

HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8EL

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9th September 2010

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee to be held on **Thursday 16th September 2010** commencing at **7.30 p.m.** at **Hartley Library, Ash Road.**

Yours sincerely

Julie Hoad
Proper Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive Members' declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

(WHITE)

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 5th August 2010 as a correct record. (Annexed).

4. Cricket at Manor Field

To receive a report from New Ash Green and Hartley Cricket Club.

5. Cricket at Longfield Hill

To receive a report from Meopham Cricket Club.

6. Football at Manor Field

(a) To receive a report from Hartley De Sales FC.

(b) To consider the football fees for the 2010/11 season. Fees for 2009/10 £350 per team for the senior pitch and £300 per team for the junior pitch.

7. Financial Report

(DARK YELLOW)

To consider a financial report indicating the net position of the allotments, open spaces and Manor Field Pavilion as at 9th September 2010. (Annexed).

Background document

Net financial position as at 9th September 2010.

8. Budget 2011/12

(PINK)

To consider a draft budget for 2011/12 in respect of the allotments, open spaces and Manor Field Pavilion. (Annexed)

Background document

Draft budget 2011/12

9. Quantified Tree Risk Assessments

To note that a meeting has been arranged with Duramen Consulting Ltd on 21st September 2010 to discuss, in further detail, the content and findings of the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment.

10. Pavilion

To note that an email was received from New Ash Green and Hartley Cricket Club on 3rd September 2010 informing the Council that the lights were not working in either of the changing rooms. The Clerk made arrangements for an electrician to attend the site to repair the lights. The Committee is requested to confirm the Clerk's actions.

11. Manor Field

(a) Grant of electricity easement

(YELLOW)

To consider the draft Deed of Easement in respect of the electricity cable at Manor Field.

Background document

Letter dated 5th August 2010 from Knocker & Foskett and draft Deed of Easement

(b) Rabbit infestation

At a meeting of the Burial Grounds and Gardens of Remembrance Committee held on 31st August 2010 the installation of close boarded fencing along the southern and eastern boundaries of the new Burial Ground was considered.

The Burial Grounds and Gardens of Remembrance Committee felt that the provision of a close boarded fence would improve the visual amenity and prevent the encroachment of bramble from adjoining land. Furthermore the close boarded fence could be adapted with a suitable mesh to provide some control over the rabbits at Manor Field. However the Burial Grounds and Gardens of Remembrance Committee considered the matter should be deferred until such time as the legal issues relating to the restrictive covenants and rights of access had been resolved.

The Burial Grounds and Gardens of Remembrance Committee resolved that further advice be sought on the control of rabbits at Manor Field. The Committee is requested to consider said advice, if available.

The Committee is requested to note that a quotation has been received in respect of the clearance of bramble from the 20 foot wide strip of land owned by Messrs H F & J

H Glover to the south of the new Burial Ground and along the boundary of Foxborough Wood, in advance of the installation of new fencing along those boundaries.

Background document

Letter dated 25th August 2010 from T D Munday (quotation)

(c) Repairs to brickwork and re-instatement of bench

To consider a quotation to re-instate the wooden bench onto the existing concrete base in front of the Pavilion, using anti-vandal fixings and to repair and replace the damaged brickwork on the edge of the steps.

Background document

Letter dated 7th July 2010 from Graham Budd

12. Longfield Hill

(GREEN)

(a) Fence repairs

To confirm the Clerk's actions to instigate repairs to the damaged chestnut paling fence, adjacent to the road, caused by an act of vandalism.

Background document

Letter dated 2nd September 2010 from HPC to T D Munday

(b) Electricity sub-station and underground cable

To consider a letter dated 14th July 2010, received from Freedom Group, regarding the proposed installation of a new micro substation and relevant underground cables at Longfield Hill Recreation Ground. A site meeting took place on 16th August 2010 with representatives from the Freedom Group and Meopham Cricket Club. (Annexed).

Background document

Letter dated 14th July 2010 from Freedom Group and 2 no drawings

(c) Moles

At the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 5th August 2010 the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee, was authorised to accept a quotation in respect of the control of moles at Longfield Hill by means of gassing, provided the Contractor did not require the ground to be closed to members of the public.

The Contractor has confirmed the ground does not need to be closed, but has recommended the works should now be delayed until February 2011, because the moles are now starting to hibernate for the winter and the breeding cycle resumes in February/March.

The Committee is requested to note the report and confirm the works for the control of moles at Longfield Hill be deferred until February 2011.

Background document

E mail dated 24th June 2010 from Monitor Pest Control Ltd

13. Woodland Avenue

(a) To note further vandalism was sustained to the gate of the play area at Woodland Avenue on 9th August 2010. The Clerk made arrangements for its repairs at a cost of £268 plus VAT. The Committee is requested to confirm the Clerk's actions.

Background document

E mail dated 12th August 2010 from Safeplay (quotation)

(b) To note that emergency action was taken on 6th September 2010 to remove smashed glass from the goalmouths of the football pitch at Woodland Avenue. The Committee is requested to confirm the Clerk's actions.

14. Gorse Wood

At a meeting held on 5th August 2010 the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee considered a request from a resident of 37 Porchester Close to prune a tree on land at Gorse Wood which was overhanging her property.

The Quantified Tree Risk Assessment undertaken by Duramen Consulting Ltd had identified a Whitebeam tree, (tree number 3/10), which was leaning towards property and recommended the tree be monitored.

A site inspection was undertaken with a local tree surgeon, at which the resident of 37 Porchester Close indicated that the tree causing concern was a Cherry tree. The tree surgeon confirmed the Cherry tree overhanging 37 Porchester Close was damaged and should be felled to the ground. The Committee is requested to consider a quotation in respect of the treeworks.

Background document

Letter dated 20th August 2010 from Austin Treework

15. Rectory Meadow

(RED)

(a) To consider a letter dated 31st August 2010 from the Rural Payments Agency advising of the results of a single payment scheme inspection. (Annexed).

Background document

Letter dated 31st August 2010 from Rural Payments Agency

(b) To note that the bench located in Rectory Meadow was recently damaged by an act of vandalism at sometime between 21st August 2010 and 26th August 2010. The bench had been set on fire and only the metal frame remained. The Clerk made arrangements for the frame to be removed, as it was unsafe.

The Committee is requested to confirm the Clerk's actions and to consider whether the bench should be replaced.

16. Hartley Wood

(WHITE)

To note a letter dated 17th August 2010, received from Kent County Council regarding the Parish Council's application to register land at Hartley Wood as a Village Green. (Annexed).

Background document

Letter dated 17th August 2010 from KCC and 2 no accompanying plans

17. Parish Plan

(DARK GREEN)

To consider the action plans contained in the Hartley Parish Plan relating to the countryside. The Hartley Parish Plan may be viewed on the Council's website. (Annexed).

Background document

Hartley Parish Plan action plan

18. Date of next meeting

List of circulated documents

Copies of all documents listed in the agenda are available for inspection in the Parish Office

1. Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held on 5th August 2010. **(WHITE)**
2. Financial report indicating the net position of the allotments, open spaces and Manor Field Pavilion as at 9th September 2010. **(DARK YELLOW)**
3. Draft Budget 2011/2012 for the Allotments, Open Spaces and Manor Field Pavilion **(PINK)**
4. Draft Deed of Easement Electricity Cable at Manor Field **(YELLOW)**
5. Letter dated 14th July 2010 from Freedom Group **(GREEN)**
6. Letter dated 31st August 2010 from Rural Payments Agency **(RED)**
7. Letter dated 17th August from Kent County Council **(WHITE)**
8. Parish Plan action plan – Countryside **(DARK GREEN)**

Committee Membership

Cllr Barnett
Cllr Gaywood (ex officio)
Cllr Granger
Cllr Sewell

Cllr Mrs P Cole
Cllr Graeme
Cllr Mrs Oxtoby (ex officio)