

CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
ON TUESDAY 6 APRIL 2010 AT 8.00 pm

Present Cllr Norman – In the Chair D Allison – Clerk to the Council

Cllrs Brading, Dann, C Jefford, Seeley
Voting Members: 5

EA656/10 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs Martin and Vassiliou

EA657/10 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.

EA658/10 Representations from the Public
There were no members of public present.

EA659/10 Minutes
Resolved:

- that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2010 be approved and be signed by the Chairman.

EA660/10 Matters Arising
There were no matters arising.

EA661/10 Active Works List
The Chairman introduced this item and Members were referred to the active works list which was circulated at the meeting. The Clerk apologised that the Schedule had not been circulated with the Agenda but this was due to the fact that the Agenda had been issued earlier than usual due to Easter. The Clerk went through the Schedule and reminded Members that most of the groundwork undertaken by the Rangers is cyclical. Members attention was drawn to the fact that during April it may be appropriate to undertake the first cut on the Green and preparatory works would be undertaken in the field used by the archers at the Revels.

The Clerk also highlighted that only very basic work would be undertaken at the moment at the Library beds and environs given that HCC have told the Council that they do not wish us to undertake further work there. HCC's decision was based on the fact that their contractor have advised them that they could do all necessary work at a cost less than that charged by this Council. The Clerk reported that he had spoken with HCC and they have advised that if the Council wished to submit a 'bid' for the works then they may re-consider but thought it would be unlikely this Council would retain the work. The Clerk added that as a result of the HCC decision revenue budgeted in the Council's annual budget from this source would be unlikely to be forthcoming.

A Cllr commented that one of the 'Welcome to Croxley Green' signs was missing (Watford Road, west bound). The Clerk advised that the sign was stolen on St Patrick's Day night and had been reported to the Police – a crime number has been issued. The Clerk continued that replacement of the sign was an Agenda topic on the forthcoming F&A meeting scheduled for Thursday 8 April. The Clerk also took the opportunity of mentioning that the 'Welcome' sign on Scots Hill needed to be repaired as there appears to be some 'bubbling' on part of the raised image. The Clerk stated that he had taken this matter up with the manufacturer who have requested that it be returned to them for repair.

A Cllr reported on the progress to source the local Hertfordshire variety cherry tree (Kerroon) which are in Stones Orchard but advised that it does not look hopeful but was to try another research centre. The Cllr added that it was looking more likely that the Kerroon variety would have to be grown from grafts.

EA662/10

Annual Garden Competition

The Chairman introduced this item by reporting that having referred this matter to full Council to seek the wider views of all Members as to the future of the Competition, it had been resolved that the annual garden competition be discontinued.

The Chairman added that the matter had now been referred back to this Committee to develop alternative ideas for the future. It was generally agreed that no replacement event would take place during 2010 and that this year would be used to build up a proposal(s) for 2011.

The idea of endeavouring to encourage residents to open their gardens to residents for a day in aid of the Chairman's Charity was put forward as was the idea of perhaps considering a Spring Garden Competition. Further suggestions were the Best Public House Competition (which would include such aspects such as the best grounds, the best beer and the best food) and A Stones Orchard Cherry/Apple Tree Day building on the historic tradition of Cherry Days in the Orchard.

Members of the Committee were asked to think about further ideas which can be discussed and developed. The Chairman asked that via the Minutes of the meeting, all Councillors could think about new alternatives to the Garden Competition and to let the Clerk know.

EA663/10

Chairman's Charity Quiz Night

The Chairman introduced this item and referred to matter to Cllr Jefford. Cllr Jefford stated that she would like to thank all Councillors who attended the Quiz Night and who had supplied raffle prizes. Cllr Jefford continued that she would also like to thank all those who turned up to help set up for the quiz night and clear up afterwards. Cllr Jefford reported that the evening was a great success and raised a net profit of £748.34 (raffle income was £186.00) which would be going to this years Chairman's chosen Charity, Croxley Green Scout Group.

EA664/10

Tree Bulletin

The supplement of tree works that was distributed at the meeting was noted by Members.

EA665/10

Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.