

**Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting GP 07/15 of
Kingsclere Parish Council held at 7.30pm on
Monday 14th September 2015 in the Village Club**



- GP07/15 Present Committee Members:** Cllrs: Adams; Farey; Mussett; N.Peach; Price. Clerk: L Porton.
- 07/15.1 Apologies:** Cllrs: J Sawyer
- 07/15.2 Declaration of Interest:**
Price 15.4 ii – Member of Tennis Club;
- 07/15.3 Matters arising from Minutes of GP Meeting 13th July 2015:** None
- 07/15.4 Holding Field:**
- i) Perimeter Hedge – The contract with Scofell was modified in February 2014 to a summer cut after 1st August and winter cut in February. The hedge was cut w/c 3rd August and the shape is very good but it still overhangs the footway by 1ft. There are some gaps in the hedge but attempts to fill have not been successful because people use the gaps as entrances and exits to the field. Suggest that we ask Arthur to quote for some temporary fencing when new hedge strips planted to give them a chance to grow. Ask the tree wardens for advice on how far we could cut it back without causing it to die and when best to do this before asking Scofell to quote. **Clerk**
 - ii) The tree wardens have taken a look at the Sycamore that over hangs the tennis courts and suggest it could be crown lifted. If the bottom branches are removed (some of which are very large) the tree should retain its shape and stability whilst the worst of the overlap with the tennis courts would be solved. Clerk to check if the tree is in the conservation area and write to Sentinel about their side of the tree (the tree is on Sentinel land). Quotes to be obtained from Scofell. **Clerk**
 - iii) Hiring of Holding Field for Private Functions – The clerk has received a request from a resident about hiring the field for a Wedding Reception, 20th August 2016. Resident has been advised that we cannot guarantee exclusive use as it is a public open space. The resident needs to be made aware that they would need to ensure the event was managed well, a licence was obtained, liability insurance would be required, risk assessments would need to be performed. To be referred to the OM, clerk to find out if there is to be a Marquee and if so what size, how many guests, would there be catering and if so what sort (BBQ, Hot Food etc), what toilet facilities would be provided and what parking arrangements are planned. Clerk to check what covenants are in place – N Peach will read through documentation. **Clerk**
- 07/15.5 Walkers are Welcome:** Committee agree that it would be a good accreditation to acquire but are limited in the support that can be offered. Acknowledged that the burden on the parish paths group is getting greater and suggest we look into an audit of our footpaths and come up with a plan to help maintain them. Arrange for dates to be put up on the website. **Clerk**
- 07/15.6 Gates for Stile:** Parish paths request support for replacing stile on FP88 with a gate – Clerk to write a letter of support for their grant application **Clerk**
- 07/15.7 Village Square:** A number of items have been highlighted at previous meetings and by residents visiting the parish office:-
Narrow drain between houses and main flower bed – N Peach to spray weed killer; Bed opposite McColls – N Peach to arrange planting up and replanting of lifted bulbs, weeding at that time;
Rose Pruning – N Peach to ask resident who looks after the roses to schedule;
Weeding of and maintaining – Clerk to ask Ken Cox if he would be willing to have a go.
Ivy growing over the toilet block – to be left unless it is causing a problem to the building when at such time it will be cut and left to die in situ;
B & Deane to be asked about sweeping the paved area; **Clerk**
Weeds under trees – Scofell to be asked to quote.
The contract for mowing and maintenance is due to go out to tender early next year – clerk to start compiling paper work and look to adding the flower beds into the schedule.
- 07/15.8 Damaged Yew Tree in Churchyard** – Tree warden has taken a look and advised the tree should grow normally if the damaged lower branches are removed. Alan Denness has completed the work – clerk to write and say thank you. **Clerk**
- 07/15.9 Spring Bulbs:**
N Peach is willing to plant some more spring bulbs this autumn – budget of £200.00 agreed. Clerk to inform Scofell that the areas can be mown 6 weeks after flowering, it is **N Peach
Clerk**

