

All minutes are draft until ratified by the Committee at the next meeting

Marchwood Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held via Zoom
on Monday 19th April 2021 at 7.30pm

Councillors: Mr M Proctor (Chairman) – in the chair (P)

Councillors: Mr M Havercroft (P)
Mr G Wright (P)
Mr R Young (P)
Mr B Bucknell (P)

(A) Absent (P) Present

In attendance: Mr B Gibbs – Clerk to the Council

Also present: Mr P Fisher.

Apologies for absence

1. None received

Public Participation

2. Mr Fisher indicated that he would speak on matters relating to agenda item 8 (b).

Declarations of Interest

3. There were no declarations of interest.

Chairman's remarks

4. No report to receive. The Chair asked for this item to be removed from future agendas.

Minutes

5. **RESOLVED:** To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February as true record.

AMF Supervisors Report:

6. The AMF Supervisors report was presented to the Committee.

- COVID – Skate Park remains shut and taped up.
- Cork Field car park remains shut.
- Gym Equipment remains shut.
- Play inspections continue.
- Hedge at Tavells Lane has been reduced to a manageable height.
- A significant amount of litter and dog mess has been cleared up.
- Small amount of fly tipping at Cork Field continues.
- All grass cutting machines repaired and serviced.

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- Enquiry into trading the flail for a sickle bar – still making enquiries.
- The summer groundsman post will hopefully be filled by the end of April 2021.

The Clerk reported that a new Isuzu 1.9 D-Max pick-up truck had now been purchased and delivered. He also reported that the old vehicle HJ58 ATU had been disposed of.

Memorial tree for Barbara Allen:

8. The memorial tree has now been planted and is already blooming and is in leaf. The groundsmen are watering the plant every day and this effort is being rewarded by the tree responding very positively to this.

Community Initiatives:

9 (a) Litter picking: Cllr Wright reported that a litter pick was completed just prior to Christmas with approx. 30 people. The next litter pick is planned for Saturday May 29th when the next phase of relaxed covid regulations will be in force.

Cllr Wright also said that he had been in contact with 17 P&M (The Army) regarding their own litter-pick around the village.

Cllr Wright said he would liaise with the AMF Supervisor regarding the loan of any litter-picking equipment to 17 P&M.

RESOLVED: To allow 17 P&M to store their collected rubbish at the Lloyd Recreation Ground prior to it being recovered by NFDC's Street Scene team.

9 (b) Wild Flowers: Cllr Wright spoke about the desire to create an area of meadow within the Parish Council's open spaces. A few ideas had been put forward between meetings with some evaluation of sites taking place. Cllr Wright introduced Mr Paul Fisher (Chair, Marchwood Conservation Volunteers) to the meeting. Mr Fisher had been invited in order to give his views on how best to manage the project.

Mr Fisher outlined what was required to achieve a successful outcome.

- The best time to create the wild-flower meadow would be in August or September.
- The land to be used should be scarified and taken back to bare earth.
- Grass parasite species such as Yellow-Rattle should be planted in order to reduce the opportunities for ordinary meadow grasses to re-colonise the area.
- The soil should ideally be poorly nutritioned so the wild flowers can compete with the meadow grasses.
- Ideally, up to 50 species should be sown in the hope that at least 20 or so can become established.
- The meadow should only be mown once a year.
- It is crucial to the success of the project that all mown grass is removed from the site.
- This is necessary to prevent the mulch from rotting down and enriching the soil with nutrients.
- The Conservation Volunteers are happy to work with the Parish Council to support the project.

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- Cllr Wright, Tony Lavington and Mr Fisher are best placed to indentify the area to be set aside for this project.

RESOLVED: To work with the Marchwood Conservation Volunteers in order to set up a wild flower meadow in the late summer of 2021 (August/September).

9 (c) Cllr Bennison spoke about the grassed area adjacent to the waterfront by former RNAD site at Admiralty Way. This area is now being converted into a wild flower meadow at the expense of NFDC. Further along the footpath there is to be a 'picnic area'. Cllr Bucknell confirmed that work had commenced and that no spraying had taken place.

Parish Council Amenities Committee priorities for 2020/21

10. Healthy walks and footpaths around the Village:

The following items were brought to the committee's attention.

- Footpath 501 has now had a section re-surfaced using crushed rock. This is close to the former RNAD site and follows the line of a boundary wall.
- The Clerk was asked to recover archived documents outlining the circular walking route proposal in 2015/16.
- The District Councillors will liaise with their officers to identify the ownership of a parcel of land by the waterfront by Marchwood Yacht Club.
- The information is to be passed to the Clerk.
- Cllr Wright is continuing to promote informal healthy walks throughout the village and will produce maps using some mapping software in due course.

RESOLVED: To support Cllr Wright with this initiative.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.21pm