



Mrs J Nolan
Clerk to the Council

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**Minutes of Village Amenities Committee held on
Monday 27th January 2025 @ 6.45pm**

Attendance

Cllr John Bell - Chair
Cllr Martin Roberts
Cllr Sharon Maiden
Cllr Suzy Sherratt
Cllr Nathan Bland

Clerk J Nolan

0 Members of the public in attendance

<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>1.1 To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting 1.2 To consider the approval of reasons given for absence</p>
<p>1.1 Apologies were received in respect of Cllr Balfour. 1.2 The committee had considered and approved the reason given by Cllr Balfour.</p>
<p>2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations</p> <p>2.1 To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on items on the agenda 2.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest 2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate</p>
<p>2.1/2.2/2.3 None to receive.</p>
<p>3. To note the minutes for the Village Amenities Committee meeting held on 25th November 2024.</p>
<p>3.1 The committee noted the meeting minutes.</p>
<p>4. To receive information on the following ongoing matters arising – Clerks Update</p> <p>4.1 To receive an update on the WMDC 'Nature isn't Neat' initiative for 2025 4.2 To note the removal of the 2024 wreaths from the village war memorial</p>
<p>4.1 The update was received that no further progress had been made with WMDC relating to this initiative despite several chasers. The Chair asked that District Cllrs were notified of challenges.</p>

<p>4.2 The Clerk provided a verbal update which included resident concerns over removed wreaths and confirmation that escalation had been raised by both Dist Cllr Garbutt and the Ackworth Representative of the Royal British Legion directly to Wakefield Metropolitan District Council who are the authority in charge of the war memorial.</p>
<p>5. To review a proposal referred via Council to this committee and discuss for recommendation.</p> <p><i>‘To receive a proposal from Cllr S Sherratt for APC to consider installing appropriate street lighting to the pathway from Town End Avenue leading to Station Road playing field, for consideration by the Village Amenities committee’.</i></p>
<p>5.1 A discussion took place.</p> <p>The location required for lighting was confirmed which included the starting point as the path from the edge of Low Ackworth community centre car park, leading down to the basketball hoop and then leading left following the path to the ginnel towards the road.</p> <p>It was recommended that the Clerk is instructed to explore any available lighting options with Wakefield Metropolitan District Council, confirmation of authority responsibility on installation/maintenance and to explore any funding options available.</p>
<p>6. To receive further information on the WMDC process to register community assets.</p>
<p>6.1 The committee received the information and asked for the information to be shared with all councillors for future consideration.</p>
<p>7. To review results from the completed land registry search and consider any recommendations for council review</p>
<p>7.1 The committee recommended that Bell Lane Community Centre and Land is registered with Land Registry. Quotes had been provided as part of the supporting pack for consideration and the best value quote was selected Ridley & Hall at a cost of £ £728 ex VAT. As there is no remaining budget in the current financial year, it was recommended that this be action in April in line with the new budget provision for legal costs.</p>
<p>8. To receive the tree survey report and to make recommendation on remedial works.</p>
<p>8.1 The committee recommended that delegated authority is given to the Clerk to action any urgent requirements categorised under a red or amber status, and to review and gain quotations where required on any longer-term remedial works required.</p>
<p>9. To receive a request from Tractor Run 2025 organisers in relation to use of Carr Bridge playing field and consider recommendation to Council.</p>
<p>9.1 The committee received correspondence from the Tractor Run 2025 organisers requesting use of Carr Bridge Playing Fields for the event break, which would allow the Tractors to be parked on the grass public open space.</p> <p>A discussion took place.</p> <p>The committee recommended that Carr Bridge public open space is unsuitable to be utilised in supporting this event with consideration of the following factors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large volume of vehicles in attendance and potential long-term damage to the playing fields in recovery • The cancellation of possible sports bookings • The location being a public open space and the risks this would incur • The potential impact on resource to over see the event
<p>10. To review an incident that took place at the Cemetery on Tuesday 7th January 2025 and actions taken under emergency circumstances by the Clerk. To discuss and make any further recommendations on long term action to Council.</p>

10.1 The Clerk gave a verbal update of the incident reported to Council via email and action taken thereafter which included use of cones and barriers upon the entrance to the cemetery, the change in position of the existing boulders and the erection of a temporary sign.

The following was **recommended** for further exploration by the Clerk/Staff team.

- Contact Wakefield Metropolitan District Council to raise potential requirement for signage/barriers and concerns of highways usage by HGVs of the cemetery layby and the bridge on Doncaster Road.
- Contact National Highways to seek support with potential funding with signage and barriers.

Time Closed: 20:00

DRAFT