



**Bar Hill Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Environment Committee Meeting**  
**Held in The Parish Council Office at 7.00pm**  
**On Wednesday 5 March 2014**

**ACTION**

<b>1. Present</b>	B Waters	Chair	(BW)
	L Baffa	Clerk	(LB)
	S Jenkins	Vice-Chair	(SJ)
	A Mitchell	Councillor	(AM)
	A Pellew	Councillor	(AP)
	M Pope	Councillor	(MP)
	A Saunders	Councillor	(AS)
	J York	Councillor	(JY)
<b>Apologies</b>	R Hall	Councillor	(RH)
	B Howard	Councillor	(BG)

**2. Skate Park Fundraising**

Sue Harris has been officially employed as a fundraiser and she attended the meeting to discuss the way forward with the Skate Park and what the Parish Council need to do. SJ reported on what has been done so far and that a Consultation Event is being held in the Octagon on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March between 10.30am and 12.30pm. This will give residents and young people alike an opportunity to speak with the Parish Council, ask questions and get their views on what is required. AS said that leaflets have already been produced for the event and these will be put around the village.

Sue Harris suggested that the grant applications be done by the Parish Council as we know the village best and what the requirements are.

The application should include the outcomes, which is the difference that a skate park would make to the village. Also by losing the old skate park what impact this has had on the young people.

A Youth Committee could be created as a liaison group and then they can be given a clear remit on what is needed. BW felt that a Youth Committee should be part of the Parish Council as we can then all speak in one voice.

Sue Harris felt this to be a good way forward and the following should be adhered to:

- A clear constitution on responsibilities
- At least 2 Parish Councillors to be on the committee
- A couple of under 18 year olds
- A couple of parents who have an interest in the skate park.

The grant applications have a 2 stage process – The first stage is an expression of interest, where the Parish Council inform the grant provider of its intentions, the reasons why etc. This should include the outcome. The second stage is the actual grant application. This has a rolling process of up to 6 months.

With stage one, we need to set the scene as the grant providers will not know the area, also pictures of the Consultation Event with the young people would be helpful.

Sue Harris will email the Clerk with the website link to the grant applications. Sue was thanked for attending and she left the meeting.



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**3. To approve minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014 were read and approved as a true record. Proposed by MP and seconded by AS. All in favour.

**4. Matters arising for discussion and decisions to be made from the previous minutes**

**Donation from Tom Flanagan** – A letter has been sent to Tom Flanagan's Solicitors but we have not had a reply as yet.

**The Scout Hut** – It was felt that the quotations for painting the Scout Hut was rather high and some Councillors have been to inspect the outside of the building and thought that perhaps just the front could be painted and tidied up. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would go back to the contractors who have already quoted and ask them to quote for the front to be painted only. C

**The Cricket Club** – This was briefly discussed as they are due to have the ground works done for the shed. SJ has asked the Cricket Club to contact the Clerk for any clarification they may need.

**5. Stream and Nature Reserve – update**

The Clerk informed the meeting that so far only one contractor, out of the five, has shown an interest in tendering for the work at the Balancing Lake. The deadline for the tenders to be received is Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March; we will have to wait to see what Rob Mongovan wishes to do.

**6. Tree Management Programme – Update**

Spencer Ambrose of K Fergusons attended the meeting and it was confirmed that they have now completed the first year of a three year grass cutting contract. Ambrose felt that apart from a few little areas that were missed, the year was a success.

With regard to the Tree Management Programme, he apologised for not getting the report back to us earlier but there is a great deal to do. He felt that some areas of hedging needs to be cut back hard this year, and then working little and often on these large hedges would be best for keeping them under control.

Working on a day rate was discussed and Ambrose felt that at times this would be economical when working on large areas, but felt that pricing per item for smaller trees/hedges would be best for both the Council and contractor alike.

Ambrose confirmed that the day rate would be £140 per man per day, this is helpful to the Parish Council when pricing up for work to be done. The Clerk has contacted 3 other contractors and asked them for their day rates, so comparisons can be made.

Ambrose also mentioned the Poplar Trees that belong to the Golf Course. These need to be cut back as they are having difficulties in cutting the grass in this area. The Clerk will write to the Hotel and ask for these trees to be cut back.

Ambrose also felt that the trees on the village green could be done in one go, on day rate as well as stump grinding and this will be looked at by the Council. He also stated that he will carry on cutting the grass at the skate park, so this area does not get too overgrown.

In his Tree Report he stated under No.33 that the Willow Tree is now in a dangerous state and needs to be worked on as a matter of urgency. Also No.26 of his report (Stonefield/Pheasant Rise) is very important to be done as soon as possible.

The stream area was also discussed and he stated that the last section of the stream (the entrance of Watermead) has not yet been finished and they will do this as soon as possible.



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Ambrose was thanked for attending the meeting and he left at 7.50pm.

BW mentioned the roller on the village green. It was confirmed this is owned by the Parish Council and BW agreed to put the roller on ebay, so we can dispose of it.

Andy Pellaw gave his apologies and left the meeting at 7.55pm.

**7. Works outstanding and approval**

003/13 - Dead trees/thick brambles to be removed from the rear of 10 Almond Grove. (To the rear there is a little green area, where it has become a dumping ground). CGM quoted £840. Ferguson quoted £420. Fergusons accepted on PO 1122 @ £378

062/13 - Road outside Bar Hill Motors to be repaired. Sean Gardiner to quote

074/13 - Area outside 39 Brambles needs to be tidied up with self-setting tree to be removed. S Lawlor to quote

076/13 - Hedge to side of 32 Spinney to be cut back. Fergusons to quote

081/13 - Oak tree at 104 Brambles to be assessed. CGM quoted £240. Accepted on PO1149

001/14 - Scout Hut building to be painted. MWP quote £1,987. S Lawlor to quote

003/14 - Rear/side of 51 Foxhollow, brambles to be cut back away from garden wall. MWP to quote

005/14 - Trees and bushes along spine path leading to Little Meadow are overhanging path plus brambles close to 93 Pheasant Rise. Fergusons to quote

007/14 - Trim Trail around village green to be removed (not to be removed, only broken sections). S Lawlor to quote. MWP quoted £1,200. C Brays quoted £1,825

008/14 - Several trees to the front of 27 Fairway needs to be pruned back. Under tree management programme (Fergusons to do the work)

009/14 - Several emergency jobs to be due to recent high winds. Brookfield to do work

011/14 - 1 Acorn Avenue – a couple of trees to be cut back. MWP to quote

012/14 - Bridge over stream at Brookdale & Appletrees to be looked at by a builder. Local builder to inspect

013/14 - Rear of 9 Robin Close is a large conifer overtaking the area

014/14 - Jobs at the Fairway to be done. Fergusons quote of £210 accepted on PO 1165

015/14 - Jobs at Robin Close and Almond Grove to be done. Fergusons quote of £370 accepted on PO 1159

016/14 - Perimeter road hedging to be flailed. Fergusons quote of £360 accepted on PO 1158

017/14 - Fencing at car park area between 46-51 Oatlands Ave needs repairing. Inspection first

018/14 - Gate post at the Willows to be replaced. Brookfield to quote



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019/14 - Large branch on main spine path between Field View and Little Meadow needs to be removed. **MWP to quote**

020/14 - Trees to rear of 134 Appletrees to be trimmed back. **MWP to quote**

021/14 - Fencing at the rear of 159 Pheasant Rise is broken and needs repairing. **Brookfield to quote.**

**6. Items for information**

**Village Hall** – MP briefly discussed the solar panels for the village hall.

**Tree maintenance** – A letter from a resident that was answered by MP was briefly discussed and it was agreed that the letter would be filed as the reply did not come directly to the Parish Council but was published in the Bar Hill News.

**Hollytrees bus shelter** – AS reported that the bus shelter at Hollytrees is very badly littered with leaves etc. and also the bin was not emptied this week. The Clerk would ask S Lawlor to clear the shelter. **C**

**Pheasant Rise bus shelter** – AM reported that there is graffiti in this bus shelter and the Clerk will ask S Lawlor to remove. **C**

**Room Hire** – AM has requested further hire of the meeting room due to the success of his language classes.

**SPARC Building** – SJ reported that the guttering on the end of the SPARC building was in need of repair as the water is coming over onto the Farmhouse premises. The Clerk will write and ask for this to be rectified. **C**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm. The next Environment Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

Signed... (Chair of the Environment Committee)