

Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion
Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton
Cambridge CB3 0FH

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held at St Vincent's Community Centre on Tuesday 12 June 2007

Present: Cllrs D de Lacey (in the chair) J Ford-Smith, R Gordon, R Hodgkinson and P Starling (Cllr Starling chose to leave the meeting at item 07/07); Mr C Carr (Tree Officer Elect), Mr P Seaber (Tree Officer) and Mr G Thorpe

Action

07/01 To receive apologies for absence

No apologies for absence had been received.

07/02 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Cllr Ford-Smith was elected to the Chair prop Cllr de Lacey sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

07/03 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda

No declarations of interest were made for items on the agenda.

07/04 That Standing Orders be suspended for an Open Session for the public

Suspension of Standing Orders: no members of the public were present.

07/05 That Standing Orders be reinstated and the Council meeting resumed

Standing Orders had not been suspended.

07/06 That the members of this Committee of Girton Parish Council accept that all business of this Committee shall be conducted according to the Standing Orders of the Council and the Rules of Debate therein

Prop Cllr Ford-Smith sec Cllr de Lacey 4 in favour, 1 against.

07/07 That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 March be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record

Prop Cllr de Lacey sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

07/08 Matters arising from minutes

Item 16b (Wellbrook Way footpath): The Council has remitted this issue to the Wellbrook Committee.

07/09 That the Committee appoint Mr Carr as Tree Warden for the village

Prop Cllr Ford-Smith sec Cllr de Lacey, unanimous. The Chairman expressed the gratitude of the Committee, as of its predecessor, for all the hard work Mr Seaber had put into the role, and his own hope that Mr Seaber would continue to serve the Council.

07/10 That the Tree Warden and Mr Thorpe be co-opted on to the Committee

Prop Cllr Ford-Smith sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

07/11 That meetings of the Committee be held bi-monthly on the second Monday

of the month, beginning on 16 July, and that the July meeting focus on a discussion of plans for the coming year and longer term strategy

Prop Cllr Ford-Smith sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

07/12 That a Working Party be established to plan Christmas proposals sponsored by the Council for the village and to report back to the Committee

The membership was agreed as Cllrs Ford-Smith and Gordon, The Rev Adam and the Rev Holland; prop Cllr Ford-Smith sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

JFS

07/13 That a Working Party be established to plan with the Glebe School for tree planting this autumn in accordance with the plans laid out by the Tree Council and the Woodland Trust and to report back to the Committee

The membership was agreed as Cllrs de Lacey, Ford-Smith, Hodgkinson and Mr Carr; prop Cllr Ford-Smith sec Cllr de Lacey, unanimous.

JFS

07/14 That members be designated to assess and report on the various public spaces which this Committee oversees

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

July Agenda

07/15 That the Committee receive a report on the current state of the proposed map and decide how to take this forward

Cllr de Lacey reported that two of the initial group of artists had come up with a plan, neither of which had been approved by the sub-committee. One had consequently expressed no further interest and the other had submitted a revised budget of £800. The Chairman reminded the meeting that the budget for the map was £300. Resolved: to write to the artist explaining that this was the maximum sum available and await a response; prop Cllr de Lacey sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

HB

07/16 That the Committee note the offer of a Maple tree by Mr Carr, express our thanks and decide a suitable location in which to plant it

The edge of the Recreation Ground was thought to be suitable; prop Cllr Ford-Smith sec Cllr de Lacey, unanimous.

To be raised again in Sept

07/17 That two dead trees bordering 23a Cambridge Road be felled for safety reasons

Prop Cllr de Lacey sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

HB/Tree Surgeon

07/18 That dead branches be removed from the tree in the hedge on Smithy Green

Prop Cllr de Lacey sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

HB/Tree Surgeon

07/19 To consider the state of the trees lining the Girton Wood and decide a course of action

Mr Seaber was invited to give a report as former Tree Warden: he recommended that the advice of a Tree Surgeon should be sought and followed; prop Cllr de Lacey sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

HB/Tree Surgeon

07/20 That tenders be sought for a chain-link fence along the road-side on Smithy Green

Amendment to change "chain-link fence" to "barrier", with the hope that a variety of different materials and types of barrier could be considered; prop Cllr Hodgkinson sec Cllr de Lacey, unanimous; proposal then prop Cllr Hodgkinson sec Cllr de Lacey,

HB

unanimous.

07/21 To receive reports:

- a) **Girton Wood:** Mr Seaber gave a report on the Wood (attached) highlighting a number of issues which need addressing. The Chairman will bring proposals to next month's meeting. JFS
- b) **Open Spaces:** Mr Thorpe reported on the Pump Garden which had been tidied and planted. He suggested the Committee might think of adding a gravel bed to suppress weeds, and a second bench. He also reported on the Willow circle at Duck End which had been much improved by the trimming of the willow and tidying around its base. He suggested the possibility of laying down grassed reinforcing cells in the area over-run by vehicles, as an alternative to a barrier (see item 14a of the Open Spaces meeting of 13. 3. 2007). Sept Agenda
- c) **Tree Warden:** The retiring Warden presented a full report (attached). He was again thanked for his services. Sept Agenda
- d) **Street furniture:** Cllr de Lacey reported that two benches had been delivered (see item 18 of the Open Spaces meeting of 13.3.2007) and placed in Washpit Lane and at the Allotments, where the existing bench had been found to have become rotten. Two notice-boards had been delivered (see item 3c of the Open Spaces meeting of 9.1.2007) and one had been erected at the Post Office. The other is to be erected at the Thornton Road shops.

The meeting ended at 20:35.