

# STOKE POGES PARISH COUNCIL

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION  
AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE  
STOKE POGES PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2011 AT 7.30 P.M.  
IN THE LIONEL RIGBY ROOM AT THE VILLAGE CENTRE, ROGERS LANE,**

**Present:- Cllr Carter (Chair), Cllr Aldridge, Cllr Bagge, Cllr Hawkins, Cllr Huntley & Cllr Fletcher.**

**In Attendance:- Mrs J Simmonds (Clerk)**

**Also Present:- 7 members of public.**

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## MINUTES

**001/RE/11 To Elect a Chairman for Recreation and Environment for the coming year 11/12.**

Cllr Bagge proposed Cllr Carter and this was seconded by Cllr Hawkins, **RESOLVED** to agree all in favour to elect Cllr Carter as Chairman of Recreation and Environment for the year 2011/12.

**002/RE/11 To Elect a Vice Chairman for Recreation and Environment for the coming year 11/12.**

The clerk informed the committee that Cllr Matthews who was unable to attend the meeting would be happy to be Vice Chairman. Cllr Bagge proposed Cllr Matthews and this was seconded by Cllr Fletcher. **RESOLVED** to agree all in favour to elect Cllr Matthews as Vice Chairman of Recreation and Environment for the year 2011/12.

**003/RE/11 Items by Members of Public Present 7.30pm-7.45pm**

To receive comments from any members of public present about items on the agenda.

Mr Atkins asked the Chairman what is the problem up at the allotments, and Mr Braithwaite asked what are the allegations. Cllr Carter replied that the allotment agreement was being looked at because the old one was too difficult for people to understand, and also there had been anonymous complaints made to the council about breaches being made by other plot holders. Mr Atkins openly admitted that he has burnt household waste from his own property as he cannot get to a dump. Mr Braithwaite said that he has no room on his plot for an incinerator, and a communal area was used. Cllr Carter replied that no communal area had been agreed by the Parish Council. The District Council had been called to a bonfire at the allotments and had warned the Parish Council that as the land owners any enforcement will be taken against the Parish Council, this had led the Parish Council having to look closely at the allotments and the agreement. The new Parish Council want to draw a line under what has happened before and start again and move forward. Cllr Fletcher said that the new agreement will be clear and easy to understand and everyone will sign and adhere to the rules to prevent the District Council from taking action against the Parish Council, and to preserve the Green Belt land, and to make it fit for purpose. Mr Atkins said that he had turned the allotments into a small community and asked who was penalising him? Cllr Carter replied that anyone in breach of their agreement will be contacted and no-one person in particular was being singled out, the Parish Council are just simplifying the agreement. Mr Atkins asked about whether or not the new agreement would affect his chickens and also he maintains the grass cutting with another plot holder and why would we change that? Cllr Carter said that the Parish Council had not yet discussed the new agreement or the grass cutting issue and would be doing so during this meeting. Cllr Carter called the public session to an end at 7.55pm, and said that after formalities she would take the allotment item first.

**004/RE/11 Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Fox and Cllr Matthews.

**005/RE/11 Declarations of interest**

Members to declare any personal interest in any item of business as defined in the Code of Conduct. If that interest is a prejudicial interest as defined in the Code; the Member should withdraw from the meeting for that item. Cllr Hawkins declared an interest in item 10 as an allotment holder.

**006/RE/11 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the R&E Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 which were signed by the Chairman.

**007/RE/11 Football Bells Hill and Plough Lane**

Annual Maintenance works have been carried out by Cllr Fox and Cllr Matthews free of charge.

**008/RE/11 Nettleship Wood**

**RESOLVED** to agree that Cllr Huntley would find out the market value of the land from three different sources and we would take this to the next Full Parish Council meeting to re-discuss. Clerk to inform Mrs Kennedy that the Council are still looking into re-newing the agreement and to charge her on a monthly basis for the time being, based on last year's rent.

**009/PC/11 Bells Hill and Plough Lane Recreation Grounds Projects**

- (1) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour to replace stolen Laurels at Plough Lane, and to get a price from Nick Milne who has said that he will replace two dead Laurels in Bells Hill FOC in the autumn. Laurels in Plough Lane to be replaced at the same time.
- (2) Playground Opening Ceremony 18<sup>th</sup> June 2011 Update. Excellent day, 200-300 throughout the day regardless of the showery weather, feedback all good and many asking if it can be done every year.
- (3) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour to install two more buggy/wheelchair access kissing Gates, one at the St. Andrews entrance to Bells Hill and one at the Plough Lane entrance to Plough Lane Recreation Ground.
- (4) After discussion Cllr Huntley proposed that we pay an extra £20 per month to cover the Playground and Bus Shelter inspectors extra workload and extra time involved, this was seconded by Cllr Aldridge, **RESOLVED**, all in favour.
- (5) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour to pay £35 extra per cut for the Grass cutting Contractors extra workload and extra time. 10 more cuts due this year, clerk to add this to the current maintenance contract.
- (6) Quote received from Progress Services to carry out playground maintenance twice yearly as detailed by Greyhound Leisure. To decide whether to accept quote. **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour that maintenance only required yearly and would not be due until May next year. Clerk to get ideas from Dorney, Gerrards Cross and Farnham Royal on how they manage their maintenance and costs for the next R & E meeting.
- (7) **RESOLVED** to agree that the Hot Shot Wall was installed before the clinic decided to install a new fence, leave for the summer and see what happens, but to move it would be difficult as there is not really anywhere for it to go. The council would also ask for the moving costs to be covered by the clinic. **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour not to move the Bike Racks in Plough Lane.
- (8) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour that the quote was high and the clerk will ask Greyhound Leisure to quote for the same item and also to paint the Pirate Ship in Plough Lane and the Tractor in Bells Hill. Bring back to next R & E meeting.
- (9) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour to get quotes for removing the ivy growing on garages backing onto Bells Hill Recreation Ground in Sefton Close, or training it and maintaining it regularly.
- (10) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour that the complainant regarding users of Bells Hill Recreation Ground parking in private garages at Sefton Close and blocking doors etc. is dealing with this issue at present, not really anything that the Parish Council can do, it is more a police matter.
- (11) No new reports of dog mess at new play area Bells Hill.
- (12) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour to replace the broken litter bin at Bells Hill Recreation ground near the Sefton Close entrance.
- (13) Large play mound. Cllr Carter read out an email from Wicksteed after they inspected the mound. **RESOLVED** to agree to leave it alone over the summer months and re-assess and discuss at the next R & E Meeting. Mike Saunders to report any deterioration during his weekly inspections.
- (14) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour to accept the quote from AKC to replace the cupboard completely.

**This item was taken first.**

**010/RE/11 Allotments**

- (1) Cllr Bagge read out the whole of the proposed new allotment agreement. Cllr Bagge proposed that this agreement be accepted and taken to Full Council in July to be ratified, and then be sent out to all allotment holders for a six week consultation, any comments to be put in writing only to the clerk by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011. This will then be discussed again at the September meeting and a resolution put forward to accept the agreement which will come into force in January 2012. This was seconded by Cllr Carter. **RESOLVED** to agree all in favour. At 8.15pm the meeting was adjourned to allow Mr Braithwaite to ask if the proposed agreement differed much to the old agreement? Cllr Carter said that the new agreement was clearer and precise, and there were many differences. **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour to discuss the water charges at the next R & E meeting.
- (2) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour that there should be no hives kept on actual plots but on the peripheral. Cllr Bagge to research an agreement for keeping bees for the next R & E meeting.

- (3) **RESOLVED** to agree, all in favour not to pay petrol costs to allotment holders for maintaining the grass areas, but to put the job out to tender as the responsibility lies with the Parish Council to maintain the allotments. The meeting was adjourned at 8.30pm to allow Mr Atkins to say that he and one other allotment holder maintain the whole area themselves. Cllr Carter replied that they should not have to do that and that the Parish Council should maintain the allotments themselves. Clerk to get quotes and to table for decision at the next Parish Council meeting.
- (4) **RESOLVED** to agree that the reports previously circulated by Cllr Matthews following visits to the allotments and by Cllr Carter, had already been discussed at Full Council and dealt with.
- (5) **RESOLVED** to agree that the clerk should accept the cheaper quote from Greenwood providing that a quote cannot be sought cheaper from the contractor that they use at Farnham Royal. Work to commence asap due to health and safety.

It was agreed that the clerk should get A & M Fencing to look at the gate into the allotments which is damaged and get a quote to repair or replace.

**011/PC/11 Working Party (CRISP)**

Cllr Huntley and Cllr Hawkins asked what budget they had for this project? Cllr Carter explained that they are to get sponsorship rather than use any budget. A budget can be decided on at the next meeting if they bring some figures to the table.

**012/PC/11 Working Party (Street Party for Jubilee and Olympics)**

Cllr Carter has done some research and has had mixed feelings for a street party or a party held in the Recreation Ground. Cllr Carter is thinking along the lines of a party in the Rec where people take their own tables and chairs, maybe a band and entertainers as well, however the working party have not met yet to discuss finally.

**013/PC/11 Working Party for Xmas Lights Ceremony/Bells Hill Green**

Cllr Carter said that the electric problem is being sorted out, and she has spoken to John Orchard about maybe having a Piano and choir rather than the brass band. This is a possibility and the working party are still to discuss and decide.

**014/PC/11 Working Party for Village Character**

Cllr Bagge has made no progress as yet other than sending an email to Roger Askew asking if his members of the History Society would be interested in the joining the Village Character Committee, Mr Askew is put this onto his July agenda.

**015/PC/11 Bulbs/Planting in Village**

Cllr Carter reported that Mary Crocker who is involved with the Thames Hospiscare and it is their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year and to mark the occasion they are adopting a salmon pink tulip. Mary is going to be working with the children from the school and planting the tulips in numerous areas around the village. The ordering will take place in August for planting in October/November time.

**016/RE/11 NOTED Date of next meeting:-**  
25<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Signed

Chairman

Dated