

STOKE MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Copley

Telephone: (01296) 613888

**Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held at the Community Centre,
Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville on Tuesday 28th January 2014**

PRESENT: Cllrs: J Hunt, D Starr and P Wood
Mr J Reed and Mr R Jones (co opted)

CLERK: Sarah Copley

E14/1	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were accepted from Cllr Kennedy. In the absence of Cllr Kennedy, the meeting was chaired by Cllr Hunt.</p>	
E14/2	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Mr Jones declared that he is an allotment tenant.</p>	
E14/3	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th November 2013, previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
E14/4	<p>STREET LIGHTS</p> <p>a) Martin Sharp of E Sharp Electrical attended the meeting to discuss the streetlights that needed to be replaced and outlined the different types of street lighting available. A list of street lights in need of replacement was provided to councillors. There are 21 aluminium columns that need replacing and 33 lamps situated in Ligo Avenue (8), Meadow Park (2), Combe Close (2), Carters Ride (9), Dorchester Close (7) and Walnut Tree Close(5).</p> <p>The matter of testing street lights for electrical integrity was also discussed, Martin agreed this was something that E Sharps could carry out, possibly when carrying out maintenance, they would provide a certificate for each light tested. The Clerk would formally request a price for this work.</p> <p>Discussion also ensued on the use of alternative cells as those currently used would not be available for purchase after April and a different type of cell had been developed. The feasibility of converting to LED lighting was raised which was considered to be more environmentally friendly and cheaper to run although more costly to install. It was concluded that further investigation was needed to be done before any decisions were made but in the meantime to recommend to Council that a programme of replacing aluminium columns with stainless steel should move forward during the forthcoming financial year.</p> <p>It was AGREED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllrs Wood and Starr would visit areas where LEDs had been installed in order to make an informed decision on the best type of lighting for the area. • Mr Jones would carry out some research on the different LED lights available. <p>b) It had been reported that a street light in Marsh Lane was on throughout the day possibly due to ivy partially covering it. The light was fixed to a telegraph pole and located in the school field. Cllr Hunt agreed to liaise with the school re cutting back the ivy.</p>	<p align="center">Clerk</p> <p align="center">DS/PW</p> <p align="center">RJ</p> <p align="center">JH</p>
E14/5	<p>BENCHES</p> <p>a) The Clerk reported on options and costs for benches to be sited at Hawkslade. It was AGREED to recommend that the “Blackburn” seats provided by Broxap were purchased.</p>	<p align="center">Clerk</p>

	<p>The Clerk would obtain a quote for installing the new benches.</p> <p>b) The bench in Marsh Lane was covered in moss and green algae. The Clerk would ask Mr Haines to clean this.</p> <p>c) A memorial bench in the burial ground at Swallow Lane was in poor repair, the Clerk had spoken to the family who had offered to purchase a replacement which would be installed in the spring.</p>	Clerk
E14/6	<p>LITTER / DOG BINS</p> <p>a) Bucks County Council Rights of Way team had written to the Council to suggest that a bin be purchased and installed at the end of footpath SMA/3/1 as there is regularly a lot of rubbish dumped there. The matter was discussed and it was AGREED :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To recommend to the Council that a bin is purchased at a cost of £48.83 and installed at this site • To write to the hospital and ask for their support and to consider a bin being put in the neighbouring car park <p>b) The Clerk reported that the replacement dog bin for Orchard Close had been installed on 28th January.</p>	Clerk
E14/7	<p>NOTICE BOARDS</p> <p>a) The new noticeboard for Dalesford Road had been ordered, there was an 8 week lead time so delivery and installation was expected by March.</p> <p>b) SMVCA would be replacing the notice board outside the Community Centre which was in poor repair.</p>	
E14/8	<p>BUS SHELTERS</p> <p>a) The Perspex in the bus shelter window on Risborough Road was scratched and in need of replacement, a quote to replace all windows had been obtained of £175. After discussion it was agreed to source a further quote to replace the Perspex windows with safety glass, the Clerk would report back to the Council meeting in February for a decision.</p>	
E14/9	<p>FOOTPATHS</p> <p>There were no issues raised relating to footpaths, although it was noted that some were flooded and very muddy following the recent wet weather.</p>	
E14/10	<p>SWALLOW LANE BURIAL GROUND</p> <p>a) A copy of an article on provision of burial ground which featured in The Clerk Magazine had been circulated for information. The Council's land in Marsh Lane had been considered in the past for a future burial ground and research would be needed to ascertain whether the land was suitable and of sufficient size and what permissions were required.</p> <p>b) A request had been received from a family for a relative's ashes to be buried in an existing plot at a future date. Although the relative did not live within the parish, it was AGREED to recommend to the council that consent was given to this request as the ashes would be placed in an existing plot and not taking up additional space in the burial ground.</p>	
E14/11	<p>ALLOTMENTS</p> <p>a) It was noted that the posts had been installed at the allotment entrance to prevent cars driving across the neighbouring driveway. The neighbours had contacted the Council with their thanks and appreciation that this had been done.</p> <p>b) One of the tenants (Mrs Sansom) had volunteered to clear plot 4 over the winter which has now been completed to ground level. Mrs Sansom had contacted the Clerk to say that the plot now needed to be dug over to remove bramble roots. The Committee expressed thanks for Mrs Sansom's work and agreed to get a quote for the bramble roots to be removed.</p> <p>c) The Clerk reported that there were currently 6 people on the waiting list for an</p>	

	allotment plot.	
E14/12	ANY OTHER ISSUES (FOR INFORMATION) No matters were raised.	
E14/13	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The Environment Committee would next meet on Tuesday 25 th March 2014. Cllr Wood asked that her apologies be recorded for this meeting.	

Signed: _____

Date: 25th March 2014