

NORTHFIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 03 October 2011 commencing at 4.00pm at Hartley Library, Hartley

Present: Cllr Mrs Oxtoby (Chairman)
Cllr R Burchell
Cllr Mrs Fernley
Cllr S Glover

In Attendance: Mrs A de Jager
Mrs J Hoad
2 members of the Public

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr M Brown, Cllr Mrs Oxtoby and Mr A Barnett

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Mrs Oxtoby a personal interest in any matter relating to the Horse Riding Route as a member.

3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2011**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2011 were signed as a true record.

4. **Financial Report**

- 4.1 The balances were received and NOTED. Bank Statements were available for members to view.
- 4.2 The Financial Statement as at 27 September 2011 was NOTED.
- 4.3 The payments set out in Appendix B 3.1 to 3.5 were AUTHORISED for payment with the addition of payment to Mr Munday for the spraying of ragwort, £150.00 and the quarterly payment to Sevenoaks District Council for the emptying of the dog bins. The value of invoice submitted under 3.2 was confirmed as £100.00.
- 4.4 It was NOTED that no further payments had been received from the Rural Payments Agency.
- 4.5 The external auditor's certificate and opinion for the year ended 31 March 2011 was NOTED
- 4.6 Budget 2012/13 – The draft budget was AGREED without amendment and would go back to the Parish Councils to be ratified.

5. **Land and Site Maintenance**

- 5.1 Milestone School Access – it was NOTED that the installation of the fence, gate and hard standing would take place during half term, 24 – 28 October 2011.
- 5.2 Hay crop – it was NOTED that the hay crop had been harvested and that the contractor had reported that youths had tried to start approximately 6 fires.
- 5.3 It was NOTED that the bramble around the new hedge adjacent to Milestone School has been strimmed and sprayed.

- 5.4 It was NOTED that the cropping of the Wild Flower Meadow had been cut on 1 October 2011.
- 5.5 It was NOTED that Kent Wildlife Trust would be contacted with regard to the collection of seeds from the Meadow in New Ash Green for distribution on Northfield next year.
- 5.6 It was NOTED that an additional cut around the perimeter of Barnetts Wood and footpaths within the wood had been carried out.
- 5.7 It was AGREED that the purchase of stakes and ties for the best six specimens in the new copses be deferred until the copses have been looked at.
- 5.8 Cllr S Glover PROPOSED that the decision regarding the cutting of the hedge at Caling Croft be deferred and a quotation for mechanical cutting is obtained for comparison to the quote received for a manual cut.

6. Barnetts Wood and New House Shaw

- 6.1 Cllr Mrs Oxtoby PROPOSED that the quotation from NPC Tree Surgery be accepted to carry out the required work on New House Shaw. SECONDED: Cllr S Glover and AGREED.
- 6.2 It was AGREED that a tender document will be prepared for further formative pruning of Oak trees in the segment of Barnetts Wood adjacent to New House Shaw.
- 6.3 The planting of 1750 bulbs in Barnetts Wood on 17 and 18 September 2011 by the Woodlands Group and volunteers was NOTED. A similar amount of bulbs would be planted next year.

7. Recreational Facilities

- 7.1 The annual review of the Horse Riding Route Rules and Conditions was undertaken and Cllr Mrs Oxtoby PROPOSED that no changes be made. SECONDED Cllr S Glover and AGREED.
- 7.2 The date for the closure of the Horse Riding Route for the winter would be decided in consultation with Cllr Mrs Oxtoby.

8. Health and Safety

- 8.1 Football – It was NOTED that the football post sockets have been removed and the holes filled on the informal playing area and that a letter had been sent to the Junior Football Club.
- 8.2 Cllr S Glover PROPOSED that the request from Kent Police to install signs prohibiting motorbikes on Northfield be accepted with the Northfield Management Committee contributing a third of the cost. Six signs would be purchased and initially three installed. SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Oxtoby and AGREED.
- 8.3 It was NOTED that a camp had been found and removed from Barnetts Wood.
- 8.4 The visual inspection sheets for the period June to August 2011 were available for members to view.

9. Correspondence and Date of Next Meeting

- 9.1 Receipt of correspondence and response to residents regarding the informal playing area were NOTED.

- 9.2 The concerns raised by the New Ash Green Junior Football Club and the response from the Secretary were NOTED, and it was AGREED that no further action was required.
- 9.3 The next meeting of the Northfield Management Committee will be held on **Friday 18 November 2011 at 10.00am at Ash Green Sports Centre, New Ash Green.**

The meeting closed at 5.08pm

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Chairman

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Date