

# Halberton Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee of Halberton Parish Council held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Halberton Village Hall

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**PRESENT:** Councillors Davis (Chair), Browse, Hugill, Lawrence, Graham, and Birch, K Ward (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

Meeting started 8.16pm

## **1 Apologies:** Cllr Radmore

## **2 Public Forum**

Mr Corden requested an update on the car park proposal. It was also reported that one of the benches in the cemetery was in poor condition and he offered to make a bespoke replacement bench at no cost to the council. He further reported the footpath from Church Path to the Rec is very slippery underfoot.

**3 Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017:** The minutes were approved and signed.

## **4 Amenity Area / Car Park**

Cllr Browse reported that there had been 30 supporting comments, 2 general comments and 2 objections to the Council's planning application regarding Cordwents so far. In response the request for further information from the planners, revised drawings are being prepared to overlay the trees and identify which hedges will remain as well as identifying replacement planting. A front elevation is also being prepared. The other information requested has been completed.

**Action:** Cllr Browse to submit further information to MDDC planners as requested.

## **5 Emergency Plan**

Cllr Lawrence suggested that a working group be established to review the emergency plan. This was **AGREED**, and that it should be discussed in more detail at the March meeting.

## **6 Speed monitoring**

Cllr Davis reported he has received the hand held monitoring device and has tested it. He confirmed that it only records speeds and does not take pictures so a manual note of car registration numbers is needed. Cllr Davis will carry out a risk assessment for anyone wishing to use the monitor. The information gathered will be passed to the police and Highways to build up a portfolio of evidence.

## **7 Recreation Ground**

It is **RECOMMENDED** to Council that a grant of £960.00 be made to the Children's Recreation Ground to cover the cost of fence repairs. The anchoring of benches will be carried out in the next couple of weeks. It was noted the ROSPA inspection would be carried out shortly.

**Action:** Cllr Davis to measure the timber for the play pit for referral to Council.

## **8 Cemetery**

a. Following a discussion on level of demand and practical implications, it was **RECOMMENDED** to Council to amend the cemetery rules and regulations to allow triple depth graves of 9ft, subject to including references to supporting the sides, and increased awareness of fall hazards, when working on or near open graves also being included in any amendment.

b. Replacement bench: further to the comments made in the public forum, the Clerk stated that she had received another report on the broken bench. It was **AGREED** that the old bench needs to be removed immediately and Mr Corden offered to do this.

Cllr Davis said that he had measured the based for the replacement an that the plinth consisting of paving slabs was 1.7m by 300mm, therefore it was **AGREED** the maximum bench length should be 1.5m. The Clerk reminded the Committee that the Council had already approved purchase of the steel bench at its last meeting. The Committee discussed the offer of a bespoke replacement bench from Mr Corden, and if it could be made from treated hard wood timber then the Committee would **RECOMMEND** to Council that a replacement bench be commissioned from Mr Corden and that the Council would reimburse the costs of timber, rather than purchase the steel bench.

## **9 The Mead**

Cllr Davis reported that he had checked the posts and nets and that the posts were in reasonable condition and that the nets should last at least another year, therefore replacements were not necessary. However it was **RECOMMENDED** to Council that new brackets securing the goal posts need to be fabricated.

**Action:** Cllr Davis to investigate brackets for the goal posts.

## **10 Asset Management / Reserves Policy**

The Clerk stated the Council was forecasting an underspend for the year and that the Council should consider reviewing it's contingencies for future repair and maintenance of assets. It was **AGREED** to review the amenity reserves after year end.

**11 Proposed Devon Air Landing site at The Mead:** Nothing further to report.

## **12 Footpaths**

Cllr Graham had received complaints about slippery footpath surface on the route to the school from the fallen beech leaves and from the school hedge. It was agreed to refer to the complaints to DCC recommending the pathway be jet washed. It was also agreed to refer the overgrown footpath from Leonard Moor Cross to Bridwell Avenue to DCC for clearing.

**Action:** Clerk to refer to DCC

Cllr Browse fed back on a conversation with DCC Highways stating the resurfacing of Church Path has been deferred. He also reported that DCC had delivered material to fill pot holes under the Road Warden Scheme so it was it was **AGREED** that, subject to good weather, a working group meet on the 10<sup>th</sup> February to fill the potholes in Church Path. Volunteers to contact Cllr Browse.

**Actions:** Cllr Browse to arrange a volunteer day for pot hole repairs to Church Path. Clerk to forward volunteer forms to Cllr Browse.

Cllr Browse also urged everyone to use the DCC online "report a problem" system. He had also spoken to Highways regarding recent reported flooding and was aware jetting of drains had taken place, but the problem is currently unresolved. There are concerns of badgers digging under a road and other drainage problems reported.

Referring to previous minutes, Cllr Graham asked when the paving slab would be put under to dog bin as it as very muddy underfoot.

**Action:** Cllr Davis to arrange to have a paving slab placed under the poo bin.

## **13 Miscellaneous Matters**

The Clerk reported that only 2 quotes for grass cutting had been received, therefore it was suggested extending the deadline until 9<sup>th</sup> February. This was **AGREED**.

**Action:** Clerk to inform suppliers.

Next meeting: TBC

Meeting closed: 9.27pm

**Signed**

**Date**