

ETWALL PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Youth Recreation and Allotments Committee held on
Monday 24th February 2020**

Present:	Committee Members	Non-Committee Members
	Cllr A Kirke	Cllr D Neal
	Cllr N Ireland	
	Cllr V Hobson	
	Cllr A Muller	One member of the public
	Cllr B Payton	
	Cllr S Mann	

620 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs Smith and Whitehouse

621 **Declaration of Interests** – All members of Etwall Parish Council attending this meeting, being automatically Trustees of the Frank Wickham Hall Charity, declared their interest.

622 **Minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2019** – Approved at Full Council meeting.

623 **Public Speaking** – None

624 **Etwall Community Group Liaison** – The Parish Council were updated on the activities and future event ideas as follows:-

- Bingo Night – This had been very successful raising £480 excluding hall hire costs.
- Easter Egg Hunt – To be held over the Easter school holidays.
- Dog Show – To be held on 4th July with dog related stalls. Permission was given for this to be held on King George V Playing Field provided that the field was left clean and tidy. Access to the toilets in the Frank Wickham Hall could be made available if it had not already been hired for other events. Reimbursement of hall hire costs to be made an agenda item for a main council meeting.
- Food and Drink Fair – To be held on 12th September. This could be the final Food and Drink Festival organised by the group.
- Christmas Lights Switch On – Sunday 6th December. Ideas included fairground rides, carol singers, mulled wine and a dance troupe display.
- Two community litter picks were being organised for April and August.
- St George’s Day Event – Ideas included a medieval village, re-enactment group with sword fighting and archery on the village green.
- VE Day Commemoration – A picnic on the park was suggested with a swing band.
- Photography competition with the best pictures of Etwall made into a calendar to be sold at the end of the year.
- Youth Club – Discussions had taken place with the two churches and there was a possibility of a film night being held at the Methodist Church and an event with huge games at St Helen’s. Ideally funding would be found to reinstate the Saturday Night Project at the Leisure Centre.

The group had also looked into village improvements which included the following:-

- Installation of a boardwalk and sensory area at the end of Old Station Close.
- Toddler play equipment and nature area at Chestnut Grove Children's Play Area – this had proved too costly so a suggestion was made to install raised beds with panels featuring a shop or train station for young children.
- It was suggested that the whole of the play equipment inside the fencing on King George V Playing Field be replaced and that a consultation took place on what it was replaced with. To avoid the existing muddy areas it was suggested that the whole area be covered in soft surfacing. Although the fencing was not appealing this was a requirement to keep dogs away from areas where young children played. A meeting of the YR&A Committee to be held to discuss replacement play equipment.
- A request had been made for hanging baskets. It was suggested that these could be sponsored. Everyone liked the idea of hanging baskets but it was felt that the cost of approx. £5,000 per year made it difficult to justify when other more permanent items were required in the village.

Ms Bailey was thanked for all of the work that she had done for the benefit of the village.

625 **Friendly Bench** – Members liked the idea of installing a friendly bench which encouraged people to sit and chat whilst surrounded by plants/flowers.

626 **Finance**

- (a) Gratuity to Allotment Holders – IT WAS DECIDED to give £70 in total to the two allotment holders in thanks for all of the work that they had done to keep the communal areas of the allotments neat and tidy.
- (b) Quotation for repairs to hardstanding area on King George V Playing Field – This item was deferred as the expected quotation had not been received. A quotation was to be requested from an alternative contractor. It was felt that this whole area needed to be replaced as soon as finance was available.

627 **King George V Playing Field**

- (a) Changes to the football pitch – Still awaiting permission from Sport England to make the changes.
- (b) Children's Play Area Drainage – It was suggested that drainage pipes be installed to take away the excess water.
- (c) Planting of native hedging/trees – A request had been received to plant native hedging/trees where tree work carried out at the request of the SDDC Tree Officer had exposed the boundary fence. IT WAS DECIDED to include this in the tree planting project that was being considered for that area.

628 **Future Use of Public Toilet Building** – As no funding was available from SDDC and it was expected that it would be very costly to convert the building into a rest room/storage area for the groundsmen, IT WAS DECIDED not to pursue this further.

- 629 **Tree Planting** – Cllr Hobson had drawn up a tree planting document with ideas for planting at both Sandypits Lane Playing Field and King George V Playing Field. The Clerk to find the map to confirm the Sandypits boundary. IT WAS DECIDED to concentrate initially on Sandypits Lane. A site meeting to be held to include a representative from the Football Club and the resident of the property most affected on Lodge Close to also be invited. Dead trees and wood needed to be cleared and it was suggested that a working party could be organised. There was a suggestion of “plant a tree for the future” where residents could be invited to purchase a tree, hold a tree planting day and all of those taking part would have their names put on a plaque.
- 630 **Allotments – Vacant Plots** – As there were a number of vacant plots it was suggested that these be offered to residents from Hilton who were on the SDDC waiting list. The allotment rent to be reviewed and the Clerk was asked to find out the cost of other allotments in the area.
- 631 **Marking of Commemorative Dates** – See above for comments relating to VE Day. VJ Day was being marked by the two churches with an afternoon tea.
- 632 **Any Other Business** - None
- 633 **Date of Next Meeting** – To be decided.

Signed

Date