

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

Marchwood Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Meeting of Marchwood Parish Council held at Marchwood Village Hall on Monday 4th September 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors N Buckett, J Case, D Hindle, J Leath, M Proctor, P Mballa & L Shelley.

Alson Present: District Cllr Rich Young and one member of the public.

In attendance: C Cockeram, Deputy Parish Clerk.

Apologies

AM/23/015 – Cllr Saxby gave apologies (personal reasons).

Declarations of Interest

AM/23/016 – There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

Public Participation

AM/23/017 – Gary Wright discussed the canals at Admiralty Quay. The Conservation Group would like to continue maintaining the canals and are trying to schedule works twice a year in the Spring and Autumn. He has also had residents offer to assist with the clearing of the canals.

Minutes

AM/23/018 - RESOLVED – to accept the minutes of the Amenities meeting held on Monday 12th June 2023 as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's Report

AM/23/019 – Cllr Buckett thanked the committee and acknowledged that this was his first Amenities meeting as well as the first being Chairman. He stated this was going to be a difficult year with regards to budget. With over 85 acres of open space, the taking over of Oak Park, even with the CIL monies from District and the number of trees within the village. Three ground staff are doing a great job. He would like to formulate a five-year budget plan with the committee's support. There is a need to be proactive rather than reactive. He would like this done by next years budget.

Budget Income and Expenditure for 2024/25

AM/23/020 RESOLVED: The Chairman alliterated how important it was to have a mid-year review of the budget to approve the draft Amenities Budget for 2024/25 and to submit to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration.

Marketing Strategy for Lloyd Recreation Ground

AM/23/021 RESOLVED – a working party comprising of, Cllrs Buckett and Cllr Leath, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to arrange a meeting in October.

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AMF Supervisors Report

AM/23/022 – The report was noted. The Chairman requested that the AMF supervisor attend future meetings. Cllr Case requested that the discussion regarding adding additives to the fuel for the vehicles be investigated as this could help improve their performance.

Canals at Admiralty Quay

AM/23/023 – The Chairman reported that although there has been a lot of support for the growing and natural seeding of the canals a letter of complaint has been received regarding their current state. A site visit was arranged between himself, the Conservation Group manager Helen Vesty, Conservation Group Volunteer, Gary Wright, the Deputy Clerk and AMF Supervisor. The canals were very overgrown and there were some invasive plants trees, and brambles. There were several options to consider and these need to be discussed.

The canals can be cleared completely – this would cost the Council approximately £4.000, money that hasn't been budgeted for.

Work with neighbouring Councils ground staff to help clear.

Our own ground staff to clear but this would take over 3 weeks.

Let the Conservation Group continue but on a more regular basis.

It was agreed that the Conservation Group would concentrate on the removal of the trees bramble etc on their next visit. Another date has been scheduled and then an ad-hoc session.

The Committee discussed consulting the residents who live near the canals who are most effected. Community engagement and involvement.

RESOLVED: To engage with the community. A letter to be written to the residents whose houses are near the canals, to publish the letter on our social media page, web site, Village News, and noticeboards. Information boards to be displayed to inform residents on what is going on, growing in the canals etc.

Revised price structure for the Lloyds Recreation Ground 2024/25

AM/23/024 – Members agreed to continue at the current price structure and review in 2024.

Community Initiatives – To discuss the following:

AM/23/025 - Litter picking - Members thanked Gary Wright for his report. The next community litter pick will be on Saturday 7th October at 10am behind St. Johns Church.

AM/23/026 - Wildflowers – The Conservation Group are managing Cork Field and have done so for over 30 years. Biodiversity has increased and there are more flowering species and more butterflies. They still manage Crooked Hayes Copse and the bluebells this year were spectacular. The wildflower area opposite the Roebuck has been cut and raked and will start to grow again. The group are happy to continue to maintain this area.

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Parish Council Amenities Committee priorities for 2024/25

AM/23/027 - Healthy Walks around the Village: A meeting was held in June between NFDC officers and the Parish Council. Cllrs Buckett, Case and MPC officers walked the footpaths round the village and identified what improvements could be made. The report has been sent to NFDC and we are awaiting their response.

The meeting closed at 8.47pm. The date of the next meeting will be 13th November 2023