



Meeting held at via zoom video conferencing - 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

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Clerk: Debbie Harknett

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- 1) **It was noted the meeting would not be recorded.**
- 2) **There were no apologies for absence received.**
- 3) **There were no declarations of interest.**
- 4) **There was no representation from the public.**
- 5) **The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 22nd November 2021 were approved for signing by the Chairman.**
- 6) **Actions from last meeting (previously circulated) were noted**
 - a) Diseased Elm trees behind bus shelter at Fyning – no response from letter we sent to whom we believed to be owner in August and not further response from WSCC. Agreed to report on 'lovesussex' again to see if Highways can help.
 - b) Dell bench repair is still waiting for the busy WSCC volunteers – agreed to ask Handyman if he would look at it.
- 7) **Woodland management**
 - a) The gorse at Oliver's Piece has been grubbed out.
 - b) MH reminded the meeting about the removal of trees from Terwick Woodland and how the wood has to be collected as it needs to be picked up by a crane to load onto a transport lorry. The overhead telephone cables make this difficult and our advisor has suggested installing a hardstanding to allow safer access. Any cost would be met by the wood sale but a fence and gate would probably also be required.
 - c) After concern was raised and much discussion, it was agreed to ask Roger Fitter for more information about what specification is required for the hardstanding, potential cost and what alternatives there are. AC suggested asking other contractors as it may be possible to use a roller-type temporary road surface.
 - d) MH noted email from MOP concerned with dogs' mess in Terwick Woodland. As Councillors had not observed a problem and felt that signs do not support the rural setting it was agreed to monitor.
- 8) **Footpaths:**
 - a) Irrigation pipes still in place near Black Bridge but they are currently not operational and can be walked around.
 - b) Lower Lodge near Home Farm path – farmer has installed dykes to help prevent North Street flooding – this is a well-used path but the dykes can be walked around.
 - c) Diagonal path to bluebell wood in Fyning not re-instated.
 - d) Agreed to wait until crops grow and see if there is a problem before reporting.
 - e) MH noted a MOP had reported mud on path by The Dell but it was felt this wasn't excessive or dangerous and was due to the pond overflowing during heavy rain. If it became a problem it could be reported via lovesussex to highways.
 - f) ZM noted a replacement footpath sign has been installed on the near the bottom of Fyning Lane to replace the broken/missing sign.

- g) Clerk noted the water trough at Tipsall had a broken valve and was leaking - she reported to the farmer and it has now been repaired.
- h) MH noted signs for the Ultra-trail X series event being run on 9th April have started to appear in the parish.
- i) Clerk noted the Woodland Trust are due to cut back a lot of trees in Garbett's Woodland which have been affected by ash dieback.
- j) MH noted the SSE site is being restored.

9) Play areas/outdoor gym:

MH reported a MOP has raised concerns about rotting wooden posts alongside one side of the tunnel at the village playground. These are not a danger to children – they retain the grass bank. We have obtained a quote from the playground specialist. After discussion, it was agreed that as the posts are not play equipment they do not require a specialist to replace them. Agreed to ask handyman if he is able to replace them.

10) Fyning information board

- a) LC shared information she has put together. She is waiting for a response from the school; MH will remind them.
- b) MR to help with an article on the history of the site – which includes how it was donated for the poor of the parish, has a circular bund and used to be a cricket green with a historical ladies match that was rumoured to be attended by 1000's.
- c) AC will put together some activity ideas.
- d) All information to be circulated with aim to install the board mid-February/half term with a good display that can be changed regularly.

11) Registration of Parish Council owned land

- a) Rake Recreation Ground registration has now been complete by the land registry.
- b) We have had some problems with McDonald Oats and when asked they do not feel there is enough information for Fyning Recreation Ground and have declined to progress registering it. The Clerk has obtained a quote from Surrey Hills Solicitors (recommended by Harting PC). It was agreed the process needs to continue – decision to appoint new solicitor to full council.

14) The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 6.30pm on Monday 28th March 2022 via Zoom video conferencing.

- MR asked to include time to Fyning Recreation ground at the next meeting – possibility of planting hawthorn bushes/rowan trees for wildlife and, if possible, a small pond.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

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Chairman

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Date