

These are draft minutes and are subject to approval at the next meeting.



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Minutes of the meeting at
8.00 p.m. on Thursday 7 February 2013
in the Village Hall Committee Room

Present: *Councillors* – Anthony Sheppard (*Chairman*), Geoff Herbert, Kate Hallett, Mark Sugden
Co-opted Members- Vanessa Relleen, Rukshana Master, Bill Chilcott
Parish Clerk - Freda Collins
5 members of the public

The meeting started 5 minutes late as 2 of the Councillors were not present. The Chairman decided to begin the meeting despite the absence of Cllrs Sugden and Hallett.

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public.

He then asked everyone to stand and observe a minutes silence in memory of Len Hands who was former member of this Committee and a tireless worker in keeping Claygate free from litter.

1. Apologies for Absence

Carol Manley who was not well.

These were accepted.

Cllr Sugden arrived at the meeting and apologised for being late.

2. Declarations of Interests

Cllr Herbert declared that he is also a Borough Councillor.

Cllr Sugden declared that he is a Trustee of the CRGT.

Vanessa Relleen declared that she is a Trustee of the CRGT, is on the Committee of Claygate in Bloom and the CVA.

Rukshana Master declared that she is on the Committee of Claygate in Bloom and the CVA.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The following corrections were made to the minutes of the last meeting held on 7 February 2013:-

i. In 'Present'- 'Cllr' Sugden was changed to Mark Sugden.

ii. In 'Declarations' Cllr Sugden declared that he is a Trustee of the CRGT' was added.

The minutes were then agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Actioning of items from previous minutes

AP20-Vanessa has contacted Matt Almond of EBC and they have agreed to have 2 fewer hanging baskets in order to stay within budget. There are extra hanging basket brackets in various locations which Cllr Hallett and Vanessa will remove.

All other action points have been carried out or are agenda items.

The meeting then agreed to change the order of the agenda in order to take item 7 Meadow Road Island

7. Meadow Road Island

7.1 Re AP35- pruning the forsythia. There has been no reply from our contractor- the Clerk to chase.

7.2 There is a rather straggly cherry tree at the south end. Residents also think this end is very bare and would benefit from more trees. After a discussion it was agreed to plant two amelanchier leaving the cherry in situ.

Once the new trees are established the cherry can be felled in due course.

7.3 It was also agreed to move the bay tree further towards the south end.

AP38 Vanessa & Rukshana to action in next planting season.

7.4 There has been some frost damage to the dogwood. Rukshana will prune when the weather improves.

AP39 Rukshana to action

These are draft minutes and are subject to approval at the next meeting.

7.5 There have been complaints of vehicles running over the kerb at the south end of the island and damaging the grass. Suggestions have been made to:-

1. Put in stakes/wooden posts
2. Place white painted rocks on the edge.
3. Plant shrubs
4. Put a container with plant near the edge of the kerb.

It was agreed to seek advice from SCAPTC on the legal position of placing white painted rocks on the grass.

AP40 The Clerk to action

It was agreed that a site visit is required.

Cllr Hallett arrived at the meeting and apologised for being late.

It is known that Meadow Road will be resurfaced. It was agreed to try to find out when this will take place. It was also agreed to find out if SCC will put in a raised kerb to prevent vehicles running over the kerb. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Huddart about these matters.

AP41 The Clerk to action

It was agreed not to take any action until the date of the road resurfacing is known.

2 members of the public left the meeting and the normal order of the agenda was resumed.

5. Litter, Graffiti & Fly-tipping

5.1 Cllr Sugden has agreed to run the Clean Up day. Arrangements are as follows:-

- i. All the equipment is in the village hall store. Cllr Round and the Clerk have keys to the store.
- ii. EBC has agreed to pick up the bags of rubbish from the Hare Lane car park at about 12pm on the Saturday or first thing on Monday morning. If there is to be a subsidiary pile of rubbish, we need to tell EBC about this.
- iii. The Clerk will provide Cllr Sugden with the necessary safety advice, Risk Assessments etc
- iv. Laura Dowsett of EBC is able to provide bags for recyclable rubbish. Cllr Sheppard will contact her to ask for a supply of these bags.

AP42 Cllr Sheppard to action (done)

- v. The Streetsmart team will not be available.
- vi. Cllr Sugden will need to liaise with the Scouts. The Clerk will provide contact details.
- vii. It was noted that the station area needs litter picking. Cllr Sugden will ask for the key to the area behind the station from the ticket office.

5.2 A complaint has been received that there is a great deal of litter on the new sports facility in Oaken Lane (former Wyevale site). It was agreed to contact Surbiton High School to ask if they will remove it. It was noted that the rubbish lies between two fences. One of the fences was erected when the site was derelict to prevent unauthorized access but may be on highway land. If the school arrange for cleaning, the problem will be solved, if they reply that the land is not theirs to clean, we will request that they remove the fence. If the fence is on highway land, we may need to contact SCC.

AP43 The Clerk to action

5.3 Woodstock Lane South continues to be a litter and fly-tipping problem. Bill Chilcott picks up litter on a regular basis. It was agreed to ask the volunteers on Clean Up day if they would be willing to join a team of regular litter-pickers for this area.

AP44 Cllr Sugden to action.

7. Highway Garden Sites

a. Inspection Arrangements

Applegarth

(CM, VR)

No report

Fee Farm Road/ The Causeway

(CM, KHa)

No report

Torrington Lodge car park

(AS, RM)

These are draft minutes and are subject to approval at the next meeting.

Nothing to report

Coverts/Foley Roads triangle

(CM, VR)

Looks OK.

Glebelands

(GH, MS)

A gardening firm contracted to fell a large oak tree in Claygate contacted the Clerk asking if CPC needed any oak chippings. 3 tons of free chippings were delivered and dumped on the HGS site at Glebelands. Our HGS contractor was paid to spread the chippings.

Cllr Sugden reported that it is looking much better.

The Green

(VR, CM, GH)

The grasses need pruning at the pointy end- this has not yet been done.

The shrub in the tub looks slightly better with all the recent rain.

St Leonards Road

(AS, KHa)

There are some fallen branches on this site. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Green Gardens to ask them to remove the branches.

AP45 The Clerk to action

The grass looks bare on the left-hand side where it gets walked over. It needs seeding or re-turfing in the autumn.

The bed also needs more mulch and ground cover in front of the arris rail and a couple more shrubs on the right-hand side-again this will need to be done in the autumn.

AP 46 Vanessa to action new planting in autumn

Glenavon Close

(MS, GH)

The bed looks better as much of the litter has been removed. This bed is soon to be renovated

Red Lane

(KHa, RM)

This bed is soon to be renovated.

Church Road

(GH)

The site looks generally OK.

Hare Lane car park

(AS, RM)

This needs weeding. The Clerk should inform Green Gardens

AP47 The Clerk to action

It was noted that another shrub is needed in front of the blue shutters and another Pyracantha is required. This will be done in the autumn.

The Firs verge

(VR, KHa, GH)

This bed looks pretty with the daffodils.

Some of the plants at the Foley Road end look dead, but they may just be dormant. It was agreed to leave them and observe them.

Brick bed at The Parade

(VR & CM)

This is full of weeds. Vanessa will weed it when the weather improves.

AP48 Vanessa to action

Woodstock Triangle

These are draft minutes and are subject to approval at the next meeting.

(KHa)

This bed looks tidy.

b. The Fence on The Green

Paul Dawson of the Streetsmart team previously declined to undertake repair to the damaged fence as it would mean having to close the road for his workers to carry out the work. He was subsequently asked if the team would consider undertaking minor repairs from the garden side of The Green. But he declined as he thinks it is still too risky with the traffic from an employer's point of view. Any repairs will now fall to volunteers. Cllr Hallett thinks that repairs can be undertaken by hammering angle-iron supports next to the existing posts and fixing them together. Unfortunately, she has been unable to source the correct size of angle-iron as all the angle-iron she has seen has been too long. It was agreed to ask Paul Dawson if he knows of a suitable source.

AP49 Cllr Sheppard to action

If he does not know of a source, then our HGS contractor will be asked.

It was agreed to remove the broken fence at the apex.

Cllr Sheppard spoke to the manager of the Hare & Hounds and he is happy for our volunteers to unchain the pub board whilst repairs are being carried out.

c. Suggested Projects

Cllr Sheppard contacted the frontagers at Red Lane requesting them to cut down overhanging vegetation (AP33). This has been done. Once planting is completed, he will leaflet the residents of Red Lane and Glenavon Close asking them to water the new plants (AP32 ongoing).

Cllr Sheppard emailed Gerald Abrahams asking him to go ahead with the agreed renovations at Red Lane and Glenavon Close. Unfortunately, the email was not received, so the work has not yet been carried out. As we are now in a new financial year and all money in Committee budgets has been returned to reserves, a resolution will have to go to the full Council to fund the work.

Gerald Abrahams will contact the Clerk over the choice of shrub for Glenavon Close.

7. Meadow Road Island

Already dealt with

8. Claygate Volunteer Groups

a. Green Team

No work has been carried out recently. The number of people on the Green Team has declined so a request for more volunteers has been advertised in the Courier.

b. Claygate in Bloom

There will be a plant sale in Torrington Lodge car park on 11 May.

The planters will be planted so that the tubs have similar planting but are not the same.

It was noted that the new cycle racks at the station are very useful but are not attractive. It may be possible to improve their appearance with some planting.

It was noted that the owners of the small building in between Claremont Cars and the station may do some improvements to the area of ground between the building and the station.

c. Offer from Claremont Fan Court School

The Clerk contacted the school, but has had no reply (AP36).

9. Courier/Website

No report

10. Matters for information only

None

11. Date of next meeting

Next Meeting: **Thursday 8.00pm on the 6 June 2013 in the Youth Club small hall**

Please note venue

These are draft minutes and are subject to approval at the next meeting.

.....Chairman.....Date