

WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 01 February 2022 at 7:30pm
at the Ellendune Community Centre, Barrett Way, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9LW

- Present** Cllr J King (Chair)
Cllr L Campisano
Cllr H Dosanjh
Cllr J Hewer
Cllr N Hooper (Vice-Chair)
Cllr G Overbury
- Clerk** Emma Freemantle
Richard House: Grounds Team Manager
- Public** 0
- OS/47** **Apologies**
Apologies were received from Cllr P Bhardwaj, Cllr C Clark and Cllr L Gough.
- OS/48** **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
Cllr L Campisano and Cllr H Dosanjh declared an interest in agenda item 9.
- OS/49** **Public Questions**
There were no members of the public present.
- OS/50** **Chairs Report**
No matters to report.
- OS/51** **Minutes**
Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from the Open Spaces committee meeting on 07 December 2020.
- OS/52** **Moat Pond - S106**
Members **NOTED** that the amount of £22,742.56 in S106 funding available for the enhancement of the Moat Pond area expires on 31/10/2028.

Considerations to the use of funds to enhance the Moat Pond site were **NOTED** and further ideas will be discussed and listed in time for the next Open Spaces meeting in April.
- OS/53** **Tree planting request**
Members considered a request from a resident for WPC to re-plant a tree on Perry's Lane, a copy of the correspondence appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to agree the following response:

Members **NOTED** a request from a member of the public, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

All present **RESOLVED** to agree that as the land is not owned by Wroughton Parish Council it would not be suitable for a tree to be planted by the parish council's grounds team in the suggested area.

Action: The Clerk to liaise with the resident, Swindon Borough Council (SBC) and the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) to see if they will consider planting a larger, more mature tree in the suggested location, as an alternative option. To ensure that a replacement program is considered going forward for all new tree planted areas.

OS/54

Spring Clean

Members received an update from the Clerk regarding this year's Great British Spring Clean event.

Members **RESOLVED** to agree that the parish council will allocate two days to this year's litter pick event, Friday 08 and Saturday 09 April 2022.

Members of the public and community groups will be encouraged to join in and additional bin collections will be arranged accordingly.

OS/55

Storywalk

Members **NOTED** the email from Wroughton Library regarding the June Storywalk, a copy of the correspondence is attached as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to agree that a Platinum Jubilee themed Story Walk would be suitable for the May Half term week through the end of the Jubilee weekend. This specific StoryWalk location is to remain at Willobrook Gardens.

Members **RESOLVED** to agree to explore options of displaying the StoryWalk boards at the Moat Pond area later in the year. Members **NOTED** that the Christmas holiday would be a good time for a trial in the area in conjunction with the Christmas lights display.

OS/56

Grass Cutting

Cllr J Hewer raised concerns over the frequency of grass cutting within the village and questioned the changes from 2017 when the grounds team took over services from SBC.

An update was received from the Grounds Team Manager and members **NOTED** that the areas of grass which require maintenance have increased since taking over services previously.

Members also **NOTED** that the age of some equipment does not provide a standard of cut which would be preferred by the Council.

The Grounds Team manager confirmed that a new mower and additional grounds team member of staff would improve the level of service currently provided.

The Clerk confirmed that the additional costs have been budgeted for within the new 2022/2023 financial year and the recruitment process will be discussed further at the next appropriate Finance and General Purposes meeting.

OS/57

Parish Deeds

Members **NOTED** the report of the Clerk regarding the SBC/Parish deeds, a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

The Clerk advised that further information will be shared with the Open Spaces Committee once a meeting date has been set with representatives of Swindon Borough Council.

OS/58

Tree Maintenance Update

Members received an update from the Clerk regarding the ongoing tree maintenance in the village.

The Clerk advised that the parish council are waiting on a further quote to be received for the overall inspection which is due in 2023.

Members also **NOTED** that the urgent tree work required at Moat Pond is currently awaiting SBC approval due to the conservation area in which its position. The Clerk confirmed that the tree surgeon is available to complete works as soon as instructed.

Action: Clerk to chase up urgent tree work with SBC.

The meeting closed at 8:42pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman of Open Spaces