

NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING/WALKABOUT HELD ON MONDAY 19TH APRIL 2010 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM.

Present: Councillor J Coutts (Chairman), Councillor R Brinkley, J Franklin, P Maudlin, D Milton and the Clerk Mrs L Trevena

1. APOLOGIES

None.

2. DECLARATIONS FROM MEMBERS IN RELATION TO PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST IN ANY AGENDA ITEM

None.

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS & OPEN SPACES MEETING HELD ON 18TH JANUARY 2010

The minutes of the Highways and Open Spaces Meeting held on 18th January 2010 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a true record.

4. TO VISIT AND CONSIDER ANY WORK REQUIRED:

Items 4.1 and 4.2 minuted after 4.8

4.3 Caldecote Green - The Green

The Green was looking in reasonable condition with a minimal amount of work required.

RECOMMENDED that the contractor be asked to weed spray around the young hedgerow on the north side of the Green.

4.4 Pound Close - Amenity Area

The site had not yet been cut this season.

RECOMMENDED that the contractor be reminded that the play area requires cutting as soon as practically possible.

4.5 Lower Caldecote – Milestone

This site was not visited but the Clerk reported that the site was satisfactory when she visited the noticeboard adjacent to the milestone last week.

4.6 Hatch – Common and footpath

Site satisfactory.

4.7 Northill – The Green and pond

The Green – site reasonable.

RECOMMENDED that the contractor be asked to remove the ivy from the poplar trees and also repair/re-fix one post and retighten the chain between the posts.

Northill Pond – Members discussed the number and content of emails received in connection with the removal of the willow tree from the highways verge adjacent to the pond. The Clerk advised members that she had spoken with the Arboricultural Officer Mr Morwood who confirmed that he is investigating the removal of the tree. She also advised that the matter would be further discussed at the next Council meeting on 17th May 2010.

RECOMMENDED that the Pond Working Party be asked their opinion on the siting of a replacement weeping birch or weeping ash on Northill Green.

4.8 Ickwell Green - The Green

Site satisfactory.

4.1 SITING OF LITTER/DOG BINS THROUGHOUT THE PARISH

Members visited various sites throughout the parish where requests had been made for the placement of a litter/dog bin.

RECOMMEND that:

- a) **entrance to footpath 10 Biggleswade Road, Upper Caldecote** (opposite 90 Biggleswade Road) - no further action should be taken on this matter at the present time until a decision has been reached after the consultation period of current footpath diversion;
- b) **Vinegar Hill, Upper Caldecote** – a dog/litter bin is not considered necessary along this road;
- c) **entrance to footpath 16 Thorncote Road, Northill** (adjacent to 50 Thorncote Road) – a dog bin is required;
- d) **Bedford Road, Northill** – (i) Clerk to check with head teacher to ascertain if the school does require a dog/litter bin outside the school and (ii) Clerk to check with residents of 7,9 and 11 Bedford Road, Northill to ascertain their views on a dog/litter bin being placed on the highway verge between 7 – 11 Bedford Road, Northill

4.2 HIGHWAY ISSUES THROUGHOUT THE PARISH

RECOMMENDED that Highways be informed:

- a) all road signs still missing in Warden Road, Ickwell at the junction with Old Warden and Shuttleworth;
- b) street nameplate required on western side of The Pastures, Upper Caldecote to match the street nameplate on the eastern side which states "The Pastures leading to Harvey Close and Caldecote Playing Fields" ;
- c) street nameplate required in Shakespeare Drive, Upper Caldecote stating "Shakespeare Drive leading to Wordsworth Close and Byron Close";
- d) street nameplate required on western side of Ashby Drive, Upper Caldecote to match the street nameplate on the eastern site which states "Ashby Drive leading to Dene Way, Taddy Close and Brook Close";
- e) double white lines required down centre of Brook End, Hatch from numbers 2/3/4 through to Bidlake Memorial corner;
- f) Verge markers to be erected between Hatch Turn and Bidlake Memorial, Hatch on left hand side heading north (this was reported to Highways in January 2009);
- g) 'T' junction sign at Drovers Road, Hatch junction with Thorncote Road/Hatch Road requires cleaning;
- h) ivy on railings needs completely removing in Thorncote Road, Hatch near junction with Drovers Road;
- i) both sides of road surfaces requires sweeping to remove loose gravel on Hatch Road, Hatch through to junction of Bedford Road, Northill;
- j) railings on eastern side of Hatch Road, Hatch in need of repair;
- k) drain badly subsided and two potholes require repair at Home Wood, Bedford Road, Northill;
- l) several smaller potholes in Bedford Road, Northill just down from Home Wood;
- m) road subsidence outside Old School House, Bedford Road, Northill;
- n) previously filled pothole in Sand Lane, Northill at junction with Ickwell Road has dropped around 10 cms; and
- o) loose kerb stone requires re-fixing outside 42 Ickwell Road, Northill.

It was agreed that the Highways Department be asked if a representative of the Highways could meet on site with member(s) of Northill Parish Council to discuss issues above. .

- p) street light no. 2 Harvey Close, Upper Caldecote on all the time;
- q) street light no. 8 Harvey Close, Upper Caldecote on all the time;
- r) street light no. 1 Byron Close, Upper Caldecote on all the time; and
- s) street light outside 4a Caldecote Green, Upper Caldecote on all the time.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 12th July 2010.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.37pm.