



HATFIELD BROAD OAK PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, CAGE END, HATFIELD BROAD OAK AT 8.30PM ON TUESDAY, 23RD AUGUST 2022

PRESENT: Cllrs Tessa Pemberton (Chairman), Alan Fisher, Tracy Marsh, Terry Marsh and Chris Webb.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jackie Deane (Locum Clerk).

473. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. There were no members of the public present.

Note: At the Extraordinary Council Meeting, it was agreed as an interim measure that committee meetings will be replaced by working group meetings during the sickness absence of the Clerk. All members of the committee will be working group members and the meetings will be advertised and open to the public. All recommendation from the working group will be set as agenda items for Full Council decision.

474. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Cllr Smith were received and accepted.

475. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

There are several outstanding queries on the published draft minutes of the committee meeting held on 26th July, to be considered for amendment and approval at the next meeting or Full Council meeting, once the discrepancies have been clarified with the Clerk.

476. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Strutt declared non-pecuniary and personal non prejudicial interests for the Village Green and Recreation Ground items as the Trustee of the HBO Sports and Community Club, Head Coach and Chair of HBO Youth FC, Secretary of the Cricket Club, and Instructor of the Kung Fu Club.

477. MAINTENANCE

a) ROSPA repairs - Several quotes have been requested for repairs on the RoSPA report.
Action: Cllrs Tracy Marsh and Cllr Strutt will liaise and obtain additional quotes for recommendation at the next meeting.

b) Play equipment removal - Cllr Tracy Marsh had circulated 2 quotes ahead of the meeting, for removal of an item of play equipment and the rubber surface and to reinstate the grass. Cllr Strutt suggested that local contractors could carry out the works. Members were open to quotes for contractors in the future but decided to consider the available quotes for the works.

RESOLVED to accept a quote from Broadmead Leisure to the sum of £2,100.

Signed _____ Date _____



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(Proposed by Cllr Tracy Marsh, seconded by Cllr Pemberton and carried 5 for, 1 against.)

- c) Vandalism to playground equipment - Cllr Strutt reported that he had removed a broken piece of equipment for safety reasons. He believes that any replacement should be constructed of higher quality materials.
- d) Offer of CCTV equipment - Cllr Strutt raised concerns over taking up the offer from a resident to provide a security camera due to regulations and potential liability from recording children in a public area. The Locum Clerk advised that the Parish Council would be required to adopt a specific policy and specific training would be required prior to installation of CCTV.
Action: The Chairman agreed to contact the resident and explain the situation.
- e) Gate – members discussed the contractor delay in obtaining the gate.
Action: Cllr Strutt agreed to speak to the contractor and establish when the gate would be delivered and installed.
- f) Playground equipment – an update on the trim trail equipment would be discussed at the next meeting.
- g) Monthly equipment checks – no issues were reported.
- h) Litter bins – there was a brief discussion over the problems of gaining permission to empty the bin on Diocese-owned land.
Action: The Chairman agreed to speak with the landowner and give an update at the next meeting.
- i) Platinum Jubilee benches at the Rec and Village Green – a delivery date has been given for the bench by the Village Green.
Action: Cllr Terry Marsh agreed to measure the gate and liaise with the company regarding delivery and installation. The working group will agree on a position for the bench on the Village Green, by meeting on site.
- j) Laurel Hedge – there was a brief discussion over the need for the hedge to be cut during bird nesting season and that the contractor had confirmed that there were no nests prior to carrying out the works. This information has been passed to the resident to address their complaint.

478. VILLAGE GREEN

- a) Application to hold an event – there was a brief discussion over reasons not to permit a community event and how individual councillors had responded. Cllr Tracy Marsh explained that full details and a risk assessment were not received in time for the event to go ahead.
- b) Weekly checks- the June checklist has been received.

Signed _____ Date _____



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c) Maintenance of the pitches - a quote has been requested for maintenance of the football and cricket pitches.

d) Strimming – the work has been completed.

479. OTHER AREAS OF OUTSIDE SPACE

a) Broad Street Green – the Chairman has confirmed that the area near Broad Street Green has been added to the contractor's schedule.

b) Ann Lees path maintenance – regular maintenance is due.

Action: The Chairman agreed to ask the Council's usual contractor to quote for maintenance including the stream bed and for the contractor to advise when the work can be done.

c) Tree replacement – no update.

d) Pond – no update.

Action: Cllr Fisher and Cllr Tracy Marsh agreed to liaise and prepare an update for the meeting.

e) Path around walking football pitch – no update

f) Bollard on Cage End – no update.

Action: Cllr Strutt agreed to contact the previous clerk to identify the make of the bollard.

Action: The Chairman agreed to check with the Clerk if the insurance company has been contacted regarding the bollard.

g) Ring Drain – There was a brief discussion on drainage issues and potential remedial works. There was a suggestion to install a storage tank whereby water could be collected and then used for irrigation.

480. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Proposal for the inclusive pedestrian entrance to the green with a slight slope.

481. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next working group meeting will be advertised for the public to attend.

The meeting closed 9.30pm