

**The Minutes of the Village Environment Committee Meeting  
held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

A meeting of the VEC was held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00 pm via Zoom where members of the public were also invited.

The following Councillors were present: -

Cllr. L. Wilkins, Chairman	Cllr. B. Hadley (minute-taker)	Cllr. B. Sumner
Cllr. S. Coventry	Cllr. A. Davis	Cllr. L. Hicks
Cllr. N. Randall	Cllr. B. Wragge	Cllr. A. Roberts
Observers: Cllr. P. Millet, Cllr. M. Macklin		

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of the VEC Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021** - Cllr. L. Hicks proposed to approve the minutes of the VEC meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Cllr. S. Coventry seconded the proposal.  
A unanimous vote was taken of all in favour of the proposal.
4. **Matters Arising:** None, as all items were on the agenda.

**Village Maintenance**

Village Sign Collected by Black Forge, estimated date of reinstallation by 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Lampposts GCC plans to repaint/replace lampposts around the Centre of the Village when warmer weather.

Footpaths No update from GCC on the status of the footpath from Rye Close to the tennis courts.

Trees The Committee considered & approved a quote of £520 to reduce the limbs of the maple over neighbouring properties at Rye Crescent play area. It was noted that a quote of £320 had been accepted to carry out works on Meadow Way at mini-roundabout & VJ Collett and instruction given. Concern expressed that it is now bird nesting season to action ASAP, clear instruction to be given to remove all roots.

Risk Assessment The Committee received & approved a village green hire risk assessment template produced by Cllr Millett which would be forwarded to St Lawrence's Church, as requested, and used by any other hirer requesting one. It was noted that the Village Green Hire Policy needs to be reviewed to ensure that no alcohol is sold or dispensed open from an event or tombola.

Litter Bins A working party consisting of Cllrs. Hadley, Wilkins, Hicks & Roberts agreed to visit the green and consider the proposals from CDC Cllr Andy Doherty for new litter bins in the village centre. A preference for green rather than black was noted. Cllr. Hadley agreed to establish the base fixings. It was agreed that a storage unit could be sited at GMCC for Ubico's equipment.

Hanging Baskets Estimates to be obtained by Assistant Clerk ASAP for the baskets, and three central planters, for installation at the end of May.

Christmas Display Total costs of 2020 display were noted and the Committee recorded thanks to Bourton Vale Parking for their contribution. Colin Baldwin to confirm cost of replacing faulty lights for 2021 display.

Tourism Charge Councillors were encouraged to give their feedback to the Assistant Clerk before 12pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March so that points could be collated to respond to CDC's request for suggestions for the best use of monies collected via the Tourism Charge. Cllr. Hadley agreed to contact Nick Maunder to enquire whether the owner of Manor Fields would also be willing to contribute.

**Cemetery**

Burial Fees The new fees were proposed by Cllr Wilkins, seconded by Cllr. Sumner and all voted in favour. Adoption would be sought by full Council and new charges would be effective from 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Cemetery Shed Pete Scarrott would be asked to supply an estimate to re-felt the roof and repair as necessary. It was agreed that Cllr Millett could remove the stored benches to donate to Bourton Vale Cricket Club. It was agreed that three stored litter bins would be donated to St Lawrence's Churchyard. Peter Pulham would be requested to deliver when convenient.

Grave Levelling A quote was approved for the levelling of five graves at £65 per plot to be carried out in the first week of May.

St Lawrence's Churchyard The Committee confirmed acceptance of quote of £85 for re-painting graffitied wall & instruction to temporarily close area for safety reasons.

Cllr. Sumner confirmed that the Council had previously repaired the boundary wall with Millwood Cottage and following an inspection the Assistant Clerk would be asked to obtain an estimate to re-point both sides of the wall with lime mortar.

Cllr. Hadley agreed to produce H&S risk assessment form to be completed annually for a closed churchyard. Rev Rowena had photographed the area around the memorial to Len Hill and would confirm whether it is the responsibility of the family or the Parish Council to repair the roof and bench.

#### **Allotments**

Rules Cllr. Roberts agreed to amend the allotment rules to include one small wooden shed for tools and one greenhouse per plot. To be agreed and proposed at the next Council meeting 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Cemetery Lane A request to erect a 6' x 8' greenhouse on Plot 14b was granted.

#### **6. Any Other Business**

CDC Rissington Road Car Park It was noted that this was reopened on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at CDC's request.

H&S Risk Assessment It was noted that Pete Scarrott had completed all the work highlighted following an inspection by Cllr. Hadley & Wilkins in November 2020.

H&S Risk Assessment Form Cllr Wilkins was reminded to return the form completed to the office as a record of Council's compliance.

Litter Picking It was noted that Sue Roberts had kindly agreed to coordinate the local litter pickers in association with North Cotswold Clean Up and the CPRE charity (Campaign to Protect Rural England).

Dog Fouling Signs Cllr. Randall's request for signs to be in place on the Village Green below each byelaw sign was noted.

#### **7. Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021 via Zoom at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed .....  
14<sup>th</sup> April 2021