

VILLAGE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Village Amenities Committee of Colwall Parish Council held on Wednesday 6th June 2018 at 7.30pm in the Jean Simon Room, Colwall Village Hall.

Present:

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

1. Welcome and Apologies.

The Chairman welcomed those present.

Apologies were received and accepted from Co-opted member Chris Englefield.

2. Declaration of Interests.

None were declared.

3. Minutes.

The minutes of Village Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 14th February 2018 and the 11th April were discussed and adopted.

4. Progress report – potential footbridge behind the Thai Rama.

The Clerk reported that she had made some enquiries of Balfour Beatty through the locality steward “LS”. Initial discussions confirm that the bridge would need to be designed, supplied and installed by Balfour Beatty.

Subject to both landowners agreeing, in principal, to the suggestion a quotation will need to be obtained through the LS. Based on another footbridge recently supplied in the County, it is estimated the cost will be more than £20k.

This could be funded through potential future S106 monies.

IT WAS AGREED that Councillors Cottam and Trafford Roberts would undertake this project and report back at the next Village Amenities meeting. In the interim the Clerk would obtain the contact details for the developer – Lockley Homes.

5. Amenities Budget.

i) A summary of the 2017/18 Amenities Committee’s year to date accounts was circulated and discussed. The clerk confirmed all expenditure was inline with the budget.

6. Sites Overview.

Orlin Road Play Area (CE) - Reported to be in good condition, other than very wet.

War Memorial Garden (GR) – Reported to be in good condition. The troughs will be planted for the Ale House Festival. The fruit trees are also due to be planted shortly.

Allens Meadow (CE) - Reported to be in good condition, other than very wet.

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

The John Andrews garden has been tidied up and the wild flower area seeded.

Colwall Green (PK/GR) - The bus shelter flower boxes have been prepared for the season and look well and the bus shelter has been spring cleaned by Councillor Rees.

Councillors Kendrick and Rees attended a site meeting with the Director of the Malvern Hills Trust – concern has been raised and soil samples are being taken to ascertain why the grass is not growing in parts of the “wild flower” area.

It was noted that the grass path through the area has not been mowed recently – Clerk to remind the grass cutting contractor to undertake this.

The splay to the agricultural access has been realigned correctly, having been incorrectly reinstated.

IT WAS AGREED that fruit trees should be replanted by the Malvern Hills Trust behind the play area following the removal of some old fruit trees due to storm/weather damage – Councillor Rees to confirm to the Malvern Hills Trust.

The football pitch - Issues regarding the conduct of the players and litter are ongoing – Councillor Butler has liaised with the 2 teams accordingly. IT WAS AGREED the Clerk is to issue the annual letter for the usage for the forthcoming football season and include about players conduct.

Brookmill Close Play Area (PB) – The missing bolt has been replaced. The site is reported to be in good condition.

Aunt Alice (GR) - in good order, fickle time keeping due to the current weather. Derek Rees has kindly agreed to discuss this issue with Smiths of Derby at the next annual service.

Railway Gardens (GR) - Reported to be in good order, a haircut of the shrubs is required in the autumn.

Nature Reserve (GR/FB) - Reported to be in good order.

Following a review of the sites IT WAS AGREED responsibility would be reallocated to the Councillors/Co-opted members as follows:-

Orlin Road (CE), War Memorial Gardens (GR), Allens Meadow (CE), Walwyn Meadow and Library Building (WC/RJ), Colwall Green (PK), Brookmill Close (PB), Aunt Alice (GR), Railway Gardens (RJ), Nature Reserve (FB).

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

- i) All Parish Notice Boards were reported to be in good order.
- ii) Village Seats and Parish Litter bins were all reported to be in good order.

8. Footpaths

i) The Footpath Officer, Councillor Butler reported the following:-

Path	Issue	Action
CW1	Report from volunteers that CW1 has been planted over (Colwall Mill Farm in the direction of Hoe Farm)..	Update: Path route through crop now provided by landowner.
CW25	Stile at the intersection of CW25 & CW25A could do with a little TLC. The right hand upright has rotted, so is no longer fixed to the ground.	Steven to attend / fix.
	Potential of foot bridge to create link from village centre, to the new school via the development besides the Thai Rama.	Being investigated with landowners & HC. (Here just as a note)
Junction of CW3/4 with CW1	CW3 joins CW4 close to Hoe Farm. There's some new fencing work within the field, and the entrance gate looks to be 'work in progress'.	It may be something that will be rectified when the work is completed; perhaps a case of 'watch this space'.

CW17	Tree obstructing footpath between Chase Rd & Linden Manor Drive.	Clear overgrown vegetation
CW20	Request from one of the volunteers to 'advertise' a 13 mile 'Beating of the Boundary' walk, probably late May.	Clear overgrown vegetation. Check stability.
CW55	Some way markers around the parish require replacing (faded / broken)	Probably needs longer screws.
CW55	Stile onto road Simply a bit overgrown. We were able to use the gate immediately besides the stile.	Clear tree
CW26	Stile is overgrown, so some walkers use the adjacent gate. Some of the walkers thought the stile was difficult to negotiate & wobbly, although I didn't find it a problem.	Stabilise
CW25	New gate. However, the screws which holds the spring which acts as the closing device, have become detached, so the gate doesn't self close.	Clear branches
CW26	Tree across path	Clear overgrown vegetation.
CW46	Stile near Cummings Farm. Wobbly	Clear overgrown vegetation. (There is an alternative route besides the official footpath)
CW45	Stile Partially obstructed by branches	Stabilise
CW45	Stile between Barton Court & Tanhouse Farm. Overgrown.	Clear trees
CW9	Near Old Castle Farm. Allocated path overgrown.	Either reposition or remove fence / spikes. Probably need landowner to do this.
CW9	Stile below British Camp; wobbly	Clear branch

9. Correspondence

Following the last committee meeting the Clerk had obtained quotes for refurbishing the existing motifs and obtained a catalogue for potential new lights.

The Clerk had also enquired of the Insurance company to ascertain if the storm damage was covered under insurance, but they have advised there is no cover for this type of damage therefore no claim can be made.

IT WAS AGREED that Councillors Cottam and James would review the information received and consider alternative lightings as appropriate and report back to the next Village Amenities committee meeting.

10 Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Village Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 1st August 2018, at 7:30pm, in the Jean Simon Room at Colwall Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....