

PARISH COUNCIL OF DENMEAD



MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22 MARCH 2017 IN THE BARN GREEN ROOM, THE OLD SCHOOL, DENMEAD COMMENCING AT 7:30pm

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

Also present – Mr Tony Daniells, Committee Clerk. There were no members of the public in attendance.

In the absence of a Chairman, Cllr Huntington, as Vice-Chairman of the Amenities Committee, chaired the meeting.

099/17A Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs Hull, Scholey and West.

100/17A Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest made at this time.

101/17A Minutes of the Previous meeting: The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 February 2017 were submitted for approval. A proposal was made to amend minute 098/17A to the effect that the Parish Council could write to the Forestry Commission without first obtaining the support of C/C Stallard. Cllr Lander-Brinkley considered the original minute reflected the comments at the meeting but other Councillors remembered it differently. **It was RESOLVED by a majority to amend the minutes and an amended copy of the minutes were duly signed.**

102/17A Matters arising and Outstanding matters from Previous Minutes:
The Chairman invited comments on the Actions List previously circulated. There were no comments made by Councillors. The Clerk commented that someone would be needed to complete the actions on the Scout Lease Review and process for future reviews. The Groundstaff storage area had also been cleared of dumped materials. His comments were **NOTED**.

103/17A Public Participation (S.0.1 (c)): There was no requirement for a Public Session.

104/17A Correspondence:

- a) Email from Crawford & Co: The loss adjusters had advised the Parish Council that they had requested an independent arborists report for their assessment of the risk posed by nearby trees. **It was AGREED to await a copy of their report.**

105/17A Landscape Working Party:

- a) There were no updates to receive above that recorded in the notes of the LWP meeting held on 28 February 2017.
- b) The notes from the Landscape Working Party meeting held on 28 February 2017 were received.
- c) The following recommendations were received from the Landscape Working Party.
 - i. To consider funding an information board for visitors to Goodman Fields. Cllr Lander-Brinkley led the discussions on this request. He had contacted the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Trust (HIoWT) about assessing the information to be displayed on the board. They had agreed they would visit the site for a donation of £100. A date for a visit was yet to be agreed. Discussions followed on the size of the board. The Clerk provided some costs of lecterns constructed from oak and recycled plastic. The Committee agreed that the board would be an advert for the Parish Council and not seek any sponsorship to meet the cost. The budget for 2017/18 included the sum of £1,000 (Sage 6303) for this item.

It was unanimously REOLVED to fund the visit by HIoWT at a cost of £100 and to purchase an oak lectern (Salisbury Lectern from Norbury Park Wood Products) and set aside funds to purchase up to an A1 sized board if needed.

- ii. To consider options for replacing the log retaining wall at Hatchmore. Cllr Langford-Smith tabled some photos taken of the log retaining wall. The Committee explored the options open to them including replacing like for like or with recycled plastic posts, using gravel boards, replacing with stonewalling and removing the posts and grading the bank. The cost of each

option was also considered.

It was unanimously RESOLVED to remove the posts and to grade the bank and to revisit this matter if the bank started to collapse.

- iii. To consider using Hampshire Tree Services (HTS) for works to DPC trees. The Head Groundsman had used HTS to complete some work. Their price matched that of the previous arborist used by the Parish Council. He was happy with the quality of their work.

It was RESOLVED to use HTS as the preferred arborist for a further 6 months and to review his work and pricing at that time.

- iv. Tree Survey and report: Survey and reports now complete. The Clerk reported that the survey had identified some work and outlined these. Now that use of HTS had been agreed he would get a cost of these works. **NOTED.**

106/17A Matters Relating to Ashling Park/Ashling Pavilion

- a) Soccer School: WCC would again run a Soccer School at the KGV, Ashling Park over the Easter school holidays. **It was unanimously AGREED that WCC could use the KGV for a Soccer School provided the organiser checked the pitch condition with the Head Groundsman prior to using. The Head Groundsman would have the authority to call off the use of the pitch if it was unplayable.**
- b) Opening of the Retail Water Market: **It was AGREED that the Council would compare suppliers once the market opened.**
 - i. Use of the Pavilion by the youth would be agreed as part of the Youth Review. Cllr Brown commented that some residents who wished to attend the APA at the Pavilion were turned away by the Youth Staff on the evening.
 - ii. Cllr Brown enquired about disabled access to the pavilion and if transponders could be used to open the access gate off Lowland Road. The gate also self closed and this could be a problem for disabled users of the Pavilion. If assistance was required via this gate, then the user would need to make arrangement for this and the gate should be adjusted so that it did not self close. Access via the kissing gate at the Southwick Road car park should be wide enough to allow wheelchair/buggy access. There followed a short discussion on lighting at, and to the Pavilion. The Clerk replied that access should be via the greenways which were lit, although other Councillors considered that users would take the shortest route along the path in the Park. The Pavilion itself was still dark and it was agreed that additional lighting would be considered when a MUSA was installed.

107/17A Open Spaces

- a) Goodman Fields
Committee considered the purchase of picnic tables for use at Goodman Fields to encourage their use for informal recreation. The Clerk had supplied costs for wooden and recycled plastic tables. £1,000 had been allocated to purchase these in the 2017/18 budget (Sage 6303). Committee asked that any benches purchased should be fire resistant and come with fixing kits. **It was RESOLVED to purchase two picnic benches in brown plastic together with their fixing kits.**
- b) Kidmore Field
The Clerk presented a quote to re-establish the ditches bordering Kidmore Field. This was to dig and bank the spoils, with a second option being to dig and remove. The work was identified during a meeting of the Anmore Flood Working Party. A second quote would be obtained to include removal of the spoils. **It was unanimously RESOLVED to fund the work up to a maximum of £2,400 from any year end underspend, or to top up any shortfall from Landscape Maintenance ER.**

108/17A Hedge at Kidmore Lane Car Park:

The hedge had now been planted and was showing signs of growth. The bench had been installed and the dog bin replaced with a dual purpose bin. A sign should be attached to the bin to show it this. It now remained to regrade the topsoil and complete the planting. **NOTED.**

109/17A Annual Playground Inspections

The Clerk advised that the annual playground inspections had been completed. A summary of the findings was previously circulated. The high risk findings had been addressed. Other findings were with the access gates and with wear to the safety surfaces. He advised the Committee of the need to establish a budget reserve to replace/relay the safety surfaces in the future. Committee asked that the yellow access gate near to the Bowls Club was checked. **NOTED.**

110/17A Budget 2016/17

The Clerk asked the Committee how it wished to manage any underspend at the end of the financial year. He also referred to an oil leak on the big tractor and if this could be looked at, although to access the engine would require removal of the cab and involve labour costs. **The Committee AGREED that any underspend in the Amenities budget should be split between Play Equipment (Sage 3013) and Landscape Maintenance (Sage code 3010) and that the tractor should be repaired.**

111/17A Denmead Day Care

The next quarterly review meeting was scheduled for Monday 3 April and would be attended by the Clerk and Councillors Langford-Smith and Huntington. **NOTED.**

112/17A Boules Terrain

The Committee received the update from the Clerk and **NOTED** the content. Mrs Jackson should be invited to meetings as she had offered to continue her involvement. **It was AGREED that this matter should now be dealt with by the Amenities Committee.**

113/17A Vandalism: The Clerk reported one incident which was the finding of a drug kit found in the Ashling Park. **NOTED.**

114/17A Sponsorship of Roundabouts in Forest Road and flower beds around the village.

Cllr Langford-Smith advised during a meeting with WCC, they had agreed that any monies raised could be used for the benefit of Denmead. **It was agreed by a majority that this matter should remain with the Amenities Committee.**

115/17A Forestry Commission Liaison Group:

- a) A letter had been sent to the Forestry Commission regarding the removal of the wooden play equipment at Creech Woods and a reply was awaited. **NOTED.**
- b) The date of the next Liaison Meeting on 12 June 2017 was **NOTED.**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.14pm. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, 3 May 2017.