



**MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
25TH AUGUST 2015 IN THE PARISH MEETING ROOM, GOUDHURST ROAD, MARDEN
COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

- Min No**
- 032/15 **PRESENT:** Cllrs Boswell (in the Chair), Reed, Robertson and Tippen. The Clerk was also in attendance.
- 033/15 **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Brown sent her apologies.
- 034/15 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Boswell declared an interest on item 037/15(a)(ii) as resident of neighbouring property to Southons Field and Cllr Reed declared an interest on item 041/15(a) as a Trustee of Memorial Hall
- GRANTING OF DISPENSATION:** There were no requests for dispensation.
- 035/15 **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS AMENITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting held on 28th July 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record.
- 036/15 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING:** There were no members of the public in attendance.
- 037/15 **SUB-COMMITTEES REPORTS**
- (a) Open Space**
- (i) Playing Field**
Play Inspection Reports: Not yet received
Changing Rooms – The re-pointing and waterproofing has been completed. Anti-graffiti paint to be purchased and once received company will return to paint on. Windows have been bricked up (free of charge) and village caretaker will arrange to plaster and paint inside. The Clerk and Cllr Boswell met with the Chairman of Marden Minors Football Club prior to this meeting and suggestions of upgrading the changing rooms and the forward plan of MMFC was discussed. A report would be sent to the Clerk and this would be forwarded to Cllrs for the next meeting. MMFC had players who would undertake the work but the Parish Council was asked to consider the cost of materials.
Other issues: Epic Engineering have been contacted regarding the rocking horse so hopefully this will be resolved shortly. There has been a lot of anti-social behaviour reported recently and the Police are aware of the situation. The Clerk has responded directly to nearby residents and informed them to report any ASB to 101 and that the Parish Council is seriously investigating CCTV. The conifers are due to be removed on 7th September. Site meeting arranged for 19th September at 11am
- (ii) Southons Field**
Cheque for Gatekeeper (to include payment for public conv. locking) – cheque signed
Other issues: Site meeting arranged for 19th September at 9.45am
- (iii) Other Open Space**
Napoleon Drive: Transfer update: The Clerk had contacted the Parish Council's solicitors again for an update but nothing had been received prior to the meeting.
Tree Inspection Reports: Not yet received. Cllr Boswell wished to join the caretaker for the next inspection.

(b) Cemetery

New section plotting: The Clerk to contact work experience youngsters regarding the work they undertook on the new section.

Removal of soil – The Assistant Clerk had contacted a number of companies and had provided a report for Cllrs which had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk was due to meet with one more contractor and once information and costs from this had been received the details would be circulated to Cllrs. It was agreed that a decision would be made via email as time was limited as to when this could be done.

Site meeting arranged for 19th September commencing at 9am

038/15 PUBLIC TOILETS

(a) Anti-social behaviour: No further reports of anti-social behaviour had been reported

(b) Cleaning: No issues regarding the cleaning had been reported

(c) CCTV – The CCTV camera had been delivered but unfortunately the software could not be downloaded and the company were unable to recalibrate therefore a replacement was to be sent shortly.

(d) Other issues: An email had received from MBC regarding changes to the lease and grant. It is proposed by MBC that the lease will be long term to expire in November 2028 (with an option to quit with 3 months' notice), the grant would be incorporated into the Parish Services Scheme grant. Item to be deferred to full council.

Clothing bank overflowing again – the Clerk was asked to contact Kent Air Ambulance again regarding more regular emptying.

039/15 CORRESPONDENCE

There had been no correspondence received since the last meeting.

040/15 ACTION GROUP REPORTS

(a) **Stilebridge:** Update. One of the residents had been without electricity and KCC had arranged for a generator to be put in place. This was still the case as it involved major works to rectify the problem. A copy of the email from Bill Forrester of KCC had been circulated to all ward councillors. A site meeting to be arranged with the delivery of the next newsletter.

(b) **Play Scheme 2015:** Report and photographs were made available to Cllrs. Another successful year with many children enjoying the fun and games. A new manager had already come forward for next year and had started planning the theme. It was suggested that the manager attends an Amenities meeting nearer the time to show Cllrs what is planned for 2016.

041/15 OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

Memorial Hall: The minutes of the Trustees meeting were made available to Cllrs. Items discussed included an update on the roof works, decision on increase of fees for 2016, general maintenance and the employment of a part-time caretaker.

Youth: Nothing to report

Other: Meeting arranged with MBC on Friday 28th August to discuss litter bin provision in the parish.

Litter picking : It was proposed that the Spring litter pick would be provisionally booked for 12th March 2016

042/15 OUTSTANDING ISSUES

(a) Update from Action list: The Chairman went through the list and provided updates for all those in attendance including all items still outstanding.

A quote had been received from Park Leisure for installing new kerbs and wetpour repairs at Marden Playing Field. This amounted to £6,592 – Cllrs therefore decided to monitoring the situation before making a decision.

043/15 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DECISION

S106 contributions – no information forthcoming from MBC at the current time. The Clerk has chased the officers concerned but no response received. The Clerk to ask the work

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experience youngsters if they had a draft of the proposals for the proposed S106 contributions.

044/15 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

Marden In Bloom: The Chairman informed the meeting that the Group is due to meet shortly to discuss the way forward.

Kent Men of Trees – The Chairman had walked around the village with the representative of Kent Men of Trees, along with Mike Lutener and Robin Judd. One of the items discussed was the tree in the High Street.

045/15 INVOICES/CHEQUES TO BE SIGNED:

Chq No. 5277 – Yew Tree Construction - £3,390 plus VAT (£678)

Changing room re-pointing and brickwork repairs

Chq No. 5278 – cancelled

Chq No. 5279 – Aristan Developments Ltd - £40,747.02

Memorial Hall roof – interim payment

Other items raised:

Renovating fingerpost signs: Unfortunately the contractor was unable to do this so the Clerk was asked to source other companies.

The Clerk was asked to ascertain the current situation regarding the parking restrictions in car park.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:12pm

Signed:
Chairman, Amenities Committee
Marden Parish Council

Date: 22nd September 2015