

## CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
**ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITY COMMITTEE**  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER  
ON TUESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2011 AT 8.00pm

Present Cllr Seeley – In the Chair David Allison – Clerk to the Council

Cllrs Bennett, Brading, Edmunds, Getkahn, Ridley, Shafe and Vane  
Voting Members: 8  
Public: None

EA803/11 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Dann.

EA804/11 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman recommended that any declarations of interest be made, if necessary, throughout the meeting.

EA805/11 Representations from the Public

There were no members of the public present.

EA806/11 Minutes

**Resolved:**

- that the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 September 2011 be approved and be signed by the Chairman.

EA807/11 Matters Arising

EA795/11 (Photographs of Croxley Green). The Clerk was asked whether a letter of permission/authority had been written to the Camera Club to explain about the Club undertaking periodic photos of the same area. The Clerk advised that the Camera Club had not been directly in contact with him about the letter.

EA796/11 (Nectar/Oasis Areas). The Clerk was asked whether Councillors had been in contact with suggested sites. The Clerk advised that only Cllr Seeley and Cllr Wynne-Jones had put forward suggestions namely the grassy banks by the pond at the top of Little Green Lane, the ditch along the front wall of Croxley House, and the small pond on the Green opposite Killingdown Farm. The Clerk added that he had suggested the second Village Green and the Admin Officer had suggested The Green and Stones Orchard.

EA797/11 (Croxley Rail Link). Following a comment from a Councillor, the Clerk advised that an update on the Rail Link project had been circulated to all Councillors that day and also placed on the Council's web site.

EA798/11 (Dickinson Square). The Clerk advised that the recommendation from the previous meeting regarding the Council becoming involved in the maintenance of Dickinson Square would be on the next Council Agenda in October.

EA799/11 (The Green/Stones Orchard Contract with Three Rivers District Council (TRDC)). The Clerk was asked whether any progress had been made with TRDC regarding reviewing the maintenance specification. The Clerk advised that he was having a meeting with TRDC later in the week and he will raise the matter then.

EA808/11 Active Works List

The Chairman introduced this item and Members were referred to the active works list for October.

A Councillor asked whether the steps leading down to Long Valley Wood from footpath number 11 opposite the Frankland Road Allotments were maintained by the Parish Council. The Clerk advised that some years ago the Parish Council did undertake some works to provide steps but subsequently the steps had been replaced by either TRDC or Countryside Management Services (CMS) and the Parish Council were no longer involved. The Councillor advised that the steps are now in a dangerous condition and whether they could come back under the Parish Council's jurisdiction for repair and ongoing maintenance. The Clerk advised he would take this matter up with TRDC. It was pointed out by another Councillor that it had been the intention of putting some non-slip surfacing on the steps but this obviously had not taken place as yet.

The Clerk was asked about the replacement of the posts on The Green. The Clerk advised that it had been decided some time ago that all the posts need replacing and some new locations included. The Clerk stated that a letter to residents to advise of the replacement programme had now been agreed with TRDC and the letters have been distributed.

In response to a question from a Councillor concerning the Two Bridges Roundabout, the Clerk advised that the Parish Council maintain the flower beds and at the moment the central area of the roundabout which was recently tidied. The grass cutting is undertaken by UK Roundabouts under contract for Hertfordshire County Council.

The Clerk advised that Cllr Dann had informed him that winter storage for the Geraniums would be undertaken in a glasshouse that Cllr Dann had been able to arrange.

In response to a question from a Councillor concerning the item on the Works List relating to a broken fence to Yorke Mead School, the Clerk advised that a site visit was needed to assess the situation and to establish whether the School or TRDC are responsible for the fence before any action, if any by this Council, would be taken.

EA809/11 Budget 2012/13

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk reminded Members that a Briefing on budget preparation had previously been circulated and that the Committee now needed to start considering its budget proposals for next year.

The Clerk referred Members to the current years budget detail totalling £31,850 and requested that budget proposals should be put forward as soon as possible.

It was pointed out that given the decision made by Council at its meeting on 29 September to act as an outlet for the sale of brown bin caddy liners that any income (retained surplus) would fall into this Committee's budget.

The Chairman of the Council suggested that it might be helpful for Council Members collectively to have an informal budget meeting, perhaps after another meeting, so that ideas and thoughts can be shared and developed as appropriate.

In response to a query about the Committee's £10,000 budget this year for the Development of Play Areas, it was pointed out that this related to the Council's future part funding towards TRDC's proposals to upgrade the Baldwins Lane play area.

EA810/11 Tree Bulletin

There were no tree works to note.

EA811/11 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.18pm.