

# WICKERSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

Held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at Wickersley Community Centre

Members Cllrs: P Beighton (Chair), C Grimes, K Phillips, A Bates, John Robinson, M Godfrey

In attendance Cllrs: P Beighton (Chair), C Grimes, K Phillips, A Bates, John Robinson

In attendance J Whitworth (assistant clerk)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

Cllr Grimes was made Vice Chairman, nominated by Cllr Beighton, seconded by Cllr Phillips

### **420 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Godfrey.

### **421 To approve the minutes of the Environment committee meeting of 25 January 2022**

Minutes agreed and signed by the Chair.

### **422 To resolve if members of the press and public are to be excluded from any agenda items of the meeting due to the nature of the business to be transacted. Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1 (2))**

No press or members of the public present.

### **423 To note any matters arising from the meeting of 25 January 2022**

Cllr Bates raised the issue of the request by St Albans Church for funding for grass cutting. This was discussed and it was agreed to grant for this in next years budget 2023/2024. The area is a vital part of the history and would benefit the village. The grant is for the upkeep of the existing and extended, expanding graveyard. The Church has their own governance so will be able to arrange for the grass cutting.

**Resolved :** It was agreed that a grant of £1,000 be made available each year to St Albans Church for the upkeep of the existing and extended and expanding graveyard.

Due to the date of the next meeting being on 1 November the war memorial cannot be discussed unless there was an extraordinary meeting. The area needs a tidy up as it is moss laden. It was suggested to have the waste bin moved as this is next to the bench. This isn't ideal as in warmer weather this attracts wasps so is not in an ideal place. The tree within the memorial is also in need of a crown lift. This has been looked at and an application made to

Signed

Dated

Rotherham Council planning to carry out the work as the tree is subject of a Tree Preservation Order.

**ACTION:** Assistant Clerk to see if the area around the memorial could be tidied up.

Cllr Bates asked that some items be put on the next agenda. One being the subway, this is badly lit, it needs cleaning. Cleaning up the street signs, verges, railings haven't been painted and the clock needs to be cleaned. Cllr Bates also proposed that the handymen be provided with an electric vehicle. This would make their job easier as they would not be having to walk around the village with a wheelbarrow and not having to use their own vehicles. Cllr Grimes suggested that this be put to the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Bates will put prices together and suggested speaking to Burrows Toyota to see if they would be wanting to sponsor the vehicle.

**Action:** Cllr Bates to put together a proposal to go before the Parish Council Meeting

**424 To receive a financial update**

Finances agreed, have £20,000 allocated and have spent £827. There is nothing of contention.

**425 To consider other issues relating to the environment, to include: -**

**425.1 To discuss and agree progress for bench refurbishment**

The issue of bench refurbishment was discussed. The Chair said that the committee aims to do 2 benches per year. Discussions of which benches to replace next, agreed to replace a bench near to the Community Centre and one on Plane Drive. Propose to replace the benches at the war memorial next year to also include moving the bin. Discussions over the bench at Chevril Court as there is a memorial plaque on it. The parish Council's policy is to not have any memorial plaques placed on any of the benches. The plaque on that particular bench at Chevril Court would be kept to be given back to the family. The bench at Morthen Road, Almond Glade required some tidying up of bushes, trees, and the area needs planting, this bench will be replaced another year.

**Resolved:** To replace a bench near to the Community Centre and the bench on Plane Drive, also to look at Almond Glade area and to have the area tidied up.

**Action:** Assistant clerk to arrange for the area on Morthen Road to be assessed and quoted with regards landscaping. To arrange for the 2 benches to be replaced. To check with the parish handymen to look at how the benches are fitted, to see if they can do it, if not to obtain a quote.

**425.2 To discuss and agree matters relating to Stephen Shore Garden**

**425.2.1 To discuss Northern Power Quotation**

Cllr Bates proposed that along with the application for the power supply there are 2 lighting schemes. One, an LED string light to light up the area all year round and the other being some Christmas lights. The quotation for the electricity feeder pillar has been checked by Cllr Bates and is sufficient for what the Parish Council needs.

**Resolved:** Agree to a small project for 2 lighting schemes

**Action:** Assistant Clerk to get prices for 2 strings of Christmas lights. Also a price for the year round lighting

Cllr Bates also proposed putting together noticeboards. There would be 4 in total to cover each corner of the Heritage garden. The first would cover Geology and Topography of Wickersley. The second would cover early settlement times. The third would look at times from the year 1400 to WW1 times. The fourth would cover the rapid expansion of Wickersley. It was suggested to do one sign per year. These would be put on vinyl. Suggested that the first one be done in 2023/2024 budget. Cllr Bates to obtain some costings.

#### **425.3 To discuss the Queens Jubilee Green Canopy**

Cllr Bates proposed that we plant a purple beech and be placed within an area of Wickersley Park. The tree would be a big tree and Cllr Bates proposed this be a small fund application.

Cllr Grimes asked about Tree Preservation Orders and if we know which trees had them. It is important to identify the trees and make sure if there isn't a Tree Preservation Order that one is put on them to protect them.

**Resolved:** Agreed that there should be a small fund application for the tree

**Action:** Assistant Clerk to check if we can find out which trees in Wickersley have Tree Preservation Orders.

#### **425.4 To discuss a bench on Chevril Court**

This has been discussed at 425.1.

**Resolved:** Agreed to replace the bench

#### **426 To discuss honorarium payment with reference to locking the public toilets on the Tanyard**

The Chair raised an issue. Concerns for the person locking the toilets as they had been encountering issues. People were using the toilets for drug use, the homeless were using them, issues with people not leaving the toilets when asked, sometimes for up to an hour. It was suggested that the police are called but also accepted that they might not attend immediately. Discussions over what to do. A suggestion was to have another person so that there are 2 people. The honorarium could be increased to cover this. Cllr Philips suggested that a paper be put together with a proposal which could go before full Parish council. This would limit a person doing this on their own and a risk assessment could be put together of a lone worker doing the locking of the toilets. Cllr Grimes suggested this go back to full Parish council

**Action:** To put this to full Parish Council Meeting

#### **427 To Note and agree the suggested meeting date for 2022**

Tuesday 1st November 2022 -6.30pm

Signed

Dated