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Minutes of the **GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE** of Buckland Monachorum Parish Council held at
Buckland Monachorum Village Hall on TUESDAY the 6th December 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs L Wood (LW), M Fowler (MF), S Challiss (SC), I Vincent (IV) and S Woollacott (SW)

In Attendance: Reverend Graham Cotter
Mrs K Johns (Parish Clerk)

Reverend Graham Cotter attended the meeting at the request of the Committee as it wanted to seek his view on the maintenance of the Churchyard over the past year. He said that he was very happy with the maintenance of the churchyard by the Parish Council and thanked it for the all the hard work completed in the churchyard. He also said that the Church has two volunteers carrying out maintenance work on a weekly basis to complement the work carried out by the PC. Cllr Lucy Wood then spoke to him about the works the PC is intending to undertake over the next twelve months to ensure the effective maintenance of the trees in both the churchyard and the cemetery at Buckland Monachorum.

379/16 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllr Bolitho, Larkin and Butland

380/16 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** None

381/16 **TO CONSIDER CURRENT PARISH PLAY AREA MATTERS**

- a) To discuss works required to Crapstone Playpark swings: The frame to the swings is in need of painting it was **RECOMMENDED** that the Parish Council seek a quote for the works.
- b) To discuss and agree quotes received for the repair to the segregation fence in Buckland Monachorum: This was dealt with at the last Full Council meeting.
- c) To discuss engagement with Parish on new play equipment at Crapstone Playpark: SW is in discussion with the Green Scheme about ideas for play equipment in the park. SC is also assisting SW with this matter.

382/16 **TO CONSIDER CURRENT PARISH STREET FURNITURE MATTERS**

Bus Shelters: The Golf Links Road shelter is being painted by a team of local residents to remove the recent graffiti. The Clerk is in the process of looking at costings for the various options for the Milton Combe (top of the hill) bus stop. IV will undertake a condition survey of the the Crapstone Bus Shelter and report back to Committee.

383/16 **DOG FOULING:**

Councillors discussed the issue and it was felt that the situation has improved

384/16 **PARISH MEADOW:**

- a) To discuss works required to the trees and quotes received. Following the recent GP site meeting a quote of £210.00 has been received from J Rendle to undertake the works to the trees in the Parish Meadow to facilitate and enhance maintenance of the grass in the meadow. The works include the reduction of the height of x4 Alders at the bottom of the Meadow, removal of overhanging branches from surrounding Beech and Willow trees and to crown lift x2 oak trees. It was **RECOMMENDED** to accept the quote.

385/16 **CEMETERY MATTERS, TO INCLUDE**

- i) **Discussion of points raised regarding recent site inspection on 31st October 2016:** As a result of the site inspection a quote has been received from J Rendle for £110.00 to remove the debris to the base of the Yew hedge running along the left-hand side of the cemetery. It was **RECOMMENDED** to accept the quote. There was much discussion about the quotes received for the removal of the green shed, conifer roundel and self-seeded ash and sycamore trees in the cemetery to free up space for additional graves. It was **AGREED** that a more detailed assessment is needed of the space in 2017 to determine the best option.

The Hazel hedge to the rear of the cemetery still requires cutting back. The PC will seek quotes for this work which will be reported back to the next Committee meeting.

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- ii) **Planning of New Cemetery Extension:** An initial plan showing the layout of the new cemetery has been received from the Architects. Councillors looked at the plan and commented that the proposed area for the green burial area should be moved to the Phase 2 area and that children's graves should be included in the proposed scheme. The Clerk will report these suggestions and check what guidance the Architects have used for the grave spacing.

Landscaping of the new cemetery was also discussed and it was **AGREED** to invite J Rendle to a site meeting in early 2017 to look at planting options. SW will ask David Miles to look at landscaping options and the Clerk will also seek advice from local gardening businesses. Once the various opinions have been collated, a final decision will be made on the planting scheme in early 2017

- iii) **To discuss the beech hedge in cemetery extension:** SC has been weeding around the new beech hedge and has noticed that approximately 80 beech trees have died. It is **RECOMMENDED** that the PC purchase another 80 bare-rooted green beech trees to replace them along with a root grow additive.

- iv) **Consideration of works and dates for a future working party:** LW will circulate some dates for a working party to plant the 80 beech trees in early 2017.

386/16 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Working party dates
New cemetery extension

387/16 **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

To be confirmed

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.