

UPPER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19th March 2019 at 8:00pm in the Beeding and Bramber Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: C. Warren (Chairman), S. Birnstingl, A Chilver, V. Cook, R Harber, I Ivatt, J. Rowland, J. Shaw, C. Verney, C. Warren.

Also present: Clerks - Celia Price and Colette Harber

2 Members of the Public

The Chairman reminded members of the public the requirement that they limit their participation to the Public Adjournment section of the meeting.

A:0319:01 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr T Kardos and Cllr P Kentell

A:0319:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest

The Chairman reminded councillors that previous declarations still stand (as defined under the Localism Act 2011).

A:0319:03 Public Adjournment

The Chairman invited questions and comments from members of the public present and the following was raised;

- Regarding A:0319:07, please note there is currently no shade in the play area. Would it be possible to have some trees or artificial shade?
- The play area would benefit from some climbing equipment.
- Regarding A:0319:08, have the Parish Council considered leaving it longer between cuts of the grass verges (this could save some money).

The Chairman responded advising that the comments regarding the play area will be considered later at the appropriate point on the agenda and the cutting of the grass verges is the responsibility of WSCC not the Parish Council.

There being no further comments the Chairman thanked those present and closed the public adjournment.

A:0319:04 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meetings dated 22nd January 2019 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by Cllr Birnstingl, seconded by Cllr Ivatt and agreed by all.

A:0319:05 Matters arising from the minutes

A:0119:06 Cllr Warren advised that he has spoken to Judith Steedman (retiring volunteer tree warden) and she is delighted that a tree will be planted to commemorate her service). It was suggested a Rowan or Whitebeam be planted at a location to be confirmed.

A:0319:06 Tree Warden

Stephanie Shorey reported that she has inspected the trees in Dawn Crescent as requested. The guard surrounding the commemorative tree needs attention.

In addition, the commemorative Oak tree along with the Field Maple has also been inspected. The Field Maple is growing into the Oak. Quotes had been distributed prior to the meeting,

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these were reviewed and discussed. It was agreed to award the contract for the work to South Coast Tree Care.

Proposed Cllr Warren, seconded Cllr Shaw and agreed by all.

On a general note, it has been observed that many trees are being damaged at the base by the grass cutters, in particular by trimmers. It was agreed to look at different types of tree guard or perhaps removing the grass close to the base of the trees to protect them in the future. The Clerk will speak to Grasstex and WSCC.

Stephanie also reported that she has started making a map of the commemorative trees in the Parish. To date four trees have been recorded in Upper Beeding and three in Small Dole; this project on-going.

In addition, tree support bands have started to be replaced and there have been six requests for new trees including one that was damaged by a vehicle and others that were casualties of the hot summer. The WSCC arboriculturalist has been consulted.

There is an opportunity to plant a Whitebeam near Judith Stedman's house and all agreed this would be a perfect commemorative tree and location. Simon Zec from Treedom will plant the new trees once finalised.

Finally, Judith Steedman has asked that her contact details be removed from the newsletter and website and be updated with Stephanie Shorey's details, the Clerk will facilitate this.

A:0319:07 Play Area

The Clerk reported that potential S106 funds available to be applied for will be in the region of £13k. HDC Parks Department have agreed to a site visit and to offer advice on appropriate equipment. A public consultation needs to be facilitated and this was discussed. The Clerk will update further at the next meeting.

A:0319:08 Grass Cutting

The Clerk requested the Grasstex contract be agreed for 12 months with a review of the tender process being performed over the summer. All agreed.

A:0319:09 Recreation Ground Annual Maintenance

The Clerk circulated a proposal from Grasstex to carry out annual maintenance of the football pitch. It was resolved to accept the proposal.

Proposed by Cllr Birnstingl, seconded Cllr Harber and agreed by all.

A:0319:10 Correspondence

A request for access across the recreation ground from Upper Beeding Primary School for their school fair was circulated prior to the meeting. Access will be needed on 21st and 22nd June. It was agreed to grant permission under the usual terms. The Clerk will communicate this.

The Clerk has been advised that the noticeboard at Truleigh Hill has fallen down. Cllr Birnstingl offered to visit the site and make an initial assessment its condition.

A:0319:11 Matters raised by councillors

There were none.

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 9:02 pm

The next meeting of the Amenities Committee will be on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 7:00pm in Beeding and Bramber Village Hall.

Minutes signed by:

Date: