

# WICKERSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

Held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 1 November 2022 at Wickersley Community Centre

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

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

In attendance J Whitworth (assistant clerk)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

**428 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Phillips

**429 To approve the minutes of the Environment committee meeting of 5 July 2022**

Minutes agreed and signed by the Chair.

**430 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.

**431 To note any matters arising from the meeting of 5 July 2022**

Item 425.1 Bench refurbishment. It was discussed that the next benches to be replaced are the bench which is at the front of the community centre and a bench on Plane Drive not the benches which were noted in the minutes. The bench at Chevril Court was discussed and suggested that it either be replaced or taken out altogether. There is another bench at Springfield Road which does not belong to the parish council. It was decided to leave these until other benches have been replaced.

Item 423 funding for St Albans Church. The matter of the grant to the Church of £1,000 was discussed. The size of the plot has increased so it was suggested to formalise and put it in the budget. This has been done for years for £500. It was suggested that some sort of guarantee be in place and a letter be sent to the Church. This would state that the amount is for the upkeep and maintenance of the graveyard and extension and ask for an annual update of what work has been carried out.

**432 To receive financial update**

Signed



Dated

1/2/23

It was discussed and suggested that the budget goes up by 10% due to inflation for the basics. It was asked where small projects are found as it didn't appear on the finances.

**Action : Assistant Clerk to speak to Clerk Admin to obtain a list of small projects**

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

**433.1 To discuss and agree bench replacement**

This has been discussed at 431. Agreed to replace 2 benches, 1 at Plane Drive, the other which is near to the Community Centre. The benches have been purchased and are at the Community Centre ready for installation.

**Action: Assistant Clerk to arrange for bench installation**

**433.2 To discuss the Queens Jubilee Canopy**

Rotherham Borough Council have been in touch regarding this. They have said they would like to enter into a community asset transfer of some parcels of land to the Parish Council. The issue has been that they required the Parish Council to pay for the legal fees. We will go back to them and ask if they would be prepared to pay the legal fees. The Parish Council are happy to take the land on provided that the Legal fees are met by Rotherham Borough Council. Consideration will be given to see if the tree be placed elsewhere in Wickersley Park.

**Action : Assistant Clerk to contact Rotherham Borough Council to see if they would be prepared to pay Legal fees**

**433.3 To discuss the toilets at the Tanyard**

The Chair has spoken to the lady who locks the toilets who has confirmed that since the police had been round she is happy doing it on her own. This was discussed and it was thought that she should have someone with her under Lone Worker guidelines. Discussed honorarium payment and agreed to increase by 10%. It was agreed to allow a further £570 for a 2<sup>nd</sup> person to assist to be confirmed at full Council.

**433.4 To discuss St Albans Church Grant**

This was discussed at point 425.1. Agree to grant £1,000 to the Church for improvement and maintenance of the graveyard.

**434 To receive a request from Recreation Committee for benches**

This is a request for 2 benches at the end of the Bob Mason recreation ground. There was a concern that it may encourage youths, but could also be of benefit to people who want to sit in the park. It was suggested to put in one bench and see how it goes, it is to be placed where the shelter was. This is to be a small project for 2023.

**435 To discuss the tree at the memorial**

An application has been made to Rotherham Borough Council and has been granted to allow work to be undertaken on the tree. More recently it has been noted that the tree covers the street lighting so Rotherham Borough Council have been informed and we are awaiting a response as to what, if any, work they are going to be carrying out.

Signed

Dated

**Action : Assistant Clerk to chase up Rotherham Borough Council**

**436 To discuss Almond Glade/Morthen Road seating area**

Part of this area is Rotherham Borough Council land and the hedges and trees are the homeowners. This area is part of the gardening contract but it appears that this area hasn't been done despite having sent emails about it. It was suggested that maybe there should be a retention clause if the contract isn't met.

**Action : Assistant Clerk to chase up the gardening contractor**

**437 To discuss future plans of the Heritage Garden**

The lighting proposed lighting project was put before full council but wasn't granted. A full scheme needs to be put together with a cost of the lights. Looking at the finances it looks like the environment committee have £3,000 to spend. It was discussed if this could be funded by small project money. Discussed that items can be maintained and replaced but cannot do new projects unless they had been agreed.

**438 To discuss cleaning up of railings, street signs and the clock**

It was discussed as to what to do about the railings and decided to contact Rotherham Borough Council to request that railings in the village are repainted. With regards the clock this is a community asset and the plaque needs cleaning, a quote is to be obtained to get this done.

**Action : Assistant clerk to contact Rotherham Borough Council about the railings and to obtain a quote for getting the plaque on the clock cleaned up.**

**439 To discuss a vehicle for the handymen**

A proposal has already been obtained for an electric vehicle with a cage on the back. There would need to be a garage at the community centre. The vehicle is £14,000 with the cost of electricity and the cost of a garage the total estimated cost to be around £25,000. This has to go to full council. Further quotations are to be obtained together with an alternative lease cost Councillor Bates to action.

**440 To note and agree the suggested meeting dates for 2023**

It was suggested that these meetings take place every 2 months. This is due to the amount of work undertaken and Councillor Godfrey asked that we look at alternative evenings possibly on a Monday or a Thursday.

**Action : Assistant Clerk to look at dates for meetings**

Signed



Dated

1/2/23

