

The Minutes of the Meeting of the **General Purposes Committee**
of **Upchurch Parish Council** held in the Committee Room, Upchurch Village Hall
on **Wednesday 14th June 2017**

Present: Cllr Ripley (Chairman), Cllr John Arnold, Cllr Pam Denny, Cllr Gary Rosewell and Cllr Louis Newbery; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

13. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Stephen Hunt (work), Cllr Louis Newbery (personal) and Cllr Peter Masson (holiday): apologies accepted.

14. Declarations of Interests

None were declared.

15. Public Time

No members of the public were present.

16. Allotments

i. To receive an update

Cllr Ripley reported to Members that he had been contacted by an allotment holder about the weeds growing up again in the cleared area. Cllr Masson will address this on his return.

ii. To consider quotation for addition tap.

This item was deferred pending receiving quotations.

iii. To consider the provision of a portaloos for the allotments.

Cllr Ripley informed Members that someone has been clearing the area designated for a car park. It had been mentioned at the June Full Council meeting that someone had asked if there could be a ladies toilet at the allotments, this had been discussed and dismissed due to health and Safety issues and the cost which would add an extra £21 per plot per annum to the rent. An email had been received from a resident about the hedge on the Oak Lane boundary of the allotments, Cllr Denny confirmed that the hedge has been cut.

17. Paddock and Recreation Ground

i. To receive an update

Cllr Denny said she has located the tap inside the Paddock and the Council may need to consider whether to keep it.

ACTION: Refer to Full Council for consideration.

Cllr Denny said the vegetation by the neighbours' new fence next to the car park has been cut back. The owners are concerned about cars damaging their fence, one solution would be to put sleepers down to prevent cars parking too close.

Cllr Rosewell said another option would be to use kerb stones.

Cllr Denny said there are a lot of potholes in the car park.

ACTION: Cllr Ripley to obtain quotations for resurfacing the car park.

ii. To consider the play area surfacing

Councillors considered the quotations for the play area surfacing under the swing.

Cllr Ripley **PROPOSED** to accept the quotation from Allan Chapman and that due to the Health and Safety implications the work should be carried out as soon as possible; **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.**

iii. To consider bins in the Paddock

Cllr Denny asked if the bin in the Paddock can be moved nearer to the picnic benches.

iv. To consider safety inspection quotation

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation from Craigdene.

Cllr Ripley said the Global Biking Initiative will go through Upchurch on 2nd July and have asked if they can use the recreation ground as a rest stop. The Scouts will be asked if they would be willing to allow the cyclists to use the Scout hut facilities.

18. Burial Ground and Churchyard

Cllr Denny said the grass has not been cut and asked when the contractor would be due to do it next.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the contractor.

Cllr Arnold said the tree in the church yard on Church Road could be a sight hazard as there is growth growing over the wall.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Grasstex.

19. Highways and Street lighting

Cllr Arnold reported to Members that Windmill Hill has been scheduled to be spray patched.

Breach Lane has also been identified for work but this has been put on hold due to another road needing urgent repairs and it will be added to the list of work to be carried out.

Cllr Arnold said a lamp post in Crosier Court has been damaged by a van which did not stop, a resident has taken down details of the vehicle.

ACTION: Clerk to report the accident.

20. Footpaths

There was nothing to report.

21. Environment

Cllr Ripley informed Members that he is waiting to receive quotations for the tree work.

Cllr Denny reported Chaffes Lane opposite Snaffles is full of leaf debris.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Swale Borough Council.

Cllr Ripley said the In Bloom group want to put planters around the village.

ACTION: Cllr Arnold to contact KCC Highways about placing planters on the verge.

Cllr Arnold said he is applying for a cultivation licence for Otterham Quay Lane.

Cllr Ripley said the benches on Grannies Green are in a bad state of disrepair.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Amicus Horizon.

22. Church Clock

Cllr Arnold said the clock has been monitored and it is hardly drawing any electricity, the manufacturer is being contacted for an Uninterruptable Power Supply. There may need to be some work on the clock as the clutch is slipping.

Cllr Ripley thanked Cllr Arnold and Cllr Horton for their work on the clock.

23. Any other matter arising

Cllr Ripley said the problem of the trees in Forge Lane has been raised at a Council meeting.

ACTION 1: Clerk to contact landlord again.

ACTION 2: Cllr Arnold to contact Kent Highways.

24. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19th July 2017 at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm

