



Medstead Parish Council

Minutes of Maintenance Committee Meeting – 26th March 2025, 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs. Mark Brayford, Ken Kercher, Phil Quinlan

Also in attendance: Julie Russell (Parish Clerk)

	ACTION
<p>Due to Cllr Bennell’s resignation, councillors voted to elect Cllr Brayford as chairman for the meeting. A permanent chairman will be elected at the next committee meeting after committee membership has been reviewed at Full Council.</p> <p>24.95 OPEN SESSION Nothing raised.</p>	
<p>24.96 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE None</p>	
<p>24.97 DECLARATION OF INTEREST None</p>	
<p>24.98 MINUTES Councillors resolved to confirm the minutes of the Maintenance Committee meeting on 29th January, which were signed by the chairman.</p>	
<p>24.99 DRAGON’S TEETH Councillors discussed 29 dragon’s teeth that were found to be loose following testing of all dragon’s teeth in February. This was prompted by an incident with a vehicle on the village green. Councillors decided that many of the loose teeth are on a raised bank and so are adequate for now, and will probably be firmer in drier weather as they were checked during a period of heavy rain. All the teeth will be checked again in summer, but councillors agreed that the loose ones in the layby should be replaced as soon as possible with the recommendation that they are concreted in place. The clerk will get a quote and it is expected that this will be within the ‘emergency budget’. In which case the clerk has authority to go ahead. The recommendation to leave the others for now will be put to full council.</p>	Clerk
<p>24.100 PLAYGROUND a. Following Sawscapes going into administration, part of the company has been purchased by Bespoke Garden Projects, which now employs the person who did all the quarterly operational inspections when employed by Sawscapes. Councillors agreed to use this new company going forward for its quarterly inspections, with the price remaining the same.</p>	
<p>24.101 VILLAGE POND Before the council writes to HCC about occasional flooding at the pond, the clerk will discuss the operation of the soakaway with the pond maintenance representative. Also, she will discuss the issue with Cllr Hood who has experience of walking routes to school.</p>	Clerk
<p>24.102 REVIEW OF POLICIES Councillors resolved to re-adopt the following policies: a. Cemetery Grave Diggers Regulations b. Cemetery Regulations c. Memorial Inspection</p>	

<p>The Memorial Inspection policy specifies inspections every five years on a rolling basis. We are not due an inspection in the immediate future, but the committee asked the clerk to check the records, make sure we have a schedule and are doing what the policy states and report back at the next meeting. She will also check that Cllr Bennell's recent inspection is properly documented. We may need to consider training for memorial inspection now that the previous clerk and Cllr Bennell have left, taking their expertise from the council. This will be revisited at a later point after the clerk has checked the schedule and assessed what is involved.</p>	Clerk
<p>24.103 CORRESPONDENCE AND ANY NEW MATTERS ARISING There was no new correspondence to consider.</p>	
<p>24.104 NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be held on 28th May.</p>	

There were no further matters to discuss and the meeting was closed at 7.15pm.

Signed Chairman

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