

Wheatley Parish Council Open Spaces Committee

Minutes Monday 18th July 2022

Present: P Bignell (PB), D Lawrence (DL), T Newman (TN), A Sercombe (AS), A Shepherd (ASh), L Tully (LT), P Wilmott (PW) (Chairman for meeting).

Officer: M Legg (Clerk)

Members of Public: 1

The meeting opened at 7.30pm and closed at 21:15

- | No | Item | Initial |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 16. | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from Cllr Cooper. His apologies were accepted and approved. Cllr Willmott chaired the meeting. | |
| 17. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Nonpecuniary interests were recorded for Cllr Willmott for Wheatley Rugby Club and Wheatley Playing Fields Trust. | |
| 18. | MINUTES from meeting held on 16 th May 202 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting. | |
| 19. | OUTSTANDING ACTIONS | |
| | 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. | Clerk |
| | ii) Item 9i -22-23 Allotment inspection date to be arranged | Clerk |
| 20. | TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK | |
| | i) Issues with raised seating seem to be resolved. | |
| | ii) Bench at London Rd has been installed. Other to be installed shortly | |
| | iii) Weekly inspections continue | |
| | iv) Allotment gate closure was carried out. | |
| | v) Farm Close Rd – dogs, letters sent, and reports made. | |
| | vi) Feedback from Play & Activity Day 2022 Positive feedback from the day. The committee wanted to thank the Clerk and children for their help on the day. Report circulated from OPA. | |
| | vii) Feedback on grounds tasks completed since last meeting was shared. | |
| 21. | TO AGREE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEE- agreed and to be presented to full council in September. | Clerk |
| 22. | TO DISCUSS LITTER AND FLY TIPPING IN THE VILLAGE | |
| | i) Litter crew. Co-ordinator gave an update. The crew has not been very active, but now highway grass has been cut the litter is more visible. Co-op have a litter picking day on 28 th July and it is hoped that their staff will help out. | |
| | ii) Autumn Litter pick – documents had been shared before the meeting. Adverts are being shared in the next edition of Wheatley News. Clerk has requested additional litter pickers. Clerk to order replacement pickers for council staff. | Clerk |
| | iii) SODC litter mapping - noted | |
| | iv) Recent fly tipping – issues with SODC reporting mechanism has been reported to SODC Cllr Kantor. | |
| | v) Additional bins – SODC are undertaking a review of bins. A request for three new bins has been logged but on hold whilst the review is being undertaken. | |
| 23. | TO CONSIDER SEASONAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE WORK | |
| | i) Watering equipment. The committee considered the range of options and decided on a bladder and pump. Clerk to order. | |
| | ii) Other tasks being or to be carried out – installation of bench at Littleworth Green, continuing to stain noticeboards, watering of trees and planted areas, painting of memorial garden railings. | |

24. TO DISCUSS TREE WORK

- i) Tree surveys for 2022. To include the poplars at Holton playing fields, village green, Church Rd Rec (Church Rd end) and others due on the schedule. Awaiting information from contractor.
- ii) Lime tree in Memorial Gardens – awaiting health survey.
- iii) Replanting – Autumn replanting at Holton Playing fields.

25. TO DISCUSS FOOTPATHS IN THE VILLAGE

Committee asked to consider request for additional finance towards repairs in the next budget. Committee noted.

27. TO DISCUSS PLAY/RECREATION AREAS

- i) Quarterly play inspections quotes – approved Company 1 (ODS, £1,000 per year + VAT).
- ii) Annual play inspections – Play safety will be carrying out the inspections in July/August.
- iii) Safety surfacing for Cullum Rd Rec due to be carried out in August.
- iv) Boundary fence with 1 Gardiner Close. Committee were disappointed with the resident's response. The temporary fencing installed by the council will stay in place. Clerk to investigate planting scheme for the area to deter climbing.

28. TO DISCUSS COMMENTS FROM HIGH ST CONSULTATION

Committee approved purchase of three cycle racks for village square and one cast iron/recycled plastic bench under Hornbeams. **Clerk to order**

Clerk

29. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON COOPERS CLOSE FOOTPATH

Clerk gave an update on the legal agreement between developer and OCC. It is hoped that it will be signed in the coming weeks.

30. TO DISCUSS OTHER OPEN SPACES

- i) Ambrose Rise ditch – It was thought that Thames Water would need to access the silt traps to clear them out. **Clerk to investigate**
- ii) Other areas
 - a. Littleworth apron reinstating footpath across the apron. Committee agreed to arrange a site visit to look at the issue.
 - b. Fence at Holton Playing Fields, further investigations have shown further issues with the fencing. A revised specification, including concrete posts, has been drafted and was approved by the committee. Committee agreed to seek quotes to remove the existing fence and to find suitable fencing options.

Clerk

31. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND ITEMS NEEDING URGENT ATTENTION

- i) Request for gravel top up on Littleworth-old Rd footpath - approved
- ii) Resident request to replace boundary fence on allotment – noted
- iii) Milestone #46 noted. The marker remains visible.

32 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION - none

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 19th September 2022