

MINUTES of Haxby Town Council Amenities Committee Meeting held on Monday 29 July 2019 in the Memorial Hall, Haxby at 7.30pm.

PRESENT Cllr T Richardson (Chairman) Cllr R Cousans
 Cllr M Guilford Cllr M Preston
 Cllr N Wyatt Mr M W Scott (Clerk)

Also present: One member of the public.

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies had previously been approved for Cllr S Newton and no other members were absent.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. Cllr M Guilford reminded the Committee about his links with woodworking group known as 'Men's Shed'.

MINUTES

3. **RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2019 be signed as a true and accurate record.**

AMENITIES FINANCES

4. A copy of the financial report to 30 June 2019 was distributed amongst members. The Clerk highlighted a problem with the electricity supply at Ethel Ward pavilion explaining that following a reading of the meters the monthly electricity payment was now £511 per month instead of the previous £130 per month. It was believed that the primary reason for this massive increase was the cost of the heating used following the redevelopment of the pavilion.

COPPER BEECH TREE

5. The request to put up a sign on the village green detailing the history of the Copper Beech tree was discussed again by the Committee. The Clerk provided the members with details of a response from City of York Council concerning details as to what they own and also a copy of the byelaws relating to the village green.
RESOLVED to give permission to erect a sign on the village green up to 1 metre on to the grassy area provided due attention is given to any possible underground cables and pipes.

FOOTBALL PITCHES

6. Cllr M Preston informed Committee members that there was nothing further to report at the stage as he was still awaiting a response from the Ward Committee and an update would be provided at the next meeting.

RED LION PARKING

7. The Clerk explained that he was still in the process of getting a detailed map showing Village Green.

UN-NAMED LANE

8. No update

ALLOTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

9. This item was carried forward to the next meeting.

PICNIC TABLE FOR MANCROFT PLAY AREA

10. Cllr Guilford informed the Committee that the table was now completed and that it would shortly be positioned on Mancroft.

ETHEL WARD – VIDEO SURVEILLANCE / CAMERA EQUIPMENT

11. There was no update so the item was carried forward.

NETBALL COURT POST STORAGE

12. Permanently fitted netball posts were discussed. The Clerk was requested to get more details of the posts to see if the nets can be easily removed from the posts.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE “WISH-LIST”

13. The Clerk advised the Committee on its wish list to date, which comprised of the following:
- Ethel Ward Pavilion repairs and redecoration.
 - Revamp Toddlers Play Area at Ethel Ward.
 - More Xmas lights.
 - Flower planting on York Road roundabout.
 - New bus shelter on York Road.
 - Steel roof for the Ethel Ward Pavilion.
 - Improvements to wooden frontage of Ethel Ward Pavilion.
 - Allotment site improvements.

- Larger storage bins at Ethel Ward Pavilion.
- More toddler equipment on Mancroft.
- A cricket wicket on Ethel Ward.

WYRE POND

14. The condition of Wyre Pond was discussed. The Committee agreed that the willow trees needed to be crown lifted in order to clear the distance above the ground and also that the debris around the edge of the pond should be cleared.

ETHEL WARD PAVILION

15. The Clerk advised that a joiner had agreed to meet with himself and Councillors on Friday 2nd August 2019 at 8:30am to discuss possible improvements to the pavilion. The meeting was to take place at the pavilion.

OLD DIKE LANDS

16. Following complaints from residents a discussion took place concerning the installation of a “No ball games” sign at Old Dike Lands.
RESOLVED to put a “No ball games” sign up at Old Dike Lands Open Space.

DOUBLE TAXATION

17. The Clerk advised that a request had been received from City of York Council asking for Haxby Town Council’s Double Taxation claim. The Committee asked the Clerk to submit this in line with the amount claimed in previous years.

VILLAGE GREEN EDGES AND DRAINS

18. The Committee discussed the drains within the village green and the fact that they were blocked with overgrown grass. The Clerk is to take a look at the drains in question and arrange for them to be cleared.

DOG WASTE

19. The Clerk showed photographs taken while he had recently been on holiday in the USA. The photographs were of dog waste bag dispensers and he wondered if the Committee thought it may be a good idea to look in to the purchase of similar dispensers for Haxby. The Committee thought that this was a good idea and asked him to look in to the cost of similar dispensers.

ETHEL WARD PAVILION STORAGE

20. Cllr Preston explained that there was no progress on new storage bins at the pavilion however he did explain that the footballers were wanting to build a storage cupboard within the referee's changing room and that they were prepared to do it for the cost of materials only. The Committee agreed in principle to the idea but wished to see drawings prior to giving the go ahead.

HAXBY CARNIVAL

21. Councillors discussed the recent Haxby Carnival and in particular how the arrival of the fair the night before the Carnival had led to complaints from nearby residents. The complaint concerned loud music being played by the gentleman looking after the equipment. The Chairman of the Council, Cllr Guilford, explained that he had twice been out to ask for the music to be curtailed. The Committee were not happy with the situation and requested that the Carnival Committee be made aware of this for action to be taken.

HEADLANDS LANE

22. Councillors discussed the condition and maintenance of Headlands Lane. Despite not owning the lane, Haxby Town Council presently has the area cut 4 times per year within its current grass-cutting contract.
RESOLVED to increase the number of cuts from 4 times per year to 8.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

23. Following a request made by the Full Council the "Terms of Reference" for the Amenities Committee was discussed. The Clerk read out the current "Terms of Reference". There then followed a long discussion where no agreement was reached. It was then decided to carry forward the item to the next meeting.

ETHEL WARD PLAYING FIELD TREES

24. Cllr Cousans spoke about the size of the trees surrounding Ethel Ward Playing Field stating that they were now extremely large and were in need of either crown-lifting, pollarding or both. The Clerk was asked to contact a tree specialist to find out what could be done to reduce the size of the trees.

HITCHING RAILS

25. Councillors discussed the condition of the hitching rails and agreed that it was time to have them cleaned and re-coated. The Committee asked the Clerk to make enquiries from potential suppliers and come back to the Committee with quotes.

MATTERS FOR INCLUSION

26. Councillors were asked to submit any requests which they felt needed to be addressed by the Committee, in writing to the Clerk for inclusion on the next agenda, 7 days prior to the date of the next meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

27. The next meeting of the Amenities Committee is to take place on Monday 19 August 2019 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.55pm

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Chairman

(These Minutes are displayed 'unsigned' and are subject to correction at the next Council meeting.)