

VILLAGE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Village Amenities Committee of Colwall Parish Council held on Wednesday 7th June 2017 at 7.30pm in the Jean Simon Room, Colwall Village Hall.

Present:

Councillors: Councillors: Butler, Carless, Kendrick (Chairman), Rees, Trafford-Roberts, co-opted member Freda Ballard and the Clerk.

1. Welcome and Apologies.

The Chairman Councillor Kendrick welcomed those present.

Apologies were received and accepted from co-opted member Englefield.

2. Co-option onto the Committee

IT WAS RESOLVED that Freda Ballard and Chris Englefield be co-opted onto the committee for the 2017/18 municipal year.

3. Declaration of Interests.

None were declared.

4. Minutes.

The minutes of Village Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 5th April 2017 were approved, and signed by the Chairman at the meeting.

5. Amenities Budget.

i) A summary of the 2017/18 Amenities Committee's year to date accounts was not available; however, the Clerk confirmed expenditure is in line with Budget.

6. Sites Overview.

Orlin Road Play Area (CE) Reported to be in good condition, other than awaiting the installation of the new swings.

War Memorial Garden (GR) Councillor Rees reported that subject to replanting 2 borders (with rabbit proof plants/shrubs) the gardens are in good order.

Allens Meadow (CE) Reported to be in good condition (care of Grace Englefield).

Walwyn Meadow and Library Building (PK/GR) Reported to be in good condition.

Councillor Rees confirmed that the new evergreen hedge shrubs have been planted along the parameter fence with The Old Telephone Exchange.

Colwall Green (PK) Councillor Kendrick reported that the seasonal early cut had again not been undertaken by the Malvern Hills Trust (see item 7 below), and there is a branch down on the Green after the strong winds which needs clearing by the Malvern Hills Trust.

Brookmill Close Play Area (PB) in good condition.

Aunt Alice (GR) in good order, time keeping is weather dependent.

Railway Gardens (NC) Reported to be in good order.

Nature Reserve (GR) The reserve is in good condition, a further new interpretation trail boards has been vandalised, the Clerk confirmed Steven will repair and reinstate. A willow tree was also felled by the recent strong winds which has been cleared up.

7. Colwall Green

Following the failure of the Malvern Hills Trust to cut Colwall Green at the beginning of the season, or even contact the Clerk to advise of their decision not to do this. IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk write to the Malvern Hills Trust Director to register the Parish Council's disappointment at the lack of communication, and to request a meeting with Councillor Kendrick (the Village Amenities Chairman) and Councillor Rees (the Parish Council Representative for Colwall Parish Council) to discuss.

8. Parish Notice Boards, Village Seats and Litter Bins.

i) All Parish Notice Boards were reported to be in good order.

The Clerk confirmed that the replacement seat has been installed at the junction of Old Church Road, Brockhill Road and Walwyn Road.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk would order a commemorative plaque detailed "to commemorate HRH Queen Elizabeth II's Sapphire Jubilee 6/2/1952 – 6/2/2017" (instead of "HRH the Queens 90th Birthday", as previously agreed)

ii) Village Seats and Parish Litter bins were all reported to be in good order.

8. Footpaths

The Footpath Officer, Councillor Butler reported the following:-

i) "There are now 7 volunteer walkers, I hope to meet with them soon to share out the network of paths, or at least a decent chunk of it.

ii) My attention has been drawn to an issue concerning land through which CW31 runs. In short, off road cyclists have apparently cut / broken fences in order to cycle unimpeded downhill through the woodland, partly along the footpath, which could present a safety issue. From a footpath point of view, the biggest problem is where the cyclists re-join the footpath on a blind bend.

Freda Ballard confirmed that the illegal encroachment on her land continues, but is much less frequent than previously.

Councillor Rees offered to engage with the Malvern Hills Trust, who are actively engaging working with local mountain bikers, to see if the problem can be resolved.

3) I needed to report discharge of firearm over a footpath. David Alexander subsequently visited local residents who admitted firing at clays, inadvertently across the footpath.

4) I have been notified the request to divert CW29, which runs across The Elms, over the railway track and out to opposite the Thai Rama, has been upheld. The new footpath will run from the railway bridge at Brookmill Close, along the race course (more or less parallel to the old footpath) until old and new paths converge near Evendine; it joins Evendine Lane opposite Old Castle Farm driveway. The PC had supported the diversion on safeguarding grounds".

9. Correspondence

i) Request for a new football team "Colwall Wanderers" to use Colwall Green football pitch alongside the existing Sunday team.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Colwall Wanderers may use the football pitch for the 2017/18 season. Councillor Butler to obtain correspondence details for the existing Sunday team so that the Clerk can write to both these teams confirming usage for the 2017/18 season.

10. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Village Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 2nd August, at 7:30pm, in the Jean Simon Room at Colwall Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....