

**East Donyland Parish Council**  
Maintenance Committee Meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016  
The Football Club, Rectory Road, Rowhedge starting 7.00pm  
**MINUTES**

Cllr Helliwell, the Chairman, opened the meeting at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs Richard Helliwell, Doug Clay, Nina Crouchman, Phil George, Tony Pullon (non-committee member), Water Bailiff Dave Slavinskis, and Clerk Nicki Matthews

- 01/16 To elect a Chairman for the coming year:** PG nominated RH, DC 2<sup>nd</sup>, all agreed.
- 02/16 To elect a Vice Chairman for the coming year:** RH nominated Cllr Rowland (who was absent but had indicated he was willing to continue in this role), NC 2<sup>nd</sup>, all agreed.
- 03/16 To receive and accept apologies and to note absences:** apologies received from Cllrs Rowland and Case.
- 04/16 To minute disclosable pecuniary & non-pecuniary interest of members:** none.
- 05/16 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015:** DC, NC 2<sup>nd</sup>, all agreed.
- 06/16 Public forum - to receive information or queries from members of the public relevant to Maintenance Committee business:**
- Cllr Pullon asked the committee to consider writing to Bloor Homes to request funding (possibly £5,000 over 2 years) for additional management of green spaces in the village, e.g. verges / overhanging vegetation, that are currently managed by ECC/CBC/EDPC. PG advised that Bloor may be able to carry out the works themselves if provided with a schedule of locations and works required. TP requested that if Bloor do not agree to any funding, the committee should consider how it will improve management of these spaces. RH noted that the council will need to bear in mind the S106 contributions still under consideration, e.g. the slipway, when requesting further funds from the developers. It was agreed that this was a good opportunity to obtain funds for maintenance work, and that Bloor may see it as good PR – the council could highlight to the community how these works have been funded. *Action – Asst Clerk* to make initial contact with Bloor to explore this option.
- 07/16 To discuss riverside issues:**
- a. **To receive the Water Bailiff's report (circulated):**
- Jet skis – Maldon District Council officers now have the power to issue fixed penalty notices for excess speed etc. This may discourage jet skis from using the Blackwater and therefore increase usage on our section of the Colne. The committee agreed to write to the police asking for them to monitor the river, and inviting them to make a scheduled visit which could possibly raise the profile of the water police. *Action – Asst Clerk*
  - Debris removed from river – RH to look at the items by the hut with a view to arranging removal of them. *Action – RH*
  - Pontoon – it now appears that the Anchor pub may have banned motor cruisers from using the pub moorings, which is increasing usage of the pontoon. There is currently no formal time limit for usage and the maximum length is 37ft. It was agreed that a time limit of 2 hours should be imposed, and the length reduced to 25ft. Signage to highlight this and the 'no rafting' rule needs to be improved as discussed previously. *Action – DS & Asst Clerk*
- 08/16 To discuss a village tidy up before Regatta day on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016:**  
This was done last year, and the committee agreed that it should be repeated this year. Key areas include around the signs on Rowhedge Road, Shipyard Corner, Heath Road, and the alley between Thanet Walk and Marsh Crescent. RH offered to make use of the EDPC strimmer to carry out as much as possible voluntarily, and PG offered assistance. D Myers has

**East Donyland Parish Council**  
Maintenance Committee Meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016  
The Football Club, Rectory Road, Rowhedge starting 7.00pm  
**MINUTES**

also offered assistance and may be able to offer a second strimmer for use (the football club also has one which could be used if needed). There was concern that the voluntary work may not be sufficient. Unfortunately, because the contract from ECC is for only 2 cuts per year, any additional work on areas under ECC control cannot be recharged to them. RH proposed that up to £500 be allocated to contract additional green maintenance works prior to the regatta if needed to supplement volunteer work by councillors; PG 2<sup>nd</sup>, all agreed. RH and PG to draw up a schedule. *Action – RH & PG*

RH noted that Shipyard Corner requires screening to cover the corrugated metal exposed since recent cutting back of overgrown hedges. DC proposed £100 be allocated to purchasing and installing willow screens; RH 2<sup>nd</sup>, all agreed. *Action - RH*

DS asked if he could arrange to repaint the mooring points on the quay to make them more visible, and at a later date whether reflective signs could be installed on the seaward side of the quay wall, to highlight where mooring points are available. The committee agreed that DS should carry out the painting, and should provide details and costings for the additional signage to the next maintenance committee meeting. *Action - DS*

**09/16 To discuss surface marking for the heritage slipway:**

There is a current issue with a boat being moored on the slipway, blocking access. It was agreed to write to the owner highlighting this issue and politely reminding them that the slipway is not a mooring point and is only to be used for loading / unloading boats. If the problem persists, the council should consider cross hatching the slipway. *Action – Asst Clerk*

DS proposed that 'Keep Clear' should be painted across the block paving at the entrance to the slipway, to supplement the existing signs which are often obscured by parked cars. The committee agreed to defer this and review it if letters to owners are not effective.

**10/16 To discuss a request to work on a bench within the village from a resident:**

The committee agreed that D Myers be contacted in the first instance to see whether strimming around the benches can be improved. If this cannot resolve the issue, then a concrete plinth would be preferable to mesh and slate which may 'travel' and cause issues for mowing. The resident to be contacted and advised accordingly. *Action – Asst Clerk*

**11/16 To discuss and decide whether to participate in the salt bag partnership scheme:**

The committee agreed that as council still has significant stocks of salt in hand, there is no need to participate in the scheme this year.

**12/16 To review the updated Action List pertinent to the Maintenance Committee:**

The plan was updated as follows:

- Burial ground footpath works complete; JR to produce satisfactory risk assessment and method statement before finalising plans for removal of the fallen tree in July. *Action – JR*
- Dog bag dispensers – chase CBC and remove from the action list if this will not be delivered.
- It's Your Rowhedge – plants have been grown, JR to advise next steps. *Action – JR*
- Drainage – remove from action list, no identified outstanding issues
- Bin liners – rather than new liners, look at replacing bins on the recreation ground with lidded bins to prevent problems with litter being blown out of the bins. The cost of each replacement is £450 including installation, so will need to be a gradual programme – look at starting with the two nearest Church Hill and Colne Rise; will need to go to full council. *Action – Asst Clerk*
- Pontoon inspection – meeting with Brightlingsea Harbour needs chasing up. *Action – Asst Clerk*

**13/16 To note time and date of next meeting as 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016, 7pm:**

Noted - RH gave apologies, JR to chair.

**East Donyland Parish Council**  
Maintenance Committee Meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016  
The Football Club, Rectory Road, Rowhedge starting 7.00pm  
**MINUTES**

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Agreed as a true record.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

DRAFT