

MINUTES OF THE CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2007 IN THE SPORTS PAVILION DICK O' TH' BANKS ROAD

GENERAL AGENDA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. Mr Terence Guy of 11 Egdon Glen referred to the previous minutes and expressed a wish to speak on the fencing on the border between the sports field and the private lane in Egdon Glen, and the MUGA. Mr Guy informed the meeting that he had lived in Egdon Glen for 34 years and did not consider a fence is required on this border. On the matter of the proposed MUGA he expressed concern that a MUGA built on the sports field at a location furthest from the sports pavilion would be too close to properties in Egdon Glen. Mr Guy noted that the MUGA in Puddletown is at least half a mile from the nearest residence and the present suggested spot for the MUGA in Crossways is only 40 yards away from the nearest property. Mr Guy expressed concern that a MUGA in this location would reduce house prices in Egdon Glen by £25 – 30,000. Mr Guy stated he was surprised that WDDC had agreed the original plans for the MUGA. Mrs Guy referred to the noise emanating from the Dorchester skate park and that residents would be driven from their homes. Cllr Smy reminded the meeting about the plans for a MUGA had previously been agreed but the funding withdrawn as it was considered the business plans did not show sufficient participation rates. Cllr Smy advised those present that he had asked Kris Hallett from DCA to look into a combined skate park and MUGA venture stating that these plans will be put before the Council at the September meeting. Cllr Smy stressed that the Parish Council had not, at this point, agreed to any firm plans for a skate park/MUGA and there will be public consultation.

b. On the matter of the fencing Cllr Smy said that following complaints by a member of the public and Cllr Dave Smith the Parish Council considered fencing the field from the private lane abutting the rear of properties in Egdon Glen. Cllr Smy stated that the fence was a matter of the agenda and would be considered then.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from Cllr Elaine Stenning and Cllr Caroline Round.

ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a. Cllr D Smith and Cllr (Mrs) Smith declared a prejudicial interest in Item 6 of the Amenities agenda stating they would remain in the room but not vote.

b. Cllr Daniel Smy declared a personal prejudicial interest in Item 5a of the Planning Committee Meeting stating that he would leave the room and take no part in discussions or voting.

ITEM 3 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 10th October 2007.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Chair: Cllr V Bache

ITEM 1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous meeting dated 9th July 2007 Pages 373 – 376 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

ITEM 2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES There were no matters arising.

ITEM 3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a. The Chair advised the meeting of tree works carried out on trees at 12 Egdon Glen.

b. The Chair reported that an invitation had been received for two members to attend the Village of the Year presentation at Puddletown on the 12th September. It was agreed that Cllr Bache and Cllr Scard would attend.

c. The Chair asked for members to attend the Citizens Advice Bureau AGM at Thomas Hardy School. No members were available.

d. The Chair advised members that cleaners to the Pavilion had been hired on a three month trial period. Cllr Bache asked that the cleaners be requested to clean the external windows and soffits. The Clerk advised that the cleaners, Mr & Mrs Butcher have stated that cleaning external windows does not come in with their agreed payment. Health and safety issues were discussed as Cllr Bache asked that the cleaners be approached to clean the external soffits. Cllr Dave Smith suggested that a ladder or steps would not be required to clean soffits. It was agreed that the Clerk approach Mr & Mrs Butcher to see if they would quote for cleaning external windows and soffits. ACTION: CLERK

e. Other works to the Pavilion were discussed; it was noted that the light repairs were being done. Remaining works were discussed. Cllr Round said the other works should be brought to full council as an agenda item. Cllr Smy and Cllr Bache agreed to determine what estimates would be required.

ACTION/CLLR SMY, CLLR BACHE

d. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had made enquires regarding the large back of rubbish removed from the garage and left at the side of the Pavilion. It was agreed that the removal of this rubbish as a bulky item could incur a charge. After discussion Cllr Scard offered to remove this rubbish, Cllr Smy offered to assist.

ACTION: CLLR SCARD/CLLR SMY

e. The missing liner from the concrete bin at the Pavilion was discussed. The Clerk informed the meeting that DCC were unable to supply a liner. Other options were being pursued. The Clerk stated that

Mr Tizzard had given a name of a contractor who may be able to make a new liner.

ACTION: CLERK

ITEM 4 CONSIDER KRIS HALLETT'S REPORT ON YALBURY LANE MEETING (COPY ATTACHED)

Cllr Smy informed the meeting that he had spoken to Kris Hallett, Inspector Fry and CPSO Vickie Hedges on the problem. It was generally agreed that the meeting held by Kris Hallett and CPSO Hedges to discuss with residents and children the problems of playing of football and ball games on the areas of green at each end of Yalbury Lane concluded that the children of Crossways did not have enough things to do and the Parish Council has not considered their needs. The children want a skate park and MUGA. It was noted that the Police Authorities and DCA feel that troublesome children need activity and the Parish Council need to consider their needs. Cllr Bache asked why parents could not organise their own children and parents do not do enough for their children. Cllr Scard said that Betterment Properties should release land for open space sooner. Cllr Round reminded Cllr Scard that it was not in the agreement that open space land is released prior to completion of the site. Cllr Smy suggested placing a 'goal end' be placed in the area of land behind properties in Yalbury Lane at the rear of the Play Area. (Numbers to be confirmed). It was agreed that the occupiers of the properties in question should be consulted. It was agreed that this was an ongoing issue and it was noted to speak to Kris Hallett on this matter for further information/action.

ACTION: CLERK/KRIS HALLETT

ITEM 5 UPDATE MEMORIAL PARK (CLLR BACHE) TO INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF THE QUOTATIONS RECEIVED FOR REPAIR/REPLACEMENT GATES Cllr Bache said that she had met with Cllr Smy, Cllr Scard and Cllr (Mrs) Smith at the Memorial Park and presented a feasibility exercise for the Council to consider improvements/refurbishment to the Memorial Park:

- a. Gate was agreed that the estimate from Spring Forge for new gates was best value, it was further agreed to have the gates galvanised a total sum of £587.50.
- b. Chains The Chains need to be wire brushed and painted.
- c. Paving (pavement to Memorial) is considered to be okay.
- d. Area of crazy paving and raised pebbles need renewing. Clay paviours suggested and a quote requested from Steve Manuel £1500.00. It was noted that paviours will suppress weeds.
- e. History Board This is badly damaged. It is suggested it is dug up and put in a different place.
- f. Benches An estimate for the Benches was requested from Phil Bearman. This estimate is £95.00
- g. Planting Five new slow growing evergreens are needed plus soil. Existing bushes need pruning. Costing 3' Holly £10-£14, five evergreens approximately £100.00
- h. Stone Grassby Monumental Masons have been contacted and will be meeting with Council members to discuss writing.

Cllr Northcote stated he felt the Council should instruct a landscape architect to look at the Memorial Park refurbishment as a whole project. It was considered that the works on the Memorial Park are maintenance only and do not require a landscape architect. Cllr Bache stated that she felt some people do not want change. Cllr Bache said she had spoken to Mr Brian Puckett who said the RAF Association is in agreement with the work under consideration.

An overall estimated cost for these works was presented by Cllr Bache as being £2285.00. Cllr Smy thanked Cllr Bache for her report. Cllr Smy stated that he considered the raised pebble area of the Memorial as a Health & Safety risk, and the cost of repairing the gates is less than renewing. Cllr (Mrs) Smith and Cllr Smy informed the meeting that a sum of £51,000 is held in an account at WDDC for maintenance of open spaces and £3500 of this money is required for this project. Cllr Bache and Cllr Scard will undertake the planting.

Cllr Smy said the work is general maintenance and proposed that the sum of £3500.00 is drawn down from Parish Council money held on deposit at WDDC for this project. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Round. A vote was taken and agreed. 5 for, 2 against and I abstained. Cllr Brewer expressed concern about the timescale in attempting to get the work done by November 11th.

ACTION: CLERK/CLLR BACHE/CLLR SCARD/CLLR (MRS) SMITH

ITEM 6 CONSIDER QUOTATIONS RECEIVED FOR FENCING SPORTS FIELD The Clerk read out the quotations received. The quotation to fence the border was in the region of £5000. Cllr Brewer proposed that the Council do not proceed; Cllr Round seconded the motion, the Council voted all in favour.

AGREED

ITEM 7 CONSIDER COUNCILLOR TO BECOME THE PARISH COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PROPOSED RE-ESTABLISHED DAPTAC (DORCHESTER AREA PARTNERSHIP TRANSPORT ACTION GROUP) Cllr Brewer explained that the DAPTAC was an area partnership of Parish & Town Councils surrounding Dorchester. It was not considered necessary to send a representative to the DAPTAC.

AGREED

ITEM 8 CONSIDER TREE INSPECTORS REPORT ON TREES 8, 9 & 10 MOYNTON CLOSE It was noted that the previous Council did not feel it was appropriate to cut down or trim trees to improve television reception. Cllr Smith said the problem with television reception would be alleviated with the onset of digital television.

Cllr Brewer if the trees were not a safety issue then the work was not vital. Cllr Scard proposed asking for a quote. Cllr Brewer stated that previous tree work of this nature cost in the region of £400. Cllr Round proposed no further action, seconded by Cllr Brewer – agreed.

AGREED

ITEM 9 CONFIRM AND CONSIDER THE COUNCIL’S RESPONSE TO DCC IN THE MATTER OF THE FUTURE OF THE LIBRARY Cllr Smy advised the Council that a meeting of all Councillors had been held during the recess on August 21st. Cllr Smy thanked Cllr Brewer and Cllr Rhodes for their valuable input into the events leading up to the meeting. It was agreed Cllr Smy would draft a letter to be sent to DCC advising them of the Council’s decision. DCC will be informed that the Parish Council will not take ownership of the Library for the following reasons.

- a. The Council felt that running of Libraries is a DCC responsibility and taking over the running of the Library could set a dangerous precedent if DCC become short funded on any other service; would Parish Councils be asked to take over these services?
- b. The financial cost of running the Library would put an unacceptable burden on the precept incurring a 50-60% increase of the Parish precept which would be reflected in rates paid by Crossways residents. Cllr Smy added that if residents disagree with the Council’s decision they will listen.

The library will remain open for 9 hrs, provided for by DCC. This will see a reduction of 6 hours per week. The Council feel most strongly that DCC should retain the 15hrs for Crossways. The Parish Council’s response on their wishes for the future will be forwarded to DCC.

ACTION: CLERK/CLLR SMY

ITEM 10 REPORT MEETING WITH ROB CAMP, SENIOR SAFETY OFFICER DCC, TO DISCUSS PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE Cllr Smy informed the meeting that Councillors met with Rob Camp, the Senior Road Safety Officer for DCC during the recess and discussed the purchase of a SID. Cllr Smy advised the meeting that this is a device similar to the one installed at Bere Regis. If the Council decide to install a SID the money would need to be included in the 08/09 precept and included in the next round of budget setting. Consideration was given to joining forces with other Parishes abutting the B3390, Warmwell and Moreton. These Parishes will be approached. Five sights have been identified, opposite Garage B3390, (within Moreton Parish), the Link Rd before its junction with Dick o’ th’ Banks Rd, B3390 just before entrance to Oaklands Park and Dick o’ th’ Banks Road opposite the Sports Pavilion. DCC will undertake speed surveys at these points and part of the process prior to placing SIDs. Cllr Round stated that previous surveys have not shown speeding on the B3390. The meeting was reminded that as part of the traffic calming measures in Dick o’ th’ Banks Road speed surveys are being done on this road. The Council was asked to request funding for the SID from the Section 106 money given for traffic calming in Dick o’ th’ Banks Road. Cllr Smy reminded Councillors of complaints about speeding on the B3390 through the Village. It was further reminded that once installed SIDs need a team of volunteers to place the device at different locations at varying times.

It was proposed by Cllr Smy, seconded by Cllr Smith that this installation is considered and installed, subject to DCC surveys. The Council voted 8 for and 1 against.

ITEM 11 CONSIDER RESPONSE TO DCA TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION Agreed that the Clerk will return this response. Members were asked for forward any comments to the Clerk by the 13th October.

ACTION: CLERK

ITEM 12 PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT Copy to Chr Amenities and main copy of these minutes.

ACTION: CLERK/CLLR BACHE

ITEM 13 ANY LATE URGENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION Cllr Northcote gave three dates for the Council to meet to discuss the VDS (Village Design Statement), September 13th, 19th and 24th. Councillors were requested to liaise with the Clerk to arrange a suitable date for this meeting.

ACTION: CLERK

There being no other business the meeting closed.

Signed Chairman 2007