

Duffield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on Tuesday 21st October 2003 at 7.15 pm in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield

Present: Chairman: Councillor R Knibbs
Councillors: Buckle, England, Hibbert, Rowlands, Storer and A Woodings

Also in attendance: A Stewart and D Cook - Advisors
D R Bostock – Parish Clerk
Mrs S Bygraves – Assistant Clerk/Treasurer

Apologies: Councillor Fletcher
Advisors: D Thorn

OS/24/03 Minutes

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on 20 May 2003, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

OS/25/03 Eyes Meadow Matters

1. **Changing Rooms** – the Clerk confirmed that arising from **W Bailey Ltd's annual maintenance inspection** of the water systems in the Changing Rooms, they had reported that Legionella Pneumophila was not currently present. The sample taken had however revealed the presence of Legionella species, that given the right conditions could lead to Legionella Pneumophila.

They strongly recommended that all water systems in the building be cleaned, chlorinated and re-tested at a cost of £368.00 + VAT.

The Clerk further confirmed that with the urgency of the matter, he had gained the approval of the Chairman to carry out the above recommendation and that the subsequent retest had shown that all was well with system.

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that **Nigel Bestwick** had commenced repairs to the Changing Rooms and so far had replaced the missing and loose floor tiles, removed the old roof drainage system and commenced re-pointing the outside of the building.

2. **Football Pitch Hire** – the Clerk confirmed that in regard to Open Spaces matters there was no bad debt situation at the moment.

The Assistant Clerk advised that a reduced rate of £24.00 / match was being charged to Allestree FC when they are the only users of the facilities and supervise and sweep the premises. A similar situation has also evolved with Duffield Dynamos U12's who are charged £10.00 / match (ie. the above initiative saves the Parish Council significant supervision fees and the above teams £5.00 and £3.50 / match respectively).

The Clerk circulated copies of the August and September 2003 football hire print outs, which showed respectively a net return to the Council of £515.57 and £479.21, after supervision costs are taken into account.

The Assistant Clerk also reported that on some occasions teams do not turn up, without having notified us of a cancellation.

3. **Car park** – the Clerk suggested that in order to progress the new car park drainage system he seeks a design for a suitable oil trapped gully from the Borough Council and then obtains the necessary quotations for the provision.

He also reported that he had been advised that Quad Bikes had been seen accessing the Playing Fields, via the disabled access.

4. **Football Supervision** - the Clerk reported that as there had been no response his efforts to employ part-time football supervisors, the problem had been largely resolved by combining the use of Gladwyn Rafferty (one of the Team Managers), Michael Forkin (the Tidyman), Nick Bygraves (the Asst. Clerk's son), together with the Clerk, Asst. Clerk and David Guy in emergency situations.

The Clerk reaffirmed that the rate for the job was £5.27/hour.

5. **Belper Steam & Vintage Event** – the Clerk circulated two copy letters from the Belper Steam & Vintage Event, requesting that they be allowed to use Eyes Meadow for their 2004 event, which is planned for the weekend of the 13 & 14 June 2004. They have also called for a site meeting to be organised to discuss this matter further and explore means of improving the access to the site.

DCA representatives present, pointed out that the Vintage Event would only be two weeks before their Carnival this year, it was also suggested that an application for the promotion of a Summer Ball on Eyes Meadow next year could be expected shortly.

Concerns were also expressed regarding having two fairs on the Meadow within two weeks and that the Vintage Event should have Duffield incorporated into its name.

A suggestion was made that Parish Council should also have sight of a copy of the Vintage Event Accounts.

6. **Allestree F C** – the Clerk confirmed that the lowest tender received for the construction of the new football pitch for Allestree F C had been received from T P Ulyett in the sum of £3,875

He also advised on a reply from the Environment Agency which indicated that they had no objection in principle to the works described to them, however they required an official application form completing together with supporting plans. All this is in accordance with the Water Resources Act 1991 and the Land Drainage Byelaws.

The Clerk thereupon showed members the plans and completed forms he had prepared for the necessary application to the Environment Agency.

7. **Allotment Land** – the Clerk read out two holding letters he had received from Network Rail, arising from our request that they transfer their derelict Allotment Land on Eyes Meadow to the Parish Council, now that they had completed their new security fence, which has cut off the land from their adjoining railway line.

8. **Millennium Meadow** – the Asst. Clerk reported that the Millennium Meadow Conservation Trust had withdrawn their request to erect a Viewing Platform and Boardwalk on their new Wetland Area and sought permission to erect one seat instead.

9. **Notice Board** – the Clerk suggested that this project continued be left on hold, until the financial burden of other Eyes Meadow projects had become clearer later in the year.

10. **Church Car Park** – the Clerk advised members of a request from representatives of St Alkmunds Parish Church at the Annual Parish Meeting, for them to be allowed to maintain an area of Parish Council land adjacent to their car park and use it for additional car parking at the Church.

11. **Firework Display** – the Asst. Clerk reported on progress with the preparations for the Annual Parish Bonfire and Firework Display, as follows:

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The event is to take place at 7.30pm on 8 November 2003. Letters have been sent to all individuals concerned, Hingleys have offered pallets for the fire,

First Aid provision has been arranged, the lighting is to be provided from the Appletree Surgery, the event has been registered with the Borough Council, the Police have been advised, Fire Brigade will be in attendance, Risk Assessments are being undertaken by David Lenton, a Hot Dog and Burger Stall has been organised, the event has been advertised in the Parish News Letter and a Press Release issued, tickets have been printed and Firework Display Specialists have been hired to provide the Display.

In conclusion the Chairman and Asst. Clerk had attended a very beneficial Seminar at Alfreton relating to the above topics.

12. **Joy Riding** – the Asst. Clerk reported on the latest Joy Riding incident which could have been potentially disastrous, the car in question had disturbed the stone surface of our new car park but access had not been gained to the Playing Fields or Millennium Meadow. The car was then ignited in the underpass under the main railway line. Police and Fire Brigade attended the incident and the mainline was closed for a while. Our Tidyman did what he could to clear up the underpass and the car park and removed our damaged dog bin.

Resolved:

- a) That arising from (1) above, the action of the Parish Clerk with the support of the Chairman in urgently resolving the potential Legionella problem in the Changing Rooms be confirmed and supported.
- b) that arising from (2) above, the Clerk advises Allestree FC that when they are a loan user they must undertake a basic sweep and litter pick of the Changing Rooms. Furthermore all teams using the pitches should be advised that all litter, bottles etc should be removed from their pitch at the end of each game.
- c) That arising from (2) above, the Clerk passes on any abortive costs incurred by the Parish Council as a result of teams not turning up without notification, to the offending home team.
- d) That arising from (3) above, the Clerk progresses the provision of the Car Park drainage system.
- e) That arising from (4) above, members noted and approved the arrangements made for providing the required Football Supervision, with the resources available.

- f) That arising from (5) above, the Clerk calls a Site Meeting with the Belper Vintage Event Committee to discuss the matters raised prior to a decision being made.
- g) That arising from (6) above, the Clerk submits the completed application for the construction of a new football pitch to the Environment Agency and awaits the outcome, prior to further discussions with the successful Contractor and Allestree F C.
- h) That arising from (8) above, the Clerk confirms to the Millennium Meadow Conservation Trust that it is in order for them to erect a suitable seat near their Wetland Area, subject to approval by the Environment Agency.
- i) That arising from (10) above, the Clerk requests a Site Meeting with St. Alkmunds Church representatives to explore their request for additional parking area further.
- j) That arising from (12) above, the Clerk requests Network Rail to provide suitable bollards on the Eyes Meadow side of the Cockpit Lane underpass to prevent Joy Riders gaining access in future.

OS/26/03 Gray Recreation Ground Matters

1. *William Gilbert School* - the Clerk circulated a copy letter from the William Gilbert School which suggests that they should only be expected to lease Gray Recreation Ground on a part time basis, to reflect the period of the year when they actually use the area (ie. 7months or 29 weeks). He further reminded members that the present agreement ends on the 29 October 2003.

2. *Playground Equipment* – the Asst. Clerk advised members that Part 3 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 relating to Rights of Access comes into force on 1 October 2004, and relates directly to our existing Play Area.

She further reported on a meeting with Alan Smith from the Borough Council, who had pointed out that there were toggle traps on the existing slide, two exits would be required in future, new fencing and disabled access from the road would also be needed.

Councillor Woodings strongly advised that we should seek help and advice from Borough Council and that in the final analysis we may only have the choice of being fully compliant with current legislation or closing the Playground.

3. *Dangerous Tree* - the Clerk reported that he had been totally let down by R Large in removing the remaining diseased tree on Gray Recreation Ground and believed it would be a futile exercise to continue to try and make contact with him. Regarding the replacement of the lost trees, he reported little or no interest in this matter from the general public.

4. *Notice Board* – the Clerk suggested that this matter continues to be kept on hold until the financial burden of other projects on Gray Recreation Ground had become clearer later in the year.

Resolved:

a) That arising from (1) above, the Clerk advises William Gilbert School that arguments for a reduction in the lease period are accepted and that the Parish Council would wish to proceed on the basis of a seven month lease plus an annual RPI increase.

On the above basis the new annual site rental would be $7/12 \times £703.76 + 4.43\%$ RPI for the last two years = £428.71/annum.

b) That arising from (2) above, the Clerk appraises the Borough Council and DALC of the looming problems with our Play Area and checks if we can continue using the area.

c) That arising from (2) above, the Clerk involves the Community Association in trying to preserve our only Play Area.

d) That arising from (3) above, the Clerk seeks new quotations for the removal of the remaining diseased Oak Tree on Gray Recreation Ground and also the removal of root matter and the reinstatement of all three holes left by the trees, with good quality soil and re-seed with appropriate grass seed.

e) That arising from (3) above, the Clerk seeks quotations for the removal of the large tree trunk lying on Gray Recreation Ground and explores the possible alternative use as a tree sculpture.

f) That arising from (3) above, the planting of the tree in memory of Trevor Baker should ideally be near the Play Ground to provide some shade in that area and that the Clerk also arranges for the replacement of the Acacia Tree at the junction of New Zealand Lane and Broadway with residents and the

OS/27/03 Grounds Maintenance Contract

The Clerk circulated a letter of complaint from Allestree F C regarding the pitch maintenance on Eyes Meadow this summer, a complaint that the Clerk agreed was justified and he confirmed that he had taken punitive action against the Contractor. However he reported that over the 3.5years the Contract had been running he felt that the improvement in the maintenance of the Parish Council's Open Spaces had been considerable.

Resolved: members noted the Clerk's report regarding the Grounds Maintenance Contract and confirmed that they wished to see the Contract continue for its fifth and final year, following which a replacement Contract be prepared and let.

**OS/28/03 Budgetary Control for 2003/04, Budget Requirement for 2004/05 and
Income received to date in 2003/04**

The Clerk reported to members on Income received to date in 2003/04, the current Budgetary Control situation and the Budget Proposals for 2004/05 for the Open Spaces Committee, as follows:

Income to date from Open Space Activities

	£
E M E Wayleave	17.63
Allestree FC	806.00
White Hart FC	333.00
Findern FC	224.00
Duffield 77 FC	321.00
Duffield Dynamos FC	214.00
Derby Derwent FL	280.00
Bridge Inn FC	197.00
Duffield Rangers FC	130.50
Community League	112.50
Little Eaton FC	201.00
Castle View Fund	79.47
Duffield CC	264.49
Millennium Meadow C T	706.80
Orange	1,877.50
Belper Vintage Event	900.00
Breadsall FC	129.00
William Gilbert School	351.88

	£7,145.77

Normal Expenditure

	Budget	Actual	Comm	
Budget	03/04	to date	-itted	
04/05	£	£	£	£
Grounds Maintenance - Eyes Meadow 7,000	7,000	2,837	3,000	
Grounds Maintenance – Gray Rec Grd 2,000	2,000	1,016	1,000	
Emptying of Dog Bins 2,000	2,000	-	4,000	
Changing Rooms – energy & water 1,300	1,300	527	-	
Eyes Meadow – buildings & equipment 1,000	1,000	647	-	
Telephone 100	100	43	-	
Village Superintendent/Football Sup'n 1,500	2,500	974	-	
Tidyman 1,500	-	-	-	
Supply Labour	500	1,000	-	-
Seating, Litter & Dog Bin prov'n & maint 1,000	-	-	-	
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	16,400	7,044	8,000	
17,400	-----	-----	-----	----

Exceptional Expenditure

Seating, Dog & Litter Bin Provision -	-	559	-	
Play Equipment – Gray Rec Grd 2,500	2,500	894	-	
Eyes Meadow – Changing Rooms -	2,000	-	2,100	
Eyes Meadow – Car Park 2,500	2,500	400	-	
Notice Boards	1,000	-	-	-
Contingencies 1,000	1,000	-	-	
Bonfire/Firework Display 1,800	-	750	750	

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7,800	9,000	2,603	2,850	
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	25,400	9,647	10,850	
	Combined Totals			
	25,200			

Resolved:

a) that the above Budgetary Control and Income situation be noted and that the proposed budgetary requirement for the 2004/05 financial year, be recommended to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for approval.

b) that the Clerk requests the Borough Council to invoice the Parish Council urgently for emptying our litter and dog bins for the last 1.5 years.

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OS/29/03 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved: that the next meeting of the Open Spaces Committee will take place at 7.15pm on 24 February 2004.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Signed ----- Date -----

Duffield Parish Council

Notes of a Special Meeting of the Open Spaces Committee with the Millennium Meadow Committee held on Monday 2 April 2001 at 7.00pm in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield

Present: Chairman: Councillor J R England
Vice Chairman: Councillor Mrs P Buckle

Councillors Gillatt, Hancock and Knibbs

Millennium Meadow Committee Members: H Bradbury, C McGowan, N Mirfin and R Wood.

Apologies: Councillors Carmichael-Smith and Woodings.

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by outlining the current problems, particularly in relation to the proposed pond on the Millennium Meadow.
2. It was confirmed that the Parish Council's main communication channel with the Millennium Meadow Committee was via their two representatives, Councillors Buckle and Hancock.
3. It was noted that agreement on the tree planting scheme around the Cricket Ground had been achieved between the Millennium Meadow Committee and the Cricket Club.

4. The Clerk stated the facts regarding the provision of a pond on the Millennium Meadow as follows:

a) Planning Application AVA/2001/0151 – Establishment of an unlined pond for natural life purposes on the Millennium Meadow was dealt with at the 13 February 2001 Parish Council Meeting, with no representations being made to the Borough Council. The Clerk was however requested to check this proposal with the Parish Council's Insurers.

b) The Clerk advised the Open Spaces Committee at their meeting on 6 March 2001, of the above Planning Application, expressing his concern that the Millennium Meadow Committee had not requested permission for this proposal in accordance with the prevailing agreement.

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c) A letter from Cornhill Insurance dated the 21 March 2001 advised the Parish Council to put the following conditions to the Millennium Meadow Committee:

1. The pond should be inspected and maintained on a regular basis and no rubbish should be allowed to accumulate.
2. It must have a clearly defined edge and the perimeter is not to become boggy.
3. Notices should be displayed, stating no fishing or swimming.
4. If any change in use or nature of the pond is considered in future, the Parish Council and their Insurers should be advised.

5. The Millennium Meadow Committee should hold their own Public Liability cover with a minimum limit of indemnity of £2,000,000 which needs to include the pond.

5. Mr Wood responded, stating that the Millennium Meadow Committee needed to advance their pond proposal and undertake feasibility studies prior to applying for permission to develop a pond on the area. He did however confirm that an official request to establish a pond on the Millennium Meadow had been forwarded to the Parish Clerk on 8 March 2001.

Mr Wood also reported on the rabbit problems on Eyes Meadow, with trees near the Changing Rooms being damaged and that dead trees should be removed.

He finally confirmed that he would maintain and water the Millennium Oak and that the Millennium Meadow Committee were applying to register as a Charity.

6. The Clerk advised of the proposed new fence and barrier, that is to be erected on the access road just beyond the Millennium Meadow entrance to prevent joy riders accessing the playing fields.

7. The Chairman summed up the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.