



Wheatley Parish Council Open Spaces Committee Meeting Minutes for Monday, September 18, 2023.

Present: Andrew Cooper (Chairman), Toby Newman, Alison Sercombe, Anthony Shepherd,
Paul Willmott, Peter Ramsdale

Apologies: Lizzie Tully

Officer: Clerk

Members of the Public: 4

The meeting opening at Meeting open at 19:30 and closed at 20:28

- #31/2023-24** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - -None
- #32/2023-24** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** -
- #33/2023-24** **TO RECEIVE MINUTES FROM OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17TH JULY 2023** were approved by the committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
- #34/2023-24** **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**
- i. Biodiversity working group to be created and meeting to be arranged – Cllr Newman and Cllr Sercombe and Cllr Shepherd agreed to create the working group.
- #35/2023-24** **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK**
- i. Consultation for permissive footpath through Littleworth Allotments continues, deadline is at the end of September. Focus Group is being held on Monday 25th September.
 - ii. Smoke free play areas – no update as awaiting commitment from primary school.
 - iii. Update on fly tipping at top of Littleworth – waste has been removed.
 - iv. Maintenance tasks completed and planned – Clerk gave an overview of
 - v. Update on Coopers Close footpath – no update, Clerk to chase.
- #36/2023-24** **TO CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST FOR CAROLS IN THE REC (WHEATLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH).**
Committee supported the event and granted permission for the event to take place in Church Rd Rec.
- #37/2023-24.** **TO DISCUSS TREE WORK**
- i. To consider tree planting proposal from resident – Resident was in attendance and gave a summary of their proposals. WPC agreed to investigate the issue of the dead/dying trees with contractors.
Planting behind garage could potentially cause issues and

suggested Cllr Shepherd visit the site to look at planting options.

Legacy planting for Farm Close Patio, to be revisited if and when the Willow is taken down to be looked at.

In Farm Close Rec the suggestion of planting on the south side was agreed in principle, prior to further site visits, suggested species and volunteer agreements are in place.

- ii. To receive an update on tree work – Clerk has chased contractors for outstanding work and quotes.

Task: Farm Close Footpath site visit @Anthony Shepherd 2023-09-27

#38/2023-24. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR GIGACLEAR TO ACCESS PC LAND AT ENTRANCE TO LITTLEWORTH INDUSTRIAL ESTATE -approved

#39/2023-24. TO CONSIDER REGISTERING UNREGISTERED LAND IN WHEATLEY

- i. Triangular piece of land along Farm Close Lane – clerk to approach OCC
- ii. Verge on Crown Square - clerk to approach OCC
- iii. Verge at junction of Roman Rd and Ambrose Rise footpath - clerk to approach OCC
- iv. The Triangle- clerk to approach OCC
- v. Village Green on High St – approved to progress this
- vi. Muddy Lane – no action to be taken

Task: Check with OCC re registering of ?OCC land @Clerk 2023-09-27

#40/2023-24. TO DISCUSS PLAY AREAS & RECREATION GROUNDS

- i. To receive Annual Play Inspection Reports and maintenance requirement - noted
- ii. Ongoing maintenance – Clerk had previously circulated a breakdown of the actions. Grounds team have actioned those that are in their skillset, others will require contractors to repair. Clerk to seek quotes and items.

Task: Organise quotes/repairs for play equipment @Clerk 2023-09-27

#41/2023-24. TO CONSIDER BUDGET COMMITMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR 2024-25

- i. Play areas and recs
- ii. Littleworth field
- iii. Allotments and allotment fees.
- iv. Trees
- v. War memorial and Lock up
- vi. Grass cutting
- vii. Footpaths
- viii. General maintenance
- ix. External funding

Committee agreed that the council will need to apply for more external grants to support their projects and objectives.

#42/2023-24. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANY URGENT ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION

-None

#43/2023-24. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Clerk and Chairman attended CFO conference on Stewardship, working with developers to create accessible, well managed green, open spaces, with the community and managing the spaces for the community. Details of the event were shared with the community. Burial ground – revisited whether the current vicarage orchard could be used. This was to be revisited once new vicar was in post. Resident mentioned the new appointment at OCC was willing to support tree planting in the village.

#44/2023-24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 20th November 2023