

NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING/WALKABOUT HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2010 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM.

Present: Councillor J Coutts (Chairman), Councillor R Brinkley, J Franklin, P Maudlin, D Milton and the Clerk Miss A Baldwin

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 19TH APRIL 2010

The minutes of the Highways and Open Spaces Meeting held on 19th April 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.

The Clerk has been asked to contact the Highways Department of Central Bedfordshire Council to ask for dropped kerbs at The Pastures, Biggleswade Road junction with Water Lane and The Pastures.

4.4 Pound Close - Amenity Area

Site satisfactory.

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 Northhill – The Green and pond

The Green – site reasonable.

RECOMMENDED that the contractor be asked to remove the ivy and the elder saplings from the poplar trees, remove the Willow Saplings from the edge of the pond and also re-fix or replace one loose post and tighten the chain links.

RECOMMENDED that it is not felt necessary to replace the Willow tree with a weeping Birch or Ash.

4.8 Ickwell Green - The Green

Site satisfactory.

RECOMMENDED that the contractor be asked to cut the grass up to the ditch in the South West corner.

4.9 Permissive Pathway – Warden Road

Members walked along this footpath and agreed that it was, in parts, becoming impassable. The Clerk has written to the Harpur Trust to try and establish ownership of the land and has received a reply stating that the Estates Manager was looking into the matter.

RECOMMENDED that two quotes be sought to cut back the hedge along the footpath and that this should be carried out as soon as possible.

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;

4.2 HIGHWAY ISSUES THROUGHOUT THE PARISH

RECOMMENDED that Highways be informed:

- a) double white lines required down centre of road Brook End, Hatch from numbers 2/3/4 through to Bidlake Memorial corner;
- b) 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);
- c) 'T' junction sign at Drovers Road, Hatch junction with Thorncote Road/Hatch Road requires cleaning;
- d) ivy on railings needs completely removing in Thorncote Road, Hatch near junction with Drovers Road;
- e) both sides of road surfaces requires sweeping to remove loose gravel on Hatch Road, Hatch through to junction of Bedford Road, Northill;
- f) drains badly subsiding along the length of Ickwell Road/Northill Road and they also need cleaning out.
- g) Drain subsiding at top of Warden Road hill.

Cllr Coutts was meeting Paul Joyce of Amey on Thursday 2nd September and the subsidence of the drains along Ickwell/Northill Road would be discussed.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TBA.

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