

BRICKHILL

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Allotments & Open Spaces Committee held on Wednesday 13th February 2019 at St Marks Church, Calder Rise, Brickhill

Present: Cllrs Holloway, Fitzpatrick, Reeve and the Clerk. In addition, there were 3 members of the public.

1	Apologies for absence: None.	
2	Declarations of acceptance of interest in items on the agenda: None	
3	Public Open Session: None.	
4	To confirm minutes from meeting held on Wednesday 7th November 2018. It was resolved to accept the minutes.	
5	<p>To receive a report on the management of Brickhill Allotments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>To note the current spend against budget:</u> The Clerk circulated this to the Committee Members. <u>An update on the general management of site since the last meeting:</u> The Clerk reported that after the exceptional weather of 2018, it has (to date) been a fairly mild winter with no heavy rain or snow/frost. She will undertake an inspection of the site near the end of March and contact any tenants of untidy plots ahead of rent letters going out. There are currently 7 plots available and she is due to show two prospective tenants around next week. Two plots remain to be cleared before the end of the financial year and all the plots will need to be strimmed/rotavated ahead of being let. In addition there is plot 230 and half plot 229A which should really be left fallow. The half plot gets very wet and 230 is next to the fence and shaded by the trees on the borough land. Discussion took place about the possibility of using these for bees or hens. The trees which are on the allotment land near the scout hut will be trimmed back ahead of March allowing light on adjacent plots. There has not been a skip this financial year but the Clerk plans to get one in at the end of March to allow tenants to get ready for the new season. Notices will go out on the gates to let tenants know. There has not been any reports of break-ins recently though the Clerk did have reports of two trees being removed. She plans to send out a newsletter with the March invoices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Any other matters:</u> None. 	
6	<p>To receive a report on the management of Waveney Green to include:</p> <p><u>Current spend against budget:</u> The Clerk circulated this to the Committee Members.</p> <p><u>An update on the general management of the site since the last meeting:</u> There have been no further complaints from the football club regarding the pitch markings so hopefully all is now in synch. The Clerk will have a general look around the Green with regards trees and ask for a quote for any work especially in the newly acquired strip.</p>	

	<p>Discussion took place around the possibility of arranging a tree management/re-planting plan. The Clerk agreed to speak to our tree surgeon about this. Similarly, discussion took place around improving the memorial garden possibly to include a new bench. Cllr Fitzpatrick agreed to forward to the Clerk some photographs he had taken in an adjacent parish. At the last meeting of the parish council, discussion took place regarding the use of Community Payback: There are quite a few possible projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and treat the “Palmer’s” bench • Tidy the memorial garden and more planting • Clean the equipment on the play area • Hedge trimming • New planting near the play area • Wildflower Meadow • Signs around the Green • Litter pick <p>It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the organiser of Community Payback and arrange to meet with him to discuss options.</p> <p><u>To note the acquisition of the lease for the remainder of Waveney Green:</u> The lease had finally been signed.</p> <p><u>To note works due to take place regarding footpaths and any proposals for future works:</u> The Clerk reported that the new footpath linking Francis Groves Close to the existing footpaths on Waveney Green as well as repairs to the existing footpath from the school entrance towards the bench will happen early in April (during the Easter school holidays). The Clerk circulated a report identifying works done to the footpaths since 2013. The next stage of work to be done will be the section near the green gym.</p> <p><u>To consider the management of the wildflower meadow and agree any action:</u> It was agreed that the Clerk would meet with Chris Horne to consider options. She would also look at the plaque adjacent to it to decide if it could be updated or needed to be removed.</p> <p><u>To consider matters arising concerning the play area and agree any action:</u> The Clerk reported that she was planning to meet Solutions4Playgrounds in the next couple of weeks to look at repairs and the possible location for a roundabout. It would need rubber mulch around it to stop ground erosion. Further options include the installation of a table tennis table or a trampoline.</p> <p><u>Any other matters:</u> The committee starting giving thought to the location of more lights in the parish.</p>	
7	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 29th May 2019 7.30pm in the Wren Room.	

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Approved by Chairman
29th May 2019