

Open Spaces Committee Minutes Monday 26th July 2021

Meeting held at Fyning Recreation Ground - started at 6.30pm.

Parish Councillors in attendance: Chairman Max Harwood (MH), Adrian Collins (AC), Laura Craven (LC), Zoe MacLehose (ZM) and Mairi Rennie (MR).

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Chairman: Max Harwood www.rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk Clerk: Debbie Harknett max.harwood@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk clerk@rogateparishcouncil.gov.uk

- 1) It was noted the meeting would not be recorded.
- 2) There were no apologies for absence as all the committee were present.
- 3) There were no declarations of interest.
- 4) There were no representations from the public.
- 5) The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 24th May 2021 were approved for signing by the Chairman.

6) Actions from last meeting were noted (unless elsewhere on agenda):

- a) WSCC Volunteers have been delayed in installing the Rake bus shelter and repairing the seat at the Dell because their leader has suffered an injury.
- b) Land registration Clerk has been in contact with WSCC records office but they are still not properly open will try again in a few weeks.

7) Woodland management

- a) MH and AC met with Roger Fitter at Fyning Recreation Ground; he may know somebody to remove some of the scotch pine and some more holly from Terwick Woodland later in the year.
- b) The fallen tree at Fyning Recreation ground has been cleared and the grass is due to be cut before the end of this month.
- c) The hole near the picnic bench at Fyning Recreation Ground was noted; Clerk to ask contractor if he could fill (there is spoil from the picnic bench installation nearby).
- d) MH noted he has rung four contractors for a price to Bull Hill hedge trimming but hasn't received a quote yet. ZM added she could put a request out on Rogate Next Door if he doesn't have any success.
- e) AC reported he had checked Oliver's Piece following reports of tree felling and can confirm nothing has been cleared. He volunteered to trim the gorse that is obstructing the view but suggested it needed grubbing out to stop further growth. LC to ask volunteers if they may be able to help.

8) Footpaths:

- a) MH noted we have received the annual PROW (public rights of way) report which had been circulated
- b) Reports of overgrown/narrow paths at black bridge, A272-Bluebell Wood; Parsonage-Slade Lane; Home Farm-Village Hall have been reported to the WSCC footpath ranger.

9) Play areas/outdoor gym:

- a) MH noted annual RoSPA playground inspections have been completed and the reports sent to our regular contractor and another for repair quotes.
- b) Two concerns with the outdoor gym equipment possibly retaining water have been passed to Fresh Air Fitness who are going to inspect in August under guarantee.

c) There was some discussion about wooden posts rotting and AC suggested they would be better protected if they had 'collars' at their ground contact point and we should consider having these fitted for any new pieces of equipment. He also suggested wood preservative treatment could help extend the life of the existing equipment.

10) Village maintenance tasks

- a) Clerk noted we now have a list of the six people with their contact details and know the jobs they are doing, how often and approximately how long it takes them.
- b) After much discussion, it was agreed to try to streamline the bus shelter cleaning by using only one villager and leave the rest as they are for now.
- c) Clerk noted there are still some tasks in the village that we could do with help for, like the treatment of playground equipment suggested by AC.

11) Protection of village oak trees

- a) MR had circulated a map showing the location of three old oak trees she would like the PC to consider protecting by applying for TPO's – one is in the car park at Terwick Church, one the west end of bluebell wood on path 1147 and third on footpath 1148 where it passes the end of the SSI and opens into a boggy field.
- b) Agreed MR to look at process required, AC to help look at photos/what3word so the recommendation can go to full council.

12) Village planters

- a) MH noted the planter by East Lodge is being well looked after by the gardening club but explained they are uncomfortable tending the one opposite Parsonage because of its close proximity to the road and issues with lack of access to water.
- b) After much discussion, it was agreed to seek permission from WSCC (section 115 licence) to move onto the opposite side of the road, near the phone box/grit bin.

13) Annual salt audit

MH noted the requirement for annual salt audit – all the grit bins need checking so we can inform WSCC which need re-filling. All members volunteered to help – Clerk to circulate list of grit bins.

14) Fyning information board

LC noted she has received a quote of £645 plus VAT & delivery from High Weald Furniture – the same company that made the board at Garbett's Wood; she is waiting on two more quotes and has looked at some possible grants.

15) The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 6.30pm on Monday 27th September 2021 via zoom video conferencing.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.48pm.

Chairman	Date