

DRAFT

Minutes of the **GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE** of Buckland Monachorum Parish Council held at Milton Combe Village Hall on WEDNESDAY the 9th August 2017 at 8.00pm

Present: Cllrs L Wood (LW), S Challiss (SC), M Fowler (MF), S Hustler (SH), L Larkin (LL) and S Woollacott (SW)

In Attendance: Mrs K Johns (Parish Clerk)

209/17 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Cllr Butland

210/17 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** None

211/17 **TO CONSIDER CURRENT PARISH PLAY AREA MATTERS**

The wooden agility trail in Buckland Monachorum play park is starting to rot in places. One of the recent inspections identified that one of the stepping posts was very rotten. The post has been removed to prevent any risk of accident and MF & LL will inspect the kit to determine the best course of action and report back.

The dry-stone wall between the cemetery and the play park in Buckland Monachorum is deteriorating, areas of it are falling down. LL has agreed to inspect the wall and see what can be done and report back.

212/17 **TO CONSIDER CURRENT PARISH STREET FURNITURE MATTERS**

The works to the Milton Combe bus shelter have started. LL is overseeing them and has run through the PC's risk assessment with the volunteers. The idea of painting a tractor design on the shelter was discussed. LL and VB will canvass Milton Combe residents on their opinion and report back.

KJ now has the measurements to go ahead and order the replacement noticeboard for Clearbrook. SW suggested that she contact DNPA to check that they will be happy with the noticeboard before it is ordered. It was agreed that she would do this and if there was no problem with its design then she would go ahead and order it (the cost of replacing the board was agreed by the PC sometime back).

MF reported that they are now liaising with British Beds to get the winning design from St Andrew's school painted on the Crapstone Bus Shelter.

213/17 **DOG FOULING:**
No complaints to report

214/17 **PARISH MEADOW:**
No matters to report

215/17 **PARISH GROUNDS MAINTENANCE MATTERS, TO INCLUDE:**

- a) **To discuss Buckland Monachorum and Crapstone Grounds Maintenance matters:** KJ has discussed with Perfect Pastures whether they are happy to continue with the grass cutting contract due to recent problems they have had with their equipment becoming stuck due to the wet ground in Crapstone field. The outcome of the discussion is that they are happy to continue with the contract and have asked if the PC would consider making the contract a rolling one if they froze their prices over future years. The matter was discussed and it is **RECOMMENDED** that the contract should roll over each year, on the same terms with the price remaining the same.

KJ reported that they had received a telephone complaint about the quality of the grounds maintenance works in Buckland Monachorum cemetery. It was consented that some of the members of the committee also had concerns that the cemetery is not looking at its best. It was **RECOMMENDED** that MF and LL liaise with the contractor and spend some time with them on-site to find out what the issues are. They will report back their findings.

- a) **To discuss maintenance of grassed area between the cemetery extension and the rear of Cross Park in Buckland Monachorum:** The PC has been contacted by a resident in Cross Park who has tended the area of grass between the side of the cemetery extension and their rear garden. Whilst they have willingly done this for a number of years, the introduction of the green waste charge by WDBC has made it costly to get rid of the waste. Therefore, they have asked whether the PC could assist them with the cost. The matter was discussed and it is **RECOMMENDED** that because area is not a priority area for grass cutting, it should be left wild.

216/17 CEMETERY MATTERS, TO INCLUDE:

- i) **Interments and Memorial Work:** KJ reported that there have been two interments in the cemetery in plots B5-09 and GoR 26 since the last meeting and one memorial has been approved (F5-07).
- ii) **To arrange a working party to check the safety of memorials in the cemetery:** An arrangement was made for the group to meet at 10.00am on 16th September to undertake the testing. The results will be reported back to Full Council on the 26th September.
- iii) **To discuss pest control requirements and progress in the cemetery:** Since the quote by Rentokil was refused by Full Council, MF and LL have looked at the problem with Argentine Ants' nests in the cemetery. There are over 100 large nests up to the height of 2ft in places that require treatment. They went onto say that they have started treatment, but require further chemicals and cedar mulch to complete the works. It is **RECOMMENDED** that £50.00 is allowed for the purchase of materials to treat the infestation.
- iv) **To discuss the new cemetery extension plan and any additional provisions required once open:** The cemetery extension plans are almost complete and the PC's grave diggers and monumental masons has been contacted to start installing grave row markers. They have also been asked for any suggestions they may have regarding the plan. These will be reported once they have been received. The clerk requested that an additional waste bin be ordered at a cost of £200.00 for the extension. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the bin is purchased.

Members also discussed whether a more formal design of gate should be placed at the entrance to the extension. It was agreed that LL would obtain some quotes for a formal metal gate and report back to Committee in time for the November Finance Committee meeting.

217/17 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Churchyard Paths
Cemetery Grounds Maintenance contract

218/17 FUTURE MEETING DATES

16th September Memorial safety testing at Buckland Monachorum Cemetery at 10.00am

The meeting closed at 9.48pm.