

PARISH COUNCIL OF DENMEAD  
MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015,  
IN THE BARN GREEN ROOM, THE OLD SCHOOL,  
DENMEAD COMMENCING AT 7:30pm



Cllr K Scholey (Chairman)	(P)	Cllr K Andreoli	(P)
Cllr I Brown	(P)	Cllr F Hull	(P)
Cllr N Lander-Brinkley		Cllr P Langford-Smith	(P)
Cllr G West	(P)	Cllr M Willoughby (Vice Chairman)	(P)

Also present: Mrs Debbie Cooper – Committee Clerk and one member of the public.

- 018/16A **Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Lander-Brinkley.
- 019/16A **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
- 020/16A **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 were submitted for approval. **It was unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes of the Amenities Committee be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**
- 021/16A **Public Participation (S.0.1(c)):** At 7:32pm the meeting recessed into open forum to allow questions and comments from members of the public. The meeting reconvened at 7:41pm.
- 022/16A **New Communications:**  
a) Email from Mrs Caine, dated 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015, regarding her fence on Parish Council owned land.  
The Chairman stated that there was some confusion regarding the situation with the fence. The Parish Clerk had sent an email on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 stating that the fence panel could be jet washed by the Groundstaff. The Chairman further stated that no further action would be taken until the surveyor had made his judgement.
- 023/16A **Section 106 Funding:** Remaining balances Play =£5,455.68 and Sport = £6,581.65.  
**Noted.**  
Cllr Hull suggested that if there were any remaining funds, these could be used for Item 10 of the Agenda – Harvest Field, picnic bench near the willow dome.
- 024/16A **Cultivation Area at River End:**  
a) To receive a report from the Chairman, regarding the cultivation area at River End and the draft policy.  
The Chairman stated that he had amended the draft allotment policy, which will be renamed as the Cultivation Area Policy. The Chairman stated that he had produced a scale drawing of the Cultivation Area, showing the numbered plots and that this consisted of 8 plots which were 7m x 5.8m excluding the paths and that plot no 9 is larger and is a possible plot for the Denmead Junior School, and that DPC would only be taking applications for the 8 smaller plots.  
  
The Chairman stated that there had been an indication of interest from 2 residents of River End and 1 resident from Old River. Letters to invite an indication of interest should be sent to residents of Old River.  
  
The draft policy was discussed and the following amendments were suggested:  
  
The policy would be remained as Cultivation Area Policy.  
  
Add paragraph 2.14 – No livestock, bonfires or trees, other than dwarf root stock.

Amend paragraph 3.1 – Written permission from the Parish Council is required to erect to a building (either shed or greenhouse) on their allotment which must have prior agreement from DPC. It was further agreed that all buildings should be either dark green or dark brown in colour.

Paragraph 3.7 – replace the word trees with bushes.

Paragraph 5.5 requires rewording.

Discussion took place regarding the following items:

**Keys for the gates.** The fence around the cultivation area is approximately 5 foot in height, and Committee agreed that locking the gates seemed pointless – **It was unanimously AGREED that the gates would not be locked.**

**Water tap** – the water tap has a push tap, so that hose pipes cannot be attached, and this would encourage the use of watering cans.

**Erection of buildings – it was unanimously AGREED that anyone who would like to erect a building (either shed or greenhouse) on their allotment must have prior written agreement from DPC.** It was further agreed that all buildings should be either dark green or dark brown in colour.

**Livestock – It was unanimously AGREED that livestock would not be permitted in the cultivation area, due to the proximity of the houses in River End.**

**Map of the area** – The Chairman stated that plots 1 and 3 include a triangular area to the fence line which makes these two plots slightly larger. The subject of plot no 9 (school area) was discussed, and it was asked how the school would access this plot. The Chairman stated that the school could access this plot through the back of the ecology area.

**Water supply location** – It was asked if the tap would be relocated, as it was in the edge of plot no 5. The Chairman stated that there was no intention to relocate the tap. **It was unanimously AGREED that a slab path should be laid either side of the tap, to stop damage to plot no 5's produce.**

**Open land behind plot 2 and beside plot 4 – it was unanimously AGREED that this land should be used as a communal area, which could incorporate seats and a notice board.**

b) Charges for maintenance and water.

**Charges – It was unanimously AGREED that the rent charge for the cultivation areas at River end would be set at £25.00 per year, payable in advance, plus the water charge which will be divided between the functional plots in the cultivation area.** It was further agreed that that any one taking tenancy of a cultivation area part way through the year would be charged £2.50 for each remaining month, plus the water charge.

025/16A **Landscape Working Party:**

a) To receive an update from the Chairman.

The chairman stated that the LWP meeting did not take place, and therefore there was no update.

b) The next scheduled meeting of the Landscape Working Party will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015. **Noted.**

026/16A **Review of charges for hireable land within Denmead:**

a) To review charges for all Parish Council hireable land within Denmead, with the object to apply charges in a fair, uniform, equitable and transparent way to all use of Parish Council Open Space.

The scale of charges for open space land in Denmead was discussed.

**The following charge increases were AGREED by majority vote, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.**

Cllr Andreoli stated that the Archery, football and the Scouts should still be invoiced for the use of Kidmore Field.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Current Charge</b>	<b>New Charge</b>
Archery	£11.50 nil VAT	£15:00 nil VAT
Denmead Warriors Youth football Club		
Training Sessions (Tuesday evening / Saturday)	£4.00 + 20% VAT	£8.00 + 20% VAT
Denmead Warriors Youth football club (per Sunday game)	£4.00 + 20% VAT	£8.00 + 20% VAT
Scout Hut	£140.00 nil VAT per annum	Remains the same
Scouts, Guides & Cubs from Denmead	£15.50 nil VAT Day (up to 24 hours)	£25.00 nil VAT

**Other Charges**

**All fees area payable on booking facilities for one off bookings**

Scouts, Guides or Cubs from outside of Denmead	-	£40.00 nil VAT – Payment on booking
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**Events on all fields in Denmead**

Kidmore, Goodmans, Harvest, Heath Field and Ashling Park.		Price on Application For each event.
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Cllr Hull stated that the information sheet regarding Open Space land in Denmead, required updating.

027/16A **Harvest Field:**

- a) To discuss the purchase of a picnic bench to be located adjacent to the Willow Dome, exact location to be agreed. There is no budget allocation for this item. The Chairman stated that this matter had been discussed with Cllr Langford-Smith, Chairman of Highways and General Purposes committee, due to the fact that there was a lack of space for memorial benches and trees at the Burial ground and that Harvest Field could be utilised for these memorial benches.

Cllr Brown asked if this standard covered picnic benches? Cllr Hull stated that there was a different standard for the memorial benches (wooden) and play area benches (recycled plastic). Harvest Field is open space land and the willow dome is considered a play area.

Cllr Andreoli stated that Harvest Field is officially classed as a play area, and that H&GP have always looked after the benches for highways and the burial ground. The Chairman stated that if there is a request for a memorial bench a decision can be made as to where this bench is sited.

The Chairman stated that Reformed Plastics have a standard picnic bench at a cost of £460

Cllr Hull was concerned that the picnic benches require a concrete base, and disputed the fact that they needed to be anchored down. Cllr Langford-Smith stated that benches which can be bolted into grass should be investigated.

028/16A **Goodman Fields Working Party:**

To receive an update from the Chairman.

The Chairman stated that the Car Park at Goodman Fields has been laid and that a bund has been created around the perimeter with the post and rail fencing. The chairman raised concerns that there are a lot of weeds in the bund, but the Groundstaff may be able to use the side flail on the bund to keep these weeds under control. The kissing gate has been relocated, and the 3 tree stumps have been arranged around the kissing gate to stop bikes getting through it. The levels of the car park have been adjusted and the scalping surface has been put down.

The height restrictor will be put in place next week, to a height of 6ft 6 inches to stop trucks and caravans getting onto the car park. The Chairman further stated that there would be two lanes into the car park and that the palisade fencing would be extended to link the pumping station to the height barrier.

The entrance / exit onto the field has a 12 foot bank of overgrown shrubs etc, which requires cutting back as it affects the sight line. Treescape have supplied a quotation of £300.00 + VAT for this work. **It was unanimously AGREED that Treescape be employed to carry out this work.** There will be a sign stating that the “Exit to the left only” to encourage people to go around the roundabout and back towards Waterlooville, and priority will be given to people entering the car park.

During the public session, a question was asked relating to an auger test to establish if the fields were polluted? The Chairman stated that he would seek advice from Winchester City Council regarding a simple auger test. **It was unanimously AGREED that advice would be sought from Winchester City Council.**

029/16A **Sports User Group:** The Sports User Group meeting – provisional date of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015. **Noted.**

030/16A **Naming of Public Open Space in Hambledon Road, adjacent to Ashling Gardens:** To make suggestions for the re-naming and classification of land in Hambledon Road owned by the Parish Council. (To be passed by Full Council for consideration). e.g Hambledon Community Field, Heath Park / Parish Field.

After discussion, **it was unanimously AGREED, that the public open space land adjacent to Ashling Gardens should be named as Heath Field.**

031/16A **Plastic Fence Posts:** To consider adoption of using plastic fence posts as a standard. The Chairman raised the issue of replacing wooden fence posts with plastic fence posts. **It was unanimously AGREED that all fence posts which require replacement, will be replaced with maintenance free plastic fence posts.**

032/16A **Matters relating to Ashling Park:**

a) Vandalism / incident reports:

- 1) Notice board and signs in Ashling Park completely destroyed. **Noted.**
- 2) A resident of Woodrow complained about someone bouncing a ball on the basketball court at 5am. The person with the ball was confronted – but no response as to why they were there at that time. The resident asked why the small gates were not locked. The gates were not locked due to staffing levels.

b) Ashling Pavilion:

- i) New seats for the youth room – Deferred to Budget meeting.
- ii) New chair for the pavilion foyer area – Deferred to budget meeting.
- iii) New chairs and tables for the main hall – deferred to budget meeting.

- iv) Outside toilet – quotations for the replacement of the stainless steel toilet pan in the outside toilet at Ashling Pavilion. Needs to be fixed ASAP, as there is only one toilet working.

Discussion took place on the two quotations received and **it was unanimously AGREED to engage the company with the lower quote to replace the stainless steel toilet at the Pavilion.**

- c) Pop-up café – To receive an update on the pop-up café, at Ashling Pavilion from Cllr Hull. The Chairman stated that the Cllr Hull and some of the Youth helpers were going to run the café in the pavilion, which would be open seven days a week from approximately 10:30 – 16:30.

Cllr Hull stated that a 3 hour meeting had been held to discuss the Café, and that Cllr Rusbridger had carried out a risk assessment and had been very helpful.

Posters advertising the café had been placed on notice boards and in the bus shelters, and that the banners had been ordered.

Cllr Hull stated that she and her team would be scrubbing the kitchen at the pavilion tomorrow.

Cllr Hull requested that if any of the Councillors can deliver some flyers to advertise to the café it would be appreciated.

033/16A **Matters referred by other Committees:**

The Finance, Administration & Personnel Committee [min ref: 020/16FAP] asked that the job and responsibilities of the Caretaker / Ranger role be reviewed and if external cleaning contracts for the Pavilion could be brought in-house.

The Chairman stated that due to that lateness of the meeting, this matter should be deferred to the next Amenities meeting or referred to Full Council for discussion – 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015.

034/16A **Forestry Commission Liaison Group:**

The Forestry Commission liaison group meeting took place on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015. Cllr Hull stated that Simon James had been unavailable to attend, and that his colleague Andy Brunt had attended the meeting and the liaison group members had walked for approximately 1½ hours in Creech Woods. Cllr Hull further stated that the meeting had been very positive.

- 035/16A **Matters arising and outstanding matters from previous minutes:** To consider any matters arising or outstanding from the previous Amenities meetings. The matters arising and outstanding matters from previous meeting were not discussed due to the lateness of the meeting and will be deferred to the next Amenities meeting.

036/16A **Matters raised by Councillors:**

Cllr Brown asked if it was possible for the Amenities Committee to walk the village, as some of the newer Councillors were not aware of all open space land in the village. Cllr Hull stated that the Landscape Working Party had regular walkabouts in the village, and the Cllr Brown was very welcome to attend these walkabouts.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9:50pm. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

## Amenities Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015

### Public Session

Mr Kennett a resident of Park Road, raised the following regarding Goodman Fields.

Mr Kennett asked if contamination survey had been carried out on Goodman Fields with regards to the dog faeces. The Chairman stated that Cllr (Doctor) Hargreaves had been investigating this issue and in her opinion there didn't appear to be a problem.

Mr Kennett stated that there used to be Jogging track in Goodman Fields, which has been abandoned due to the dog faeces.

Mr Kennett asked why the Car Park had been built, before these tests had been carried out, as the fields may not be suitable for play or picnics. The Chairman stated that at present, Denmead Parish Council have not decided what activities Goodman Fields will be used for.

Mr Kennett was concerned that if Goodman Fields were used as a picnic area, then toilet facilities would have to be made available. The Chairman stated that there were toilets in the village centre, and that there is no law to say you have toilets on-site.

Mr Kennett raised the issue of the horses, that would not eat the hay put down for them in the Goodman Fields, and asked what tests had been carried out. Cllr West stated that the Environment Agency carry out regular tests on the river which runs through Goodman Fields and nothing has been reported to Denmead Parish Council.

Mr Kennett asked if an Auger test could be carried out in the field to establish if the fields were polluted? The Chairman stated that he would seek advice from Winchester City Council regarding a simple auger test.

Mr Kennett was concerned that the Parish Council were changing the use of Goodman Fields, if picnic benches were installed it would encourage children to play in amongst the dog faeces. Cllr Hull stated that Denmead Parish Council were not changing the use of Goodman Fields, the fields have always been available for informal play and recreation.