

Girton Parish Council

Helen Bracey
Clerk to the Parish Council
telephone: (01223) 472181
email: clerk@girton-cambs.org.uk

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

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held at Cotton Hall on 10 September 2007

Present: Cllrs de Lacey, Ford-Smith (Chairman), Gordon, Taylor (to 07/46), Colin Carr (Tree Officer), George Thorpe **Action**

07/35 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bullman, Hodgkinson, Martin and Peter Seaber.

07/36 Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda

None were declared.

07/37 That Standing Orders be suspended for an Open Session for the public

No members of the public were in attendance, therefore standing orders were not suspended.

07/38 That Standing Orders be reinstated and the Council meeting resumed

No members of the public were in attendance, therefore standing orders were not suspended.

07/39 That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 July be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 July were accepted as an accurate record. Prop Cllr Ford-Smith, sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous.

07/40 Matters arising from minutes

07/27 Arrangements for Christmas celebration. Cllr Ford-Smith reported that he had received no response from the primary school despite several attempts to contact them by letter and telephone. In addition the rector is away on sabbatical so little progress had been made towards any celebrations this year. Cllr de Lacey reported that he had been in touch with Mark Taylor from Wimpey about various events that they might like to sponsor in the village and that he would be approaching Wimpey's PR company for further discussion.

DdL

07/29 Cllr Gordon on discussions with Girton Golf Club regarding planting of oak trees at the Oakington Road end of the village. Cllr Gordon will be meeting with the manager and the general secretary of the golf club on 12 September to seek their approval for the planting. He also reported that he had contacted Andrew Meek for names of people who had originally planted the acorns so that we could get some publicity if they can eventually be planted. Cllr Ford-Smith thanked Cllr Gordon for his persistence and effort in this matter. The committee greatly appreciates the commitment.

RG

07/41 That a sub committee be approved to produce a design for the entrance to the Recreation Ground, Smithy Green and the Hibbert-Ware Garden

Cllr Ford-Smith reported that Cllr Martin had produced a draft map that a few people had now seen and commented on. Cllr Ford-Smith will make available the draft map for inspection and comment at his address. Cllr Ford-Smith suggested that the three sites

be treated as a whole and that the committee concentrate on making this area a focal point for the village. Cllr Ford-Smith reported that Cllrs Ford-Smith, Martin and de Lacey had discussed these plans and proposed that they form a sub committee to bring the plans forward.

There was some discussion as to whether we could encourage the church to be involved in the design because the churchyard is part of the same area and it was agreed to consult the church. Prop Cllr Ford-Smith, sec Cllr de Lacey, unanimous. Colin Carr reported that he will meet with a local landscape gardener and nurseryman to look at options for Smithy Green and Hibbert-Ware Garden and get some idea of costs involved.

JFS/DdL/RM

Cllr Gordon suggested that we investigate the use of railway sleepers to make raised beds in the area, thereby preventing car parking and improving the look of the area. Prop Cllr Gordon, sec Cllr Ford-Smith, unanimous.

07/42 To approve the purchase of a notice board to be placed at the Co-op

Three quotations had been received. The committee decided to recommend staying with the current supplier (Greenbarnes Ltd) at a cost of £1514.96 +VAT. Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Gordon, unanimous. Referred to full council.

DdL

07/43 That the committee approve a consultation process on plans for planting trees at the ends of Thornton Road

Cllr Ford-Smith reported that Michael Oakman from SCDC had met with him and Cllr de Lacey and supplied plans which indicated tree planting was possible. Colin Carr presented a paper outlining the choice from 4 suitable trees. Cllr Taylor asked if they could be different trees alternating and it was thought this would be OK. Cllr de Lacey asked about risk assessments for the trees. Cllr de Lacey proposed that we should consult Thornton Road residents about the trees via the Clerk sec Cllr de Lacey.

JFS/DdL/HB

07/44 To consider the relocation of the dog litter bin which is currently outside the Doctor's surgery at Pepys Way

Cllr Gordon reported that a letter had been received via SCDC from residents of St Vincent's Close complaining about the location of the dog litter bin. After discussion and a report from Cllr Gordon it was decided to reply that there seemed no good reason to move the bin but if the residents still wanted it moved then the parish council would discuss it with them The Clerk to reply. Prop Cllr Gordon, sec Cllr de Lacey, unanimous.

DdL/HB

07/45 To approve the purchase of a dog litter bin to be placed at the entrance of the footpath leading from Thornton Close to NIAB

Prop Cllr de Lacey, sec Cllr Gordon, refer to full council.

DdL

07/46 That members take responsibility for reporting on various Parish open spaces

Agreed that the following members take responsibility for the following open spaces and report at each meeting

- a) Town End Close – GT
- b) Mayfield – MT
- c) Woody Green – CC
- d) Pump Garden – DdL
- e) Smithy Green – CC
- f) Hibbert-Ware garden – CC

- g) Hicks Lane Corner – RG
- h) Weavers Field – RG
- i) Woodlands Park - DdL

07/47 To receive a report from the Chairman on a village logo

Cllr Ford-Smith reported that he had received a quotation for designing the village logo of £450. Agreed to refer to full council.

JFS

07/48 To receive reports

- a) Girton Wood – Cllr Ford-Smith reported that the Woodland Trust would be carrying out maintenance in November at their expense.
- b) Open Spaces – Woody Green willow tree may need attention soon. Woodlands Park dog litter bin has been moved away from the bench. Town End Close volunteers did not carry out the work due to inclement weather and will revisit in the Autumn.
- c) Tree warden - approved trimming trees at 93A and 95 Cambridge Road and recommended that tree at 95 is treated as a whole rather than a part. Also reported on complaint of trees being felled at 11 Church Lane – stumps indicated that the trees were beyond redemption and that part of the problem was the extremely tall Leylandii hedge at the rear of the house threatening other native trees as well
- d) Street furniture – Cllr Gordon reported that he had identified 17 places for hanging baskets along the village and that the cost of fitting them would be approximately £400 each. These would also require a lot of maintenance and it was suggested that perhaps these could be sited around the Recreation ground area in the first instance.
- e) Cllr Ford-Smith reported that we would discuss the budget at the next meeting and raised the issue of Anglia in Bloom for the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 20:40.

Date of next meeting Monday 12 November at 07.30 venue to be confirmed