

PARISH COUNCIL OF DENMEAD
MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2015, IN THE
BARN GREEN ROOM, THE OLD SCHOOL, DENMEAD
COMMENCING AT 7:30pm



Cllr K Scholey (Chairman)		Cllr J Harrison (Vice Chairman)	(P)
Cllr N Lander-Brinkley		Cllr K Andreoli	(P)
Cllr I Reed	(P)	Cllr F Hull	(P)
Cllr G Crooks	(P)	Cllr G West	(P)
Cllr M Willoughby	(P)	Cllr I Brown	(P)

Also present: Mrs Debbie Cooper – Committee Clerk and no members of the public.

In the absence of Cllr Scholey, Chairman of Amenities Committee, Cllr Harrison, Vice Chairman of Amenities took the chair.

072/15A **Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Scholey (Chairman) and Lander-Brinkley.

073/15A **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

074/15A **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**
The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 3rd December 2014 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.**

075/15A **Public Participation (S.0.1 (c)):** There was no requirement for a public session.

076/15A **New Correspondence:** There was nothing to discuss under this agenda item.

077/15A **Section 106 Funding:**
a) Section 106 Open Space Funds. To receive the balances of the Open Space fund as of 31st December 2014. **Noted**
The Section 106 Open Space funds have been reduced to cover the invoice for the new item installed in the Skate Park. The balances are now at Play = £27,283.33 and Sport £0.00.

The Committee Clerk stated that she was currently investigating why the payment for the Skatepark item had been taken from the Sport 'pot'.

- b) **Open Space at Little Frenchies Field – Section 106 funding.**
i) Email from Stuart Dunbar-Dempsey, dated 13th January 2015, re Little Frenchies Field – Open Space payments. It was noted that the Open Space payments relating to Little Frenchies field have been paid in full and that the only outstanding amount was related to the commuted sum. **Noted.**

078/15A **Open Space Land at Little Frenchies Field:**

- a) Letter to Hampshire County Council regarding the transfer of land at Little Frenchies Field from Hampshire County Council to Denmead Parish Council [062/15A] refers, dated 7th January 2015. **Noted.**
- b) Email from Joe Malone (HCC), dated 15th January 2015, regarding letter referenced above. The Chairman believes that the land at 'c' has an LTC (previously there were laurel trees on this piece of land) and the owner lives in Frenchies View. The Committee Clerk to investigate this matter.

Cllr Hull stated that the land the land at 'c' should belong to DPC, and that all the paperwork had been completed and sent to WCC, but was never progressed. Cllr Hull believes, therefore that this land is owned by HCC and that DPC need to establish ownership.

It was unanimously AGREED that DPC require a correct map of this land to establish who owns the land at 'b' and 'c' on the attached map.

079/15A **Proposed use of Open Space Funding:**

a) **Mill Close – Play Equipment**

Cllr Hull stated that a Sales person had visited the site and provided quotations, which were not as requested. Therefore this agenda item is ongoing, and Cllr Hull will visit the Parish Office and discuss with the Committee Clerk.

b) **The Barn – Play Equipment**

Cllr Hull stated that a Sales person had visited the site and provided quotations, which were not as requested. Therefore this agenda item is ongoing, and Cllr Hull will visit the Parish Office and discuss with the Committee Clerk.

080/15A **War Memorial Hall:**

- a) Memorandum of Understanding. To consider a request from the Management Committee to renew the Memorandum of Understanding between DPC and DWMHMC for use of the facilities at the War Memorial Hall. Cllr Andreoli stated that it was previously agreed by this committee that this matter would be postponed until after the May elections. **Amenities minute [044/15 (d)] refers.**

The Chairman requested that the Parish Clerk and Committee Clerk check the amended documents against the original, and also check with Cllr Lander-Brinkley regarding the discussions at the meeting between DPC and the War Memorial Hall Management Committee.

It was unanimously AGREED that this matter should be discussed at the Full Council meeting and not at Amenities Committee, and it was requested that this item to added to the next Full Council meeting, due to be held on 25th February 2015.

081/15A **Fencing on Parish Council owned land at 1 Ashling Gardens:**

A resident of Ashling Gardens has extended their fencing to incorporate land which is owned by Denmead Parish Council (to the boundary of the War Memorial Hall).

It was unanimously AGREED that a solicitors letter should be sent to the residents of 1 Ashling Gardens, requesting that the fence is removed from DPC owned land and that this land is reinstated.

It was also unanimously AGREED that a letter should be written to the residents of 3 Ashling Gardens informing them that the marked out land at the rear of their property was Denmead Parish Council owned land, and that these markers should be removed.

082/15A **Allotments at Old River:**

To receive a memo from the Clerk, dated 22nd January 2015 requesting guidance on the use of the allotments at River End to allow a policy to be drafted for the management of these.

The proposed Allotments at River End were discussed and the following points were made:-

- DPC should only allow plants (such as fruit and veg or flowers) to be grown.
- No livestock should be allowed, due to the proximity of the houses.
- There should be a height restriction on plants, so that large trees are not planted. Soft fruit and step over trees would be acceptable, and these should not shade their neighbour's plots.
- The water taps should be lockable.
- Allotments should be offered to the residents of River End and Old River in the first instance and thereafter, other Denmead residents.
- Who will be responsible for the fencing / locks.

The Chairman stated that due to the proximity of the school, Bee keeping would not be acceptable.

Cllr West has knowledge of the Barn Green Allotments and stated that their charges were £22.50 per annum and that the plots.

A suggestion was made that obtaining a copy of the Barn Green Allotment agreement would be a good starting point.

Cllr Andreoli stated that Committee cannot make a sensible decision regarding charges until it is established how many Allotment plots there will be.

The Chairman stated that there were a lot of imponderables, and that without the facts it was difficult to make decisions regarding charges. The Chairman felt that an Allotment Working Party should be established.

083/15A **Denmead Bowls Club**

- a) Bowls Club footpath: Denmead Bowls club have access to some old lighting columns from SSE. They wish to install three along the path to the Bowls Club. The matter of the installation of lighting columns along the pathway to the bowls club was discussed and the following points raised:

- The lighting should be directional and have the ability to be dimmed.
- Any lighting must not cause annoyance to local residents.

It was unanimously AGREED that a letter should be written to Mr Brian Goldacre requesting his feasibility study. Also to request a meeting with him at a date and time to be agreed with the Landscape Working Party to discuss the Bowls Clubs plans for this lighting.

This matter should be and item on the agenda for the next LWP meeting and the Chairman suggested that the working party visit the proposed site.

- b) To receive membership numbers for the Bowls club.
It was unanimously AGREED that the Bowls club lease be checked with regards to the percentage of Denmead and Southern Parishes residents against members from other areas.

084/15A **Landscape Working Party:**

- a) The Chairman stated that he hadn't attended the last Landscape Working Party meeting, but stated that Cllrs Reed and Hull had been in attendance if there were any queries. With regards to 2.a.i. Cllr Brown queried why D/Cllr Read had agreed to have this tree removed. The Chairman stated that this tree was not being removed, and D/Cllr Read had not agreed this matter, but the LWP.

Cllr I Reed queried 2 g – “A tree at Bridge Green had broken its securing strap and was leaning. Groundstaff has already noticed and would rectify”. Cllr Reed stated that this was still outstanding and requested that the Groundstaff be chased regarding this matter.

Cllr Andreoli queried 1.h.ii (a) – “Old fence bordering the park can be removed. Payback can be used to remove the fence, but Groundstaff will need to remove posts. Cllr Andreoli asked when this work would be completed.

The Committee Clerk stated that the new Tractor has still not been delivered.

- b) To receive and accept the notes of the Landscape Working Party meeting held on 20th January 2015. The notes of the Landscape Working Party were received and accepted.
- c) To receive an update from Cllr Hull after a meeting with the Environment Agency to discuss maintenance responsibilities of areas of main river in Denmead. Cllr Hull gave a report on the meeting held between herself, the Parish Clerk (Tony Daniells) and Mr Hamilton from the Environment Agency, and that this had been a very positive meeting.

Mr Hamilton brought along a lot of maps and his laptop, which enabled the maps to be enlarged on specific areas.

The problems at the Anmore end of the river was discussed. Mr Hamilton stated that he had discussed the stream with the tenants adjacent to kings pond and was currently trying to establish the identity of the owners. He would also look into the state of stream where it crosses Mr Byng's Field.

With regards to the main watercourse through the village, DPC had ceased to maintain two deep areas in Creech View as the gates had been chained and padlocked by the Environment

Agency. Mr Hamilton was unaware of any padlock being fitted by the Environment Agency and suggested that DPC bolt crop these padlocks to gain access and replace with one of DPC's universal padlock and chains and that the Environment Agency could then add their own padlock at a later date.

The junction of the main ditch with the tributary from Forest Road was discussed. The bed of the ditch is overgrown with flag and other plants, Mr Hamilton stated that the Environment Agency will sort out this problem.

The Banks belong to DPC and will require maintenance and the Environment Agency will sort the beds out once a year.

Cllr Reed asked if the Groundstaff had been working in the Waterways and asked if there was a similar constraint to the water wildlife as with bird nesting season. Cllr Hull stated that as the Head Groundsman had grown up in the village, and was fully aware of the newts and other river / pondlife.

085/15A **Goodman Fields Working Party:**

- a) To receive an update from Cllr Harrison.

The Chairman stated that no meeting has taken place in the reporting period and therefore there was nothing to report.

086/15A **Sports User Group:** The next Sports User Group meeting will take place on Thursday, 9th April 2015. **Noted.**

- a) Scale of Charges for Kidmore Field and Ashling Park.

It was unanimously AGREED that the Scale of Charges for Kidmore Lane and Ashling Park should be increased by 2% to the nearest 50 pence.

087/15A **Matters Relating to Ashling Park:**

- a) **Vandalism Reports**

- 1) Scratch on Pavilion Hall Floor, caused by equipment being dragged across the floor. Food on ceiling and light fitting (newly painted) wall in front of kitchen hatch, painted twice in last year which was covered in dirty marks most probably caused by feet. Floor has been polished, but scratch still visible, wall will be repainted shortly.
- 2) Gate at the Murphy's Strip Nature Reserve kicked in, two slats broken and both locks bent. Gate removed and new slats and bolts fitted.
- 3) Ashling Pavilion: Fire Alarm set off by Youth Club. Fire brigade called as ranger was unable to reset.

It was stated that there was only real matter concerning vandalism was the gate at the Murphy's strip and that the other 2 were incidents rather than vandalism.

- b) **Pavilion Working Party** – To receive an update from the Chairman including any response to an advert placed in the village centre inviting interest in running a pop-up café.

It was unanimously AGREED that a Pavilion Working Party meeting should be arranged and the two interested parties be invited to the Ashling Pavilion to see the facilities available and discuss their proposals. Cllr Scholey to arrange this working party meeting.

- c) **Pavilion Roof repairs** – To receive an update from the Chairman [FA&P – 62/15FAP (d)]. Work will commence on the Pavilion Roof on Monday, 23rd February 2015 and will take approx. 3 weeks to complete.

It was unanimously AGREED that Sgt Gilmour should be made aware that this work was taking place and request extra patrols of Ashling Park during this period.

- d) **Playground inspections** – To note that the playground inspections were postponed on 3rd February 2015. A new date will be scheduled and the Committee Clerk will summarise finding. **Noted.** Playground Inspections were carried out on Tuesday, 10th February 2015, awaiting report.

088/15A **Forestry Commission Liaison Group:** The next Forestry Commission Liaison Group meeting will be held on Monday, 2nd March 2015. **Noted**

089/15A Matters arising and Outstanding matters from Previous minutes: To consider any matters arising or outstanding from previous Amenities Committee meetings.
The outstanding matters were reviewed and updated.

The matter of the Pavilion Clock was raised and **it was unanimously AGREED to remove the clock and establish the problem.** The Chairman stated that this would probably have to be delayed until the Spring.

Cllr West stated that changes to the CDM regulations could affect any work at the Pavilion, and it was requested that the Parish Clerk investigates these changes.

090/15A Matters raised by Councillors: To take note of any matters Councillors wish to bring to the Committee's attention for inclusion on the next agenda. (No decisions can be taken).
Cllr Brown raised the matter of a van which is parked near the verge at the Murphy's strip every night. He stated that the trees and bushes were being damaged and this should be investigated.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.20pm The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, 25th March 2015 at 7:30pm.