

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 18TH MAY 2009

PRESENT: CLLRS RGW BAKER (CHAIRMAN), MRS J THWAITES (VICE-CHAIR), R ANGEL, A R MULUCK AND MRS A THROSSELL

47. OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.56pm.

48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were RECEIVED from Cllr Stone. The previously notified reason for absence was recorded in the absence book ref 029 and ACCEPTED and APPROVED.

49. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Angel declared a personal interest in item 56 Correspondence, Request to use Cricket Square, as he is a member of the cricket club that pays an annual hire fee.

50. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Cllr Mrs Thwaites was **NOMINATED** by Cllr Mulcuck and **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs Throssell. There being no further nominations, Cllr Mrs Thwaites was duly elected Vice Chair for 2009/2010.

51. FINANCE

(a) Financial Analysis

The Financial Analysis was **CIRCULATED, READ** and **NOTED**.

52. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM LAST MEETING

(a) Ditton Court Quarry [Page 310, Item 635(a)]

(i) Format for official opening

Discussion on how to "open" the quarry took place and it was suggested that a ribbon be tied across the entrance and the walk should be fairly short.

RESOLVED to tie a ribbon across the entrance just prior to the opening and to ask Mike Easterbrook if he would lead the walk.



(ii) Planting of KM Tree

It was **NOTED** that an oak tree had been delivered from the KM in respect of the request made by a local boy to have a tree planted in the quarry in memory of his dog. It was **FURTHER NOTED** that an additional oak tree that the Parish Council requested from the KM will be delivered shortly. It had been proposed that this tree would also be planted in the quarry but as an oak that had been previously planted along the track was not doing very well it might be better to replace this tree.

RESOLVED to ask the local boy and his family if they would be available to attend the quarry opening and if they would be happy for the tree to be planted then.

RESOLVED to plant the parish council's tree along the track, on another occasion.

(b) Provision for Youth [Page 310, Item 635(b)](i) Update on Goal-End/Youth Shelter project

It was **NOTED** that the Big Lottery signs will be put up shortly and then the official opening of the equipment can take place. It had previously been suggested that an afternoon would be preferable to enable local children to attend.

(c) Dog Refuse Bin – Entrance to Scott Close [Page 310, Item 635(c)]

It was **NOTED** that the bin sited at the entrance to Scott Close had now been moved to the edge of the grass at the Community Centre entrance and that the resident that had made this request had been informed.

(d) War Memorial Restoration [Page 309, 634(c)]

It was **NOTED** that the Administrative Assistant had sent a copy of the estimate for the work required to restore the War Memorial to the War Memorials Trust. This information was to be looked at, at a meeting with English Heritage last week to see if it would be eligible for a grant, however, no feedback from the meeting had yet been received.

(e) Extension to MUGA Fence

It was **NOTED** that a quotation had not yet been received.

53. **ALLOTMENT MATTERS**(a) Suggestion for allotment expansion

A copy of an e-mail from a resident on the allotments waiting list, which had previously been CIRCULATED, was **READ** and the suggestion of those on the waiting list forming a group willing to prepare the ground to form more allotments, was **NOTED**. It was **FURTHER NOTED** that there was an article about a similar scheme in Cliffe in this month's edition of the Allotment & Leisure Gardener.

RESOLVED to pass on the information about the Cliffe scheme to the resident on the waiting list and suggest they liaise with DATs about raising funds/asking for help to move forward with this idea and if required, a meeting can be set up with the Allotment Managers.

(b) Plastic mesh for path

It was **NOTED** that a 30m x 2m roll of mesh can be purchased for £165.00 plus VAT and £10.00 delivery. It was **FURTHER NOTED** that one roll would be sufficient if it can be cut.

RESOLVED the Administrative Assistant to find out if the mesh can be cut and the cost of the fixing pins.

54. **BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION**

It was **NOTED** that Scottish and Newcastle had very kindly agreed to sponsor the Best Kept Garden competition for £300.00. It was also **NOTED** that the independent judge would be available to undertake the final judging on either Monday 20th July or Monday 27th July 2009.

RESOLVED the Councilors to shortlist gardens in the two weeks from 6th July and the final judging to take place on Monday 27th July 2009.

It was **FURTHER NOTED** that Scottish and Newcastle had kindly agreed to give £200.00 to pay for hanging baskets in the village this year.

55. **MEETING DATE IN JULY**

It was **NOTED** that several members of the Community Centre Committee were unavailable to attend the meeting scheduled for 13th July and the Committee had asked if it would be possible to exchange meeting dates with the Open Spaces Committee in July. It was **FURTHER NOTED** that several members of the Open Spaces Committee were also unavailable to meet on 13th July.

RESOLVED to bring forward the Open Spaces Meeting together with the Planning Meeting to Wednesday 15th July, to enable the Community Centre Meeting to take place on Monday 20th July.

56. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION**

Ditton Minors Football Club

: Application to hold football Tournament
1st/2nd May 2010

Discussion took place on this year's tournament and it was **NOTED** that the staff costs and materials came to £275.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

PERMISSION BE GIVEN FOR THE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT TO GO AHEAD BUT A FEE OF £300.00 BE CHARGED TO COVER THE COST OF LABOUR AND MATERIALS.

: Application to hold family picnic/games
on KBRRG Sunday 2nd August 2009

RESOLVED

TO ACCEDE TO THIS REQUEST SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY THE USUAL CONDITIONS OF USING THE RECREATION GROUND.

Paul Curtis

: Request for football pitch on Sunday mornings

It was **NOTED** that Paul Curtis had asked if his team could use the Ditton Minors pitch on a Sunday

morning once per month. It was FURTHER **NOTED** that this Committee had **RESOLVED** to keep this pitch available for casual hire at the last meeting. Concern was expressed about an adult team playing on a slightly smaller pitch and it was suggested that if permission were given, the pitch would have to be regularly inspected by the Grounds Supervisor to assess its condition.

RESOLVED TO ACCEDE TO THIS REQUEST BUT THE TEAM WOULD ONLY BE ABLE TO USE THE PITCH ONCE PER MONTH ON A CASUAL BASIS AND WOULD HAVE TO PAY THE CASUAL HIRE FEE OF £35.00 PER GAME PLUS THE HIRE OF CHANGING ROOMS IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE. THE USE OF THE PITCH WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE PITCH NOT BEING DAMAGED OR INTERFERING WITH ANY GAMES PLAYED BY DITTON MINORS.

The Chairman asked if the Committee would consider two additional date sensitive items:

RESOLVED to accede to this request.

Ditton Church Pre-School : Request to hold sports days on the village green
Tuesday, 16th June 11 – 11.30am and Thursday
18th June 2.15 to 2.30pm

RESOLVED TO ACCEDE TO THIS REQUEST.

Mr Graham West

RESOLVED : Request to use cricket square
 TO ACCEDE TO THIS REQUEST AND INFORM MR WEST THAT USE OF THE CRICKET PITCH WOULD BE SUBJECT TO £50.00 CASUAL HIRE FEE.

57. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING**

The Chairman will READ the following items of correspondence and REPORT on any items of interest.:-

Fields in Trust : Notice of AGM 17th June 2009

NSALG : Allotment and Leisure Gardener, Issue 2, 2009

58. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 9.06pm.

Chairman
1st June 2009