

# Wheatley Parish Council Open Spaces Committee

## Minutes Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**Present:** P Bignell (PB), A Cooper (AC) (Chairman), T Newman (TN), A Sercombe (AS), A Shepherd (ASh), L Tully (LT).

**Officer:** M Legg (Clerk)

**Members of Public:** 0

**The meeting opened at 7.30pm and closed at 20:30**

No	Item	Action
1.	<b>ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE</b> – Cllr Shepherd proposed Cllr Cooper continue as a chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Newman and approved by the committee.	
2.	<b>ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE</b> - Cllr Shepherd proposed Cllr Willmott to continue as vice-chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Newman and approved by the committee.	
3.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> – Cllr Lawrence, Willmott’s apologies were received and approved.	
4.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> – none	
5.	<b>TO APPROVE MINUTES</b> from meeting held on 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2022, were approved, and signed as a true record of the meeting.	
6.	<b>OUTSTANDING ACTIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Item 78 21-22 – need to arrange site visit with Howe Trust to look at sites for storage area. Update from Cllr Shepherd regarding Castle Hill Farm. – <b>to be progressed.</b></li><li>ii) Item 85 21-22 – School seems willing to resurrect the Littleworth Playing Field Trust meetings, <b>waiting for this to be progressed.</b></li></ul>	
7.	<b>UPDATE FROM THE CLERK</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Village Square Planters installed and have been planted out. <b>Bedding plants to be purchased by Clerk/GMO</b></li><li>ii) Weed control has been undertaken across the village.</li><li>iii) Benches at Littleworth and London Rd will be installed shortly.</li><li>iv) Grass cutting regime has begun</li><li>v) Maintenance to noticeboards is ongoing</li><li>vi) Clerk chasing ODS for quarterly play area inspections and outstanding work.</li><li>vii) Weekly inspections continue</li><li>viii) No update on resident’s fence repairs</li><li>ix) Two key events taking place over next couple of months</li></ul>	<b>Clerk/GMO</b>
8.	<b>TO CONSIDER SEASONAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE WORK</b> As well as planned work to install new benches and ongoing tasks the committee discussed areas of work to include the tree works at the Allotment, footpath clearance.	
9.	<b>TO DISCUSS ALLOTMENTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Allotment inspections to be arranged – <b>Clerk to arrange a date with Cllr Cooper and Willmott (TBC)</b></li><li>ii) 24-hour gate closure – <b>Clerk to notify allotment holders and display</b></li></ul>	<b>Clerk</b> <b>Clerk</b>

- 10. TO DISCUSS LITTER AND FLY TIPPING IN THE VILLAGE**
- i) The litter crew are continuing to clear areas within village.
  - ii) Autumn Litter pick – agreed to the principle to a village Litter pick on 24<sup>th</sup> of September. Areas of the village to be zoned with one or two councillors to lead litter picking in these zones. **Cllr Newman to draft zones for further discussion** **TN**
  - iii) Recent fly tipping - Beech Rd, ironing board and other items appeared. Clerk reported issues with household waste in memorial garden bins. Properties in the vicinity have received a letter about this. **Clerk**
  - iv) Additional bins – **Clerk to contact SODC to see if additional bins could be installed on Littleworth Rd and Farm Close Rd.**
- 11. TO DISCUSS TREE WORK**
- i) Tree surveys – Reports from Allotment tree surveys received. **GMO to carry out minor works.** **GMO**
  - ii) Lime tree in Memorial Garden – concerns over health of tree. Clerk is awaiting details and costs for further investigations. **Clerk to chase arborist for quote** **Clerk**
  - iii) Replanting – Autumn replanting at Holton Playing fields. Woodland Trust are now taking orders. Committee agreed to hedging packs that would fill the gaps in the existing hedge. **Clerk to purchase** **Clerk**
- 12. TO DISCUSS FOOTPATHS IN THE VILLAGE –**
- i) Agreed to top up the gravel on the steps at the bottom section of Old Rd and Littleworth.
  - ii) Footpath between Old Rd and Keydale Road to be checked.
- 13. TO DISCUSS ANY OTHER OPEN SPACES**
- i) Farm Close Rd Rec being used by dog walkers. Clerk has raised this as an issue on social media. Committee agreed for **Clerk to write to all households that back onto the site.** **Clerk**
  - ii) Burial ground was discussed, and current situation discussed, no further developments
  - iii) Watering of planters – Chairman was concerned over watering of the planters. Committee considered asking resident to see if we could install a water butt and utilise the rainwater. **Clerk to investigate this with residents** **Clerk**
- 14. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ITEMS NEEDING URGENT ATTENTION**  
- none
- 15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION - none**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022**