

NORTHFIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 28 September 2022 at 11am at Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley.

Present: Cllr Mrs Oxtoby
Cllr Mrs Brammer
Cllr L Glander

In Attendance: Mrs A de Jager – Secretary
Mrs H Boden – Treasurer

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M Brown, Cllr S Glover and Cllr V Sewell.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 01 June 2022

Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the minutes of the meeting held on 01 June 2022 are approved and signed. SECONDED: Cllr L Glander and AGREED.

4. Finance

- 4.1 The balances were received and NOTED.
4.2 The detail report setting out the financial position as at 22 September 2022 was received and NOTED.
4.3 The following payments were authorised for payment, PROPOSED: Cllr Mrs Oxtoby
SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Brammer and AGREED.

Cheque Number	Payee	Particulars	Net	VAT	Gross
100557	T D Munday	Grass cutting play area inv 84 Cut grass Milestone sch inv 84 Visual inspection May Inv 2	180.00 55.00 80.00	0.00 0.00 0.00	315.00
100558	Rural Payments Agency	Overpayment re breach inv S0790387A1044908V02A	98.51	0.00	98.51
100559	T D Munday	Visual Inspection June inv 9	80.00	0.00	80.00
100560	T D Munday	Grass cutting Milestone Sch inv 89	55.00	0.00	55.00
100561	T D Munday	Grass cutting play area inv 89 Visual inspection inv 19	180.00 80.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 260.00

100562	T D Munday	Cut hedge at Milestone School inv 96	65.00	0.00	65.00
100563	Zurich Insurance	Annual insurance inv 1438237290	297.05	0.00	297.05
100564	T D Munday	Visual Inspection August inv 23	80.00	0.00	80.00
100565	Marshalls	Bollard repair inv Z001368167	240.00	48.00	288.00

4.4 Budget 2023/24 – the draft budget was AGREED with the following amendments. Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the tree maintenance budget is set at £2,000 SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Oxtoby and AGREED. Cllr Mrs Oxtoby PROPOSED that the Parish Council’s contributions are set at £500 SECONDED: Cllr L Glander and AGREED.

5. Land and Site Maintenance

- 5.1 Wildflower Meadow – It was NOTED that some of the seeds have been delivered, but there is a shortage of the bespoke mix. Cllr Mrs Oxtoby PROPOSED that another order is placed to purchase the same seed mix that has been delivered and request that Mr Glover seeds the agreed area. SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Brammer and AGREED.
- 5.2 Kent County Council - Cllr David Brazier has advised that the free tree scheme is not live yet, but the Tree Officer has been advised of our interest.
- 5.3 Woodlands Plan – it was NOTED that Mr J Miller of Miller Land Management has made the agreed amendments to the draft plan and it has been submitted to the Forestry Commission, A site visit is usually required before approval, however this may not be required as our local officer has recently visited the Woodlands.
- 5.4 Quantified Tree Risk Assessment – a quote has been requested to remove the lower branched from neighbouring Ash trees that overhang the path/horse riding route.
- 5.5 Hay cutting – it was NOTED that both the field and wildflower meadow have been cut. The review of the hay cutting specification was carried out and quotations will be sought for the next meeting..
- 5.6 Apple trees donated to Northfield Management Committee – unfortunately only one tree survived. This tree will be offered to Cllr Mrs Howie to plant at Ridley.
- 5.7 Rural Payment Agency – It was NOTED that a Sustainable Farming Incentive is being rolled out and applications can be made online. There is no application deadline and the agreement will run for three years. Eligibility and conditions will be looked into and brought to the next meeting.
- 5.8 Interpretative Panels – It was AGREED that the panels should be titled Northfield Public Open Space, Managed Jointly by Ash-cum-Ridley and Hartley Parish Councils and will reflect the Horse Riding Route, Play Area, Wild Flower Meadow and Hay Meadow and contact information. Information on common flora and fauna aimed at children will be included. Mr S Manley will be contacted in this regard.

6. Horse Riding Route

- 6.1 It was NOTED that the horse riding route had 19 members which includes one member with access adjacent to Milestone Academy.
- 6.2 Further requests have been received requesting horse access to Northfield through the gate adjacent to Milestone Academy. Cllr Mrs Oxtoby PROPOSED that when the padlocks are

changed at the beginning of the season, all three padlocks have the same number which will allow access via Milestone for those people who have children and to increase the key deposit to £25.00 SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Brammer and AGREED. Regulations will be amended and handed to members on renewal.

6.3 Cllr Mrs Oxtoby PROPOSED that the Horse Riding Route is closed on 30 October 2022.

7. Health and Safety

7.1 It was NOTED that a report has been received of someone rough sleeping in Barnetts Wood. The Community Warden and Mrs de Jager will visit the site today and report back to the committee. Cllr L Glander PROPOSED that this camp together with the previous camp be cleared. SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Oxtoby and AGREED.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Northfield Management Committee will be arranged on receipt of the Woodlands Plan from the Forestry Commission.

The meeting closed at 12.16pm

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Chairman

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Date