

BROOMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Broomfield Parish Council's Village Amenities Committee
Council Office at Broomfield Village Hall Wednesday 10th July**

VA19/52.	Members attending Chairman Cllr Hubble Councillors Howell, Daden, and Steed. Also present The Clerk, one member of the public.
VA19/53.	Declarations of interests There were no declarations of interest.
VA19/54.	Public Question Time A resident has written to the clerk expressing concern that the draft minutes of the meeting did not accurately reflect the decision made concerning disposal of the barn at minute VA19/44f. The Clerk noted the complaint and revised the minutes to remove the proposals to be taken to full council and recorded only that the decision was to be referred to full council.
VA19/55.	To approve the minutes of the Village Amenities Committee Meeting held 12th June 2019. The draft minutes were amended in advance of the meeting to address the concern about decision VA19/44f. For the avoidance of doubt, the Chair proposed a motion without written notice as permitted by standing order 10a iv to refer the decision to full Council. Resolved. The Village Amenities Committee will refer the decision concerning the future use of the barn to the next Full Council meeting. Proposed Cllr Hubble seconded Cllr Howell and carried unanimously. Resolved: The minutes of the Village Amenities Committee Meeting held on 12 th June 2019 are accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Hubble seconded Cllr Howell and carried unanimously.
	Allotment Site.
a.	To consider splitting plot 51b into quarter plots To be considered at a later date.
b.	To note the meeting date regarding the forming of an allotment association will be on the 31 st July in Broomfield Village Hall.

VA19/56.	Financial Matters.
a.	To receive quotation for works to the ditch area on the allotment site. The contractor has not yet submitted a price for the work.
VA19/57.	Parsonage Green
a.	To consider reducing the height of hedging around the pond to ground level. The Committee were advised that the presence of the hedge created a favourable microclimate around the pond and protected it from windblown rubbish. It also made an attractive barrier to keep people from stumbling into the water and is a valuable wildlife environment in its own right. The conservation volunteer's report stated ' <i>To prevent the pond becoming over shaded I would recommend that the hedge along the roadside be cut down as before and maintained as a low hedge, the larger trees can be left as standard trees along the hedge line</i> '. The committee agreed to ask the contractor to provide a price for doing this.
b.	To consider planting friends of the earth bee loving kits at Parsonage Green. The Clerk advised the committee that any planting scheme should respect road sight lines and should not involve deep planting. The Committee agreed that wildflowers would make an attractive scene, but not as part of an urban landscape. There is an opportunity to sow along the wall line and there are other sites that would be more suitable; Elms Close and some verges. The Committee Resolved. The Committee will purchase 25kg sack of native wildflower seed for spreading around suitable areas of uncut grass. Proposed Cllr Hubble seconded Cllr Steed and carried unanimously.
VA19/58.	Play area
a.	The Play Area Inspection Report from Wicksteed Leisure was noted. There were no concerns that required action.
VA19/59.	To receive Health & Safety Inspections. The Health & Safety Inspections were noted.
VA19/60.	To receive updates on the following; Consider obtaining a fuel card to be used by the Village Attendant. The Clerk reported that the usage would not be sufficient to get a fuel card so the clerk purchases fuel on the Council's debit card when required.

	<p>Proposed bus shelter Erick Avenue / Main Road.</p> <p>There was no update from the Clerk. The Committee is keen to proceed with the project and asked the Clerk if the Highways Agency would grant permission to install the shelter.</p> <p>Safety Surface in the play area.</p> <p>The Clerk will continue to research additional quotes for the safety surface in the play area and to prepare a funding scheme to replace the whole of the safety surfacing.</p>
VA19/61.	Correspondence Received
a.	<p>Email received regarding overgrown hedge on the path in Glebe Crescent/Main Road.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the Council cannot trim the trees until the end of the nesting season, but the Village Attendant has removed the longer suckers and immediate hazards.</p> <p>Meeting closed 8.32 p.m.</p>