



**Open Spaces Committee
Minutes
Monday 27th January 2020**

Parish Councillors in attendance: Chairman Max Harwood (MH), Adrian Collins (AC), Fiona Dix (FD), Val Farren (VF), Zoe MacLehose (ZM) and Mairi Rennie (MR).

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

Meeting started at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Max Harwood

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- 1) **Recording of the meeting** - It was noted that the meeting would not be recorded.
- 2) **Representations by the public:** None.
- 3) **Apologies for absence:** Carolyn Butler (CB).
- 4) **Declarations of interest:** None.
- 5) **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 25th November 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 6) **Footpaths**
 - a) MH reported a tree down at Fyning recreation ground - he has obtained a quote so made the proposal of **resolution 'Simon Wright to cut up and move tree from footpath'** which was seconded by AC and unanimously approved.
 - b) ZM reported a tree fallen across the footpath near Souter's Copse before the little bridge. MH/ZM to ascertain exact place so Clerk can report to owner.
 - c) MH noted concerns reported about the width of the footpath adjacent to the A272 from Garbett's Lane to the village and danger of trying to use with a pushchair. The Clerk noted cutting back of the adjacent bank is on WSCC Highways works list but there is no indication as to when this will happen. After discussion, it was agreed the parish council are unable to do Highways work. There was agreement the path has been the same for years, but the speed/size of lorries has increased. It was hoped (if purchased) a speed awareness camera in the area could reduce speed and to urge as many people as possible to report on 'lovesussex'. FD to write item for R&T.
 - d) MH noted she, MH and the Clerk are looking at the path behind the White Horse and advice is being sought as to whether or not the route can be from A272 to the steps or if it will need to include going across the Recreation Ground to North Street. When this is confirmed (with legal advice if necessary) the neighbours will be informed.
 - e) AC suggested bringing a village map to future meetings; he will bring his.
- 7) **Woodland Management Plan –**
 - a) MH explained the plan is over ten years to allow time for woodland to recover between work. Last year the chestnut was coppiced.
 - b) FD's suggestion to cut back a further area of holly at Terwick Woodland was welcomed but it was noted any work would need to be completed before March nesting season. FD/MH to pace out area and talk to contractor previously used.
 - c) AC expressed concern over the ongoing management; the Clerk felt somebody experienced/independent should possibly walk around the sites each year (in a similar way to the playgrounds being inspected). MH to talk to Bob Epsom, SDNP for advice.
 - d) It was agreed to revisit the plan and consider thinning trees at Rake Recreation Ground.
MH to ask SW to look thinning trees at Rake with him; Clerk to send management plan to committee; AC/FD to work on forward plan for next meeting.

8) **Garbitts Wood** – VF reported it is looking tidy and some hedges have been re-laid.

9) **Play areas**

- a) MH reported the new roller log has been installed in the village playground.
- b) Clerk has ascertained parish councils are unable to apply for the WSCC CLC micro grant. We have £875.06 New Homes Bonus grant towards the fence at Hugo Platt – estimates range from £1,790 to repair; replacement at £3,750 (like for like) £3,150 (same but square posts) or £8,996.81 (metal). After discussion, about whether to repair/replace it was agreed its prudent to replace. Clerk to obtain another quote for like-for-like replacement. AC/MH to talk to WSCC Volunteers to see if they would be interested in helping.

10) **SSE Cables at Fyning recreation ground** – Clerk had chased SSE are still trying to ascertain the route and ownership.

11) **Woodland trust – tree planting**

MR noted the Conservation Volunteers 'I dig trees' are giving away lots of 50 whip trees in different varieties. MH noted both schools have got some. After discussion, it was not felt appropriate to plant any on parish land, but MR write item for R&T to encourage parishioners to apply.

12) **Rake bus shelter**

AC reported he, MH and the Clerk are meeting Darren Rolfe, WSCC Volunteers this week to discuss designs/costs. It is hoped to include a notice board and a bin. He will talk to Flying Bull about bin emptying and provision of drinks for the volunteers if we are able to use them. Highways have erected a site notice asking for objections.

13) **Rogate bus shelter bin**

- a) ZM noted the bin has been delivered and should be installed in next couple of weeks; the contractor will do the tarmac at the same time as another job so its cost effective.
- b) There was much discussion about litter in the village and specifically the laybys on A272 coming into the village by the bottom of Slade Lane. Clerk to ask CDC of possible to have more bins or some 'take your litter home' signs.
- c) It was noted the litter pick-up was held in March last year – Clerk to include on February agenda.
- d) FD noted the changes in recycling centre access – Rogate residents are no longer going to be able to use Petersfield as it is in a different county. This seems short-sited considering the environmental cost of fuel to travel further and that county boundaries even out.

14) **Trim trail**

AC noted through the Recreation facilities monkey-survey Rake residents supported a trim trail. After much discussion, it was agreed the concept may not have been clear to everybody, but the idea was supported. It was agreed Fyning Recreation ground could be a good site to consider along with other ideas suggested - tree information via tags/mobile phones, wooden sculptures. It was agreed to develop the idea further later in the year. AC to ask WSCC volunteers if they may be interested in helping.

15) **Date of next meeting:** The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 7.30 on Monday 23rd March 2020 at Rogate Village Hall Pavilion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

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Chairman

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Date