

ALLOTMENTS, FOOTPATHS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Allotments Footpaths and Open Spaces Committee held at 6.30 pm on Thursday 19th November 2009 at the Institute. Councillors Blessett, (Chair) Baxter, Helyar, Pearce & Stevens attended with the Clerk Mrs Sheila Kostyrka.

14.09 To receive apologies for absence.

Cllr Baxter arrived at 6.35pm and Cllr Stevens arrived at 6.40pm (work)

15.09 To receive declarations of interest, if any.

None

16.09 To adopt the minutes of the working party meeting held on 17th September 2009 and to discuss any matters arising not considered elsewhere on the agenda.

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman. The location of the dog bin on the grass near the entrance to the Youth Centre has been agreed by the Youth Centre Manager. The picnic table has still not been installed in the back of the Millennium Wood, and the Clerk will chase the contractor again. The allotment rents had nearly all been received. The Clerk reported that Plot 28 had been re-allocated to a new tenant and the trailer and wood left on site had now been removed as the past tenant had not responded to our letters. He had however now contacted us and complained that the chain had been cut and he was going to send a bill for damage caused to his property. The Clerk confirmed that we had given a written warning in June and early November, and it is actually our right to charge for our time and costs any incurred.

17.09 To consider the way forward with Plot 32b for Sense.

The owner of TNS Nurseries responded to the appeal in the local paper and will be planting tactile/sensory plants & shrubs and trees on site shortly. Further estimates to lay the flagstones are ongoing. It was noted that the item had not been included in the last newsletter.

18.09 To update the committee on the Manor Court initiative.

The fencing had now been cleared from site as the new grass is growing well and will be trimmed as soon as the weather allows. The planting of bulbs and shrubs is now complete in the raised bed. The working party will meet to decide the location of the bins and benches week beginning 4th December prior to delivery as the supplier will be contacting the contractor for delivery and installation which has been included in the price. The maintenance operative will install the cycle rack when the location is agreed. A further £900 will be needed to complete the planting scheme in the spring.

19.09 To consider the proposals for Thacker's Way and make recommendations to Council.

Cllr Baxter had submitted a late proposal for the improvement of Thacker's Way Open Space which was circulated at the meeting. It was recommended that further public consultation will be needed followed by a more detailed proposal with costs to enable the Parish Council to consult with SKDC as owners of the open space. If this was agreed, this item could then be taken forward for 2011-12. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

20.09 To report on the grass cutting contracts for 2010-11

The Committee considered the estimates for grass cutting/hedge trimming in the Millennium Wood, Cemetery and footpaths and would be obtaining further quotes. The

maintenance fees for the river bank remain unchanged. It was recommended that this item be referred to F&GP for further consideration.

21.09 To re-consider the budget for 2010-11 and make recommendations to Council.

AA – Laying of hedge on northern boundary up to	200.00
AA – Insurance for Sense (2009)	52.50
Maintenance & misc	2,200.00
Trees, hedges& bulbs Manor Way planting	1,000.00
Grass cutting of the river bank	1500.00

It was recommended to Council that a budget of £5000.00 be allocated for the above projects.

22.09 Date of next meeting.

It was agreed that the 2010 meetings would take place at 6.30pm on the following dates:

11th March 2010 in the Clerks Office to consider future projects and investigations.

1st July 2010 site visits to the Allotments, Millennium Wood, Thacker's Way & Open Spaces as appropriate.

9th September 2010 in the Clerk Office to consider the projects and budgets for 2011-12.