



OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 02 August 2022 at 7:30pm
at the Ellendune Community Centre, Barrett Way, Wroughton, Swindon, SN4 9LW

Present Cllr N Hooper (Vice Chair)
Cllr L Campisano
Cllr H Dosanjh
Cllr J Hewer
Cllr G Overbury

Clerk Oliver Armstrong (Deputy Clerk)

Richard House (Grounds Team Manager)

Public 0

OS/15 **Apologies**
Apologies were received from Cllr L Gough.

OS/16 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
There were no declarations of interest or applications for dispensation.

OS/17 **Public Questions**
There were no members of the public present.

OS/18 **Chairs Report**
The Chair reported several members of the Open Spaces committee attended a meeting at the Moat Pond to review the condition of the pond and surrounding area. The members present agreed they would like to see the pond and surrounding area improved. The grounds team had since removed duck weed which was covering the pond, this unfortunately returned within a week.

There had been no update on the Pitches verge restoration and the Deputy Clerk was awaiting a response from SBC.

A member of the public reported to the Deputy Clerk her dissatisfaction at the state of the stream adjacent to the Willow-Brook Garden. The Vice-Chair and Cllr Overbury attended a site meeting with the Deputy Clerk to review the condition of the stream and both councillors raised concerns regarding the health and safety of the overgrown vegetation in the stream. The stream could not be clearly identified due to the dense vegetation.

The Deputy Clerk had contacted the Environment Agency to report the condition of the stream and to determine when the next maintenance cycle would take place.

The Vice-Chair stated he supported Cllr G Overbury's interest in becoming the Chair of the Open Spaces committee which should be determined at the next Full Council

meeting.

OS/19

Grounds Manager Update

The Grounds Team Manager stated the grass schedule had been much easier to cope with due to the favourable weather conditions, the grass was growing at a much reduced rate.

Anti-social behaviour was becoming a problem across several sites in the village, especially at Maunsell Way. The Grounds compound was continually being climbed upon and the yard area was being broken into. Unfortunately, this had resulted in the Grounds Manager attending the site outside of normal working hours to re-secure the yard and liaise with Police.

Items inside the container had been broken due to this action. CCTV recordings from Maunsell Way pavilion had been sent over to the Police.

Members asked for an update on the new Grounds workshop, the Deputy Clerk said there was no further update.

The Deputy Clerk reported that anti-climb/vandal paint would be a suitable deterrent.

OS/20

Asset Storage

Members **NOTED** an update from the Grounds Team Manager regarding the delivery of the new mower and the new storage location of the Kubota tractor.

OS/21

Weir Field Football Goals

Members **NOTED** the report from the Deputy Clerk, a copy of which appears as appendix A.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the purchase of a pair of mens football goals, chain locks and spare parts up to £5,000, the costs to be met from S106 fund (£49,004 remaining).

Members requested the Deputy Clerk review the eligibility and timescales of the Football Foundation grant funding prior to purchasing the goals.

Members **NOTED** the goals would be stored on the Weir Field as explained within the report with a condition the clubs remove the nets after each game and the clubs would be responsible for any damage.

The Deputy Clerk will need to obtain quotes for laying astro turf for the goal areas.

OS/22

Sports Hire Facilities 2023

Members **NOTED** the report from the Deputy Clerk, a copy of which appears as appendix B in the minute book.

Members **RESOLVED** to increase all sports hire facility prices by 8.2% rising to the rate of inflation at the time the rise is implemented in August 2023.

OS/23

Tree Survey Report

Members **NOTED** the tree survey and the report from the Deputy Clerk, a copy of which appear as appendix C and D respectively in the minute book.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the quote from Transition Trees for £620

OS/24

Wroughton Village Sign

Members **NOTED** the Facebook response to the proposed new village signage on Brimble Hill.

Members **DEFERED** the item to a future date.

OS/25

Allotment WP

Members **NOTED** the report from the Allotment & Administration Officer, a copy of which appears as appendix E in the minute book.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the offer of free rent to the plot holder of allotment no. 113 until April 2023.

Members **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Allotments & Administration Officer and Chair of Open Spaces to offer a period of free allotment rent to tenants who take on a significantly overgrown plot or a plot which has significant waste.

OS/26

Moat Pond

Members **RESOVLED** to approve the cost up to £250 for Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to undertake a routine assessment of Moat Pond, cost to be met from Moat Pond Maintenance (4340/150).

OS/27

Members of the Public Correspondence

Members **NOTED** the correspondence received from members of the public. A copy of which appears as appendix F in the minute book.

Members discussed the request for a tree to be planted on Perrys Lane. Members requested the Clerk obtain further information from SBC before reviewing this item once again.

The Deputy Clerk reported that he had attended a site meeting on Willow-Brook Garden with a member of the public who was dissatisfied with the condition of the stream and also highlighted a perceived safety issue. The Deputy Clerk explained the responsibility of the issues were not that of WPC and will have to be reported to SBC and the Environment Agency.

Members requested the Deputy Clerk to contact SBC and the Environment Agency.

The meeting closed at 8:52pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Vice-Chairman of Open Spaces