

# Duffield Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2004 at 7.15 pm in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield

Present: Chairman Councillor D Hibbert  
Councillors: Buckle, England, Rowlands, Storer and Woodings

Also in attendance: Mrs J Almey and D Thorn - Advisors  
D R Bostock – Parish Clerk & R F O  
Mrs S Bygraves – Assistant Clerk/Treasurer  
W Lenton – Risk Advisor

Apologies: Councillors Fletcher and Knibbs

### OS/23/04 Minutes

**Resolved:** that the Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on 18 May 2004, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### OS/24/04 Matters Arising

Arising from item OS/16/04 Res. c) on pp5, the Clerk reported that the matter of the Millennium Meadow Deep Water Warning Signs had been addressed and that a response from the DMMCT would be reported later in the meeting.

Arising from item OS/16/04 Res. g) on pp6, the Assistant Clerk reported that the hazard warning signs and dog fouling notices had not yet been provided.

Arising from item OS/20/04 Res. a) on pp8, the Clerk reported that he had carried out a survey of the addresses concerned, which had constructed accesses onto Gray Recreation Ground and would be serving notices on them in the near future. Regarding this matter Councillor Rowlands urged the Clerk to ensure that the matter of future ownership changes at the properties concerned, be addressed.

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### OS/25/04 Eyes Meadow Matters

1. **Football Pitch Hire and Bad Debt**– the Clerk reported that hire revenues were down in the current year, due to the loss of the Derby Community League, Bridge Inn FC and Belper Cross Keys FC, however he stated that a new club Holbrook St. Michaels FC had joined us. The Clerk further advised members that there was currently no long-term bad debt, with only five recently issued invoices unpaid.

2. **Changing Rooms** – the Assistant Clerk reported that the refurbishment of the Changing Rooms was now completed, with only some new warning signage required. She confirmed that the annual Legionella Testing is to take place shortly and that all weekly, monthly and quarterly water checks and tests are being made and recorded in the Changing Room Log Book.

3. **New Car park** – the Clerk read out a letter from the Millennium Meadow Conservation Trust, which was handed to him prior to the meeting. The letter was in response to a site meeting held with the Clerk and a subsequent letter from the Clerk. In their response they confirmed that they were still trying to get their Contractor to complete the car park resurfacing and bridge repairs required, arising from the construction of their wetland area, within the next few weeks.

In the same letter the Conservation Trust reiterated their contention that any additional Deep Water Warning Signs were totally unnecessary, as they already had four very large signs, on all sides of the wetland area.

4. **Belper Steam & Vintage Event** – the Clerk confirmed that he had requested the Vintage Event Committee, to advise him of their choice of recipient for this year's £500.00 Charity Payment. He also reported that he had forwarded a copy of the recently acquired plan of the 15" Gas Main across the Eyes Meadow Site to the Vintage Event Committee, to assist with their future risk assessment requirements.

5. **Allestree F C** – the Clerk confirmed that the new football pitch on Eyes Meadow has now been levelled, prepared and seeded, with all payments to date made and recharged to Allestree FC.

6. **Millennium Meadow** – the Clerk circulated members with a copy of a letter dated the 7 October 2004 from Millennium Meadow Conservation Trust, which requests the Parish Council to consider relieving them of all the costs they currently incur in dealing with the dog fouling problems in their area. The Clerk confirmed that the Conservation Trust currently owe a sum of £366.98 for the provision of two larger bins and that annually they are expected to pay a bin emptying charge in the region of £250.00.

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7. **Lynn Lamb Memorial Seat** – the Clerk read out a letter of thanks from Mr Nick Lamb, for the Parish Council's help in facilitating the provision of a memorial seat on Eyes Meadow, in memory of his late wife.

8. **Firework Display** – the Assistant Clerk reported that a very good firework display had been given this year, however income from the event had only been £1,420 compared with £2,775 in 2003, which will effectively eliminate last year's event surplus. She cited competition from the Belper and Markeaton Park events, for the lower turn out this year.

9. **Dog Control** – the Clerk circulated a letter of complaint received from a jogger, who had been attacked by an uncontrolled dog on Eyes Meadow on Tuesday 17 August 2004.

10. **Church Drive** – the Clerk read out a positive letter from the County Council regarding the proposed provision of a new car park on Church Drive, using both Church and Parish Council land. He also confirmed that the Borough Council had authorised the removal of the dangerous Willow Trees situated within the Parish Council land, providing the work is carried out within the next two years.

The Clerk also advised members of the following requests received from Mr & Mrs D Saunders of Derwent Close, Makeney Road, Duffield:

a) that they would appreciate the Parish Council agreeing to allow their Grounds Maintenance Contractor to cut their Church Drive boundary hedge, whilst they are cutting the Parish Council's hedges in the same area, for which they would reimburse the Parish Council at the prevailing rate.

b) that they would appreciate the Parish Council transferring the ownership of the small piece of visibility splay land on Makeney Road to them, for the following reasons:

1. They have easy access to the site, others must access the area either via a steep bank or their paddock.
2. Maintenance of the area could take place at the same time as they deal with their land.
3. Their current barbed wire fence could be removed and the Council's maintenance burden removed.
4. They would commit to maintaining the visibility splay and boundary fence.

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**Resolved:**

- a) That arising from (3) above, the Clerk advises the Parish Council's Insurers of

the situation regarding the provision of Danger signs, around the wetland area on the Millennium Meadow.

- b) That arising from (4) above, the Clerk forwards a copy of the Eyes Meadow Gas Main plan to the Parish Council's Risk Advisor.
- c) That arising from (6) above, the Clerk advises the Millennium Meadow Conservation Trust that the Parish Council, are prepared to relieve them of 50% of their dog bin provision and maintenance costs, including the recent provision of the two new larger bins.
- d) That arising from (8) above, the Assistant Clerk was authorised to make the following donations to the various organisations that had helped with the firework event: a) £30.00 Civil Aid, b) £50.00 Fire Service, c) £100.00 Air Training Corps.
- e) That arising from (9) above, the Clerk raises the dog related issues in public open spaces in his next Newsletter and consults with neighbouring authorities regarding their experiences and management of dog related problems, in public open spaces.
- f) That arising from (9) above, the Clerk places a Dog Control item on the agenda for the January 2005 meeting, of the Parish Council.
- g) That arising from (10) above, the Clerk obtains quotations for the removal of the dangerous Willow Trees on the Council owned land adjacent to the Church Car Park off Church Drive.
- h) That arising from (10) above, the Clerk arranges to cut the boundary hedge owned by Mr & Mrs Saunders on Church Drive, using the Council's Grounds Maintenance Contractor, subject to them reimbursing the Council with the full cost of the work.
- i) That arising from (10) above the Clerk calls a site meeting to enable members to view the visibility splay area off Church Drive, which Mr & Mrs Saunders would be prepared to take into their land and maintain in perpetuity.

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**OS/26/04 Gray Recreation Ground Matters**

1. *Play Facilities in Duffield* – the Clerk circulated members with copies letters between him and Mr V L Stewart, regarding the lack of suitable play

facilities in the village for both children and teenagers. Members expressed the view that the amount of funding required to provide adequate facilities in the village, would be very difficult with existing Council resources. They also feel, at a distinct disadvantage to other Parishes in the Borough, who have play facilities provided by the Borough Council, help which is denied to Duffield as the Parish Council owns all the recreation areas in the village. Members also reported that provision of Play Facilities is also likely to be a major element of the requirements in the new Parish Plan, which is to be published shortly.

2. ***Playground Equipment*** – the Clerk reported that the play equipment was in relatively good condition at the moment, but we currently fall short of the Disability Discrimination Act, in that access to the Play Area is over an extensive grass area. He recommended that with this years remaining budget availability we attempt to provide a one metre wide path to the Area.

3. ***Car Parking on Gray Recreation Ground*** - the Clerk advised members of a complaint he had received from Mr D Soul regarding the damage that was being inflicted on the surface Gray Recreation Ground, due to vehicle parking and driving on the area. The Council's Risk Advisor reported to members a list of potential hazards on Gray Recreation Ground and its environs.

**Resolved:**

a) that arising from (1) above, the Clerk takes up the particular problem of play provision in Duffield with the Borough Council, seeking their funding support to bring the Parish up to a similar standard as other Parishes of our size, in the area. The Clerk establishes also if any other Parishes in the vicinity suffer from similar funding and maintenance problems.

b) that arising from (2) above, the Clerk seeks the help of Borough Council Officers, in dealing with the various ramifications of the Disability Discrimination Act.

c) that arising from item (3) above, the Clerk arranges for the existing barrier to be erected and locked, to prevent vehicular access onto Gray Recreation Ground. That the Council help neighbours in the vicinity with any on street parking problems that may ensue from this action and that the Clerk arranges for signs warning of children playing area to be erected in the vicinity. That the Clerk also reports back to members regarding the Risk Advisors - Gray Recreation Ground Report at the next meeting.

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**OS/27/04      Budgetary Control and Income received for 2004/05 and the Budget Requirement for 2005/06**

The Clerk reported to members on the expenditure and income received in 2004/05, together with the Budget Proposals for 2005/06, for the Open Spaces Committee, as follows:

Normal Expenditure

	Budget 04/05	Actual 04/05	Actual 05/06	Budget
05/06	£	£	£	£
Grounds Maintenance - Eyes Meadow 9,000	7,000	6,638	-	
Grounds Maintenance – Gray Rec Grd 2,500	2,000	912	-	
Emptying of Dog & Litter Bins 1,000	2,000	-	-	
Changing Rooms – energy & water 500	1,300	262	-	
Eyes Meadow – buildings & equipment 500	1,000	393	-	
Telephone 100	100	48	-	
Football Sup'n 1,000	1,500	301	-	
Fly Tipping 500	-	-	-	
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	14,900	8,554	-	
15,100	-----	-----	-----	-----

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Exceptional Expenditure

Seating, Dog & Litter Bin Provision 500	-	184	-	
Gray Rec Grd - Infrastructure 2,500	2,500	1,076	-	
Eyes Meadow - Infrastructure 3,500	2,500	485	-	
Notice Boards 1,000	-	-	-	
Bonfire/Firework Display 2,200	1,800	2,100	-	
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	6,800	3,845	-	
9,700	-----	-----	-----	-----
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<b>Combined Totals</b> <b>24,800</b>	<b>21,700</b>	<b>12,399</b>	<b>-</b>	

2004/05 Income from Open Space Activities

£

Duffield Cricket Club	200.00
Football Pitch Hire	2,090.00
Orange Telecoms	3,000.00
EMElectricity	18.00
Vintage Event & Carnival	1,000.00
William Gilbert School	429.00
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	£ 6,738.00

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**Resolved:** that the above Budgetary Control and Income situation for 2004/05 be noted and that the proposed budgetary requirement for the 2005/06 financial year be recommended to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for approval.

**OS/28/04      Grounds Maintenance Contract**

The Clerk circulated a copy of his proposed advert for new Grounds Maintenance Contract, which he proposed to circulate to all the Contractors who tendered five years ago, together with other local contractors and also advertises on the notice boards and in the local press.

**Resolved:** that the Clerk be authorised to advertise the Parish Council's new Grounds Maintenance Contract in the form circulated forthwith.

**OS/29/04      B T C V**

The Clerk reported to members on the content of the July/September 2004 edition of the Derbyshire Conserver magazine.

**OS/30/04      Free Tree Scheme 2004**

The Clerk reported on the Borough Council's Free Tree Scheme, which is designed to provide up to 150 saplings to assist with small planting projects. The Risk Advisor also reported that he could source free shrub planting packs also.

**Resolved:** that the Council embarks on the scheme to create the new barrier shrubbery areas on Eyes Meadow, taking advantage of the free shrub and tree offers available, forthwith.

**OS/31/04      Other Business**

**Bowling Green** – the Clerk reported that he had now received the necessary Planning Application forms from the Borough Council, in order to submit the Outline Planning Application for the new Bowling Green and Pavilion. Councillor Rowlands reported that he understood that the Bowling Club will be making contact with the Clerk in the next few days regarding the future of this project.

**Millennium Rose Garden** – the Clerk reported that he had received the annual invoice from the County Council, for the renewal of their licence for the Rose Garden in highway near the Library, in sum of ten pounds.

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**Duffield Cricket Club** – Councillor Rowlands reported that the Cricket Club may be requesting the Parish Council in the near future to allow a second wicket to be provided on Eyes Meadow, in order to cater for the increasing number of junior players they have enrolled. He further stated that this matter had been approved in principle in the past.

**Resolved:**

a) that the Clerk awaits contact from the Bowling Club, before proceeding with their necessary planning application.

b) that the Clerk arranges to renew the Cultivation Licence for the Millennium Rose Garden in the sum of ten pounds, forthwith.

**OS/32/04      Date of Next Meeting**

**Resolved:** that the next meeting of the Open Spaces Committee will take place at 7.15pm on 22 February 2005.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

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

