



**Open Spaces Committee  
Minutes  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020**

Meeting via 'Zoom' video conferencing - started at 7.30pm.

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

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

Chairman: Max Harwood

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- 1) **Recording of the meeting** - It was noted that the meeting would not be recorded.
- 2) **Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**
  - a) The Clerk called for nominations for the Chair. MR's proposal that MH continue was seconded by FD and, with no other nominations, unanimously approved.
  - b) The Clerk called for nominations for the Vice-Chair. MR's proposal that AC continue was seconded by ZM and, with no other nominations, unanimously approved.
- 3) **Apologies for absence:** Val Farren (VF).
- 4) **Declarations of interest:** None.
- 5) **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020 were approved for signing by the Chairman.
- 6) **Actions from last meeting**
  - a) 'Don't pick-lick' signs – ongoing when ZM more able.
  - b) Garage footway – FD noted stinging nettles are further reducing the path width and need strimming.
  - c) Stile on path 1151 – no update.
  - d) Holly at Terwick – MH to contact Roger Fitter.
  - e) Oliver's Piece – ongoing when Coronavirus lockdown allows.
  - f) Registering land – documents with Solicitor.
  - g) Bull Hill – Steve Williamson offered to be warden. AC & MH to meet him when Coronavirus lockdown allows. It was agreed to appoint PC wardens for all Open Spaces:

Fyning Recreation Ground	-	Max Harwood
Oliver's Piece	-	Adrian Collins
Rake Recreation Ground	-	Steve Williamson
Terwick Woodland	-	Fiona Dix
  - h) Vision statement – ongoing.
  - i) Picnic bench ordered with maximum fitted price of £350 (£250 VE75 grant and £100 PC funds). AC, MH, MR and FD to meet to agree siting location. When installed AC will carve an inscription for VE75 day.
  - j) AC noted he has collected the Parish Council stencil to allow him to mark the grit bins with our name; he will check their salt levels at the same time. FD reminded him she has an empty bin waiting to go along the top road in the Autumn.
- 7) **Representations by the public:** None.
- 8) **Footpaths**
  - a) MH noted Tullecome and A272 Durleigh Marsh layby are listed on a gay meeting place website which has caused some concern. It was agreed that other than being aware and reporting any incidents to the Police there is not really anything we can do.
  - b) MH noted WSCC have circulated guidance on footpath use and reminded owners of their responsibility to keep paths clear.

- c) Concern was raised concerning planting of maize, potatoes and a leaking irrigation pipe; MH to clarify so we can report to WSCC footpath warden.
- d) MH noted WSCC are due to resume summer clearance schedule – let us know any problems. It was noted the recent increase in use has helped keep some paths clear.

**9) Woodland Management Plan –**

- a) MH noted Fyning Recreation ground is due to be cut next week.
- b) MH expressed some concern over 3 or 4 dead trees on the bridle path and by the car park; FD to have a look and MH to talk to contractor.
- c) Simon Amott has quoted £750 to fell some dead chestnut trees at Terwick Woodland which are overhanging Fyning Lane. After agreeing it appeared good value MH’s proposal of **resolution ‘to accept quote of £750 from Simon Amott to fell chestnut trees at Terwick Woodland’** was seconded by AC and unanimously agreed.
- d) AC’s suggestion that be become a ‘preferred supplier’ was supported. Finance committee to look at how we can use reliable suppliers who provide a good service as it is not always practical/fair to obtain alternative quotes.

**10) Play areas -** MH reported the annual playground inspections have been carried out.

- a) The fence at Hugo Platt has fallen down; Clerk noted it is due to be replaced in July – start date had been delayed because of Coronavirus.
- b) One high risk urgent concern was raised over a decaying top timber beam on the suspended log walk. The Chairman/Clerk have given approval for its replacement (as cost is less than £500).
- c) The other highlighted item is the replacement of beams on the swing – estimate of £1,750 to be discussed at next full council meeting. Parts of this have gradually been replaced; these will be the final bits to have created a new set of swings.
- d) MH noted the inspection reports a lot of wood starting to split at Hugo Platt – Clerk to check installation dates and guarantee though AC added it is hard to stop wood splitting in dry weather.
- e) R.J. Playgrounds have been sent the report and will quote for all necessary repairs.

**11) Use of Open Spaces policy**

Prior to the meeting a draft policy had been circulated by Clerk followed by a note from FD who is doing some research into the use of Village Greens and suggested we to put together a plan for an appropriate policy that works within the law for the residents for all our Open Spaces. She has made some progress but research is ongoing so her proposal to defer any discussion was agreed.

**12) Review of Terms of reference for Open Spaces Committee**

- a) These were circulated prior to the meeting. With no questions, after amending ‘Halle’ to ‘Hall’ MH’s proposal of **resolution ‘to accept the Open Spaces Committee Terms of reference’** was seconded by FD and unanimously approved.
- b) It was noted the Winter plan will need reviewing.

**13) Date of next meeting:** The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 7.30 on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at Rogate Village Hall Pavilion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.26pm.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**