

LISS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting held on 10th December 2018, 7pm

MEMBERS

*D. Dodds (Chairman) K. Budden R. Hargreaves
*H. Linsley *S. Halstead *F. Macnamara K. O'Malley A. Smith

*Present

Clerk: Sarah Smith

42/G18 Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Budden, Hargreaves, O'Malley and Smith.

43/G18 Declarations of Interests

Cllrs Halstead declared an interest as members of the Tennis Club. Cllrs Linsley and MacNamara declared an interest a member of the Newman Collard Playing Field Trust.

44/G18 Minutes of the Grounds Committee Meeting on 10th September 2018

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting on 10th June 2018 be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting (proposed by Cllr Halstead and seconded by Cllr Linsley).

45/G18 Matters Arising from Grounds Committee Meeting on 10th September 2018

20/G18 Pond at Newman Collard: The Clerk advised that the bank reinstatement project had not been commenced due to other priority work.

20/G18 Path at Newman Collard: The Chairman advised that the addition of a macadam surface to the new path from Inwood Road to the play area had been carried out. This had been funded by SDNPA s106 transport funds.

36/G18 2019/20 Budget provision: The Chairman advised that the proposed grounds maintenance arrangements for 2019 had been noted by Council in September for inclusion in the 2019/20 budget.

37/G18 Horse Chestnut Tree in the Memorial Gardens: The Chairman confirmed that the tree had been taken down and, following feedback from parishioners via social media, the trunk was being turned into two rustic benches.

37/G18 Hedge behind tennis courts: The Chairman advised that the annual hedge cutting had now taken place at all sites and the Groundsman had tidied up the end of the hedge behind the tennis court which the machinery could not reach.

37/G18 Riverside walk railway platform: The Clerk confirmed that the Groundsman had cut back overgrowing vegetation.

46/G18 Play equipment inspections and health & safety issues

The Chairman advised that this item was now a standing agenda item to consider the quarterly safety inspections and other issues arising. The December reports had not yet been received but were expected imminently. The Clerk would pursue any works identified on health & safety grounds and report back at the next meeting.

The Clerk advised that work to replace all three timber balance beams at the Riverside Walk pic nic area, in addition to replacing a support beam on the timber wobble bridge, had been commissioned. An application for EHDC s106 open spaces funding had been successful.

47/G18 Mosaic renovation

The Chairman noted that the trial cleaning had been carried out and a few volunteers had come forward following the article in the Village Voice to assist with a supervised cleaning. Cllr O'Malley would pursue in due course. Members noted the importance of linking the two strands of work, cleaning and restoration/protection given that the trial cleaning had disturbed the mosaic tiles further.

48/G18 Dog fouling

The Chairman advised that four dog poo bag dispensers had been installed: three at Newman Collard and one at West Liss. A further dispenser had been purchased and would be located near to the new Pavilion at West Liss in due course. A poster campaign would be pursued with the school in due course.

The Chairman advised that EHDC had responded to a request from the Assistant Clerk to consider additional bins, advising that additional bins were unlikely to be provided. However, EHDC had requested a list of priority locations so that alternative solutions could be considered.

49/G18 Drainage at Newman Collard

The Chairman advised that a report had been received following the works undertaken in the Memorial Gardens with recommendations for further works. Members discussed and agreed to remit it to the group which had previously been set up to discuss the drainage issues.

50/G18 Lych Gate

The Chairman advised that correspondence had been received about the condition of the Lych Gate. EHDC Building Control has responsibility for dangerous structures and assessed the structural integrity of the Lych Gate in November. They advised that no further action was required at the time but that a further visit would be arranged in six months' time to reassess. EHDC Building Control notified HCC as the structure is over a public footpath and HCC have responded that they will take the lead from EHDC Building Control on the structural integrity and may ultimately remove the structure if deemed appropriate on the grounds of public safety. The Clerk had responded to the correspondence accordingly.

The LPC position on the Lych Gate was due to be considered by Council. Grounds Committee agreed to propose the following motion to Council:

"That LPC makes an application for S106 funds to restore the Lych Gate to its former design and without prejudice to ownership or any other rights."

51/G18 Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That any members of the public be excluded on the basis of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

Resolved: That the exempt minutes of the meeting on 10th September 2018 be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting (proposed by Cllr Dodds and seconded by Cllr Linsley).

52/G18 AOB

The Chairman advised that following the Allotment Tenants' Meeting a tenant had offered to help encourage take up of plots at the Christmas Village Fair. The Chairman confirmed that no further plots had been taken up but that interest was cyclical. Given that many of the vacant plots were very overgrown, a year's free rent would be considered according to the condition of each vacant plot.

The Clerk advised that a parishioner had offered a free table tennis table to LPC. Members agreed that the Groundsman should take a look and consider whether it should be taken on and whether it could be stored at the Groundsman's Hut.

The Clerk advised that a request had been received for LPC to remove branches of an Oak tree at West Liss which were overhanging the garden of a resident on St. Mary's Road. Members noted that the tree had been inspected recently and any deadwood removed. Members agreed therefore that the request did not meet the requirements of the LPC policy which was to undertake work to trees on the grounds of health & safety only.

The meeting closed at 8.22 pm.

Date of next meeting: 4th March 2018

Signed..... Dated.....