Colts and the Scouts, and the Clerk had drawn up a suitable document. A peppercorn rent of £5 per year would be charged.

MOTION: To issue the agreement as presented by the Clerk, PROPOSED by Cllr Hughes, SECONDED By Cllr Eggesfield and AGREED.

Other:

- It was reported that the footpath from Beechwood Way through to Lower Icknield was in need of clearing
- Cllr Beaumont reminded all committees to present their forecasted expenditure figures to the F&S committee for precept planning.
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15.104 Community Centre

- i **Café in the Park:** Cllr Comerford continues to chase the lease from Café in the Park and the first month's rent had been invoiced.
- ii **Maintenance:** The Clerk reported that the UTC students would be visiting after half-term to carry out an assignment whereby they would assess the building's needs, make recommendations and carry out the work.

Cllrs Read and Comerford left the meeting at 8.40pm

Other:

Cllr Wyatt requested on behalf of Eamonn that the park barrier be closed at 9pm in the winter months instead of 10pm. This would be placed on the agenda for the P.C. meeting for further consideration.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday 18th November at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

..... Chairman

Date: