



Open Spaces Committee Meeting - Minutes Monday 27th March 2023

Meeting held at Rogate Village Hall pavilion starting at 6.00pm.

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

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

Chairman: Adrian Collins

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- 1) It was noted the meeting would not be recorded.
- 2) Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mike Galley (MG).
- 3) There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.
- 4) Representation from the public – none.
- 5) The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2023 were approved for signing by the Chairman.
- 6) **Actions from last meeting (not covered elsewhere) were noted:**
 - a) Litter picking – LC reported a successful (if wet) morning the previous day with 15 bags of litter collected with the school having previously cleared Hugo Platt playground. She has some CDC purple bags left and has been told they will collect full bags at any time.
 - b) White Horse path – MH noted the pub has a new owner. Clerk noted he could be asked to remove the gatepost in due course as Harvey's have left it in situ.
 - c) Diseased Elm trees at bottom of Fyning Lane by bus shelter – agreed Clerk to contact highways again as situation being ongoing for a long time and they are at risk of falling.
 - d) AC was pleased to report Hillbrow finger post has been cleaned and undergrowth cleared.
 - e) Clerk noted we have received a bill from Simon Wright for ground clearing at Fyning Recreation ground and The Dell during the last year; AC's proposal of **resolution 'to pay Simon Wright £255 for work at Fyning Recreation Ground and The Dell'** was seconded by MR and unanimously approved for payment before the end of the financial year.
 - f) LC reported seeing a National Trust van in the Lupin field and saw some trees being tidied though concern remains the Lupins were diminished last year.
 - g) AC attended the recent SDNP meeting when he highlighted Fyning Recreation Ground's use as a Forest School and was surprised other parishes didn't have similar. He will complete the SDNP open spaces questionnaire.
- 7) **Woodland management –**
 - a) AC asked how long the current woodland management plan was for/when it needed reviewing. *Post meeting note: woodland management is a ten-year plan to 1/1/27 with five-year review due 1/1/22*
 - b) MH noted we have heard nothing more about coppicing trees in Terwick Woodland and the required hard standing – it would appear there isn't a need for wood at the moment.
 - c) MH reported some snapped trees in Terwick woodland – he will monitor.
- 8) **Footpaths –**
 - a) MH reported the WSCC Footpath Warden is due to carry out their regular (15-month) inspections soon – we have reported all the issues we are aware of.
 - b) ZM suggested asking if a boardwalk or similar could be created where it is always boggy on the path to Black Bridge. Clerk to ask if its possible to have a meeting with the WSCC Ranger to discuss how this could be achieved.
 - c) ZM reported a fence falling down Fyning side of Black Bridge.
- 9) **Play areas/outdoor gym -**

There was some discussion about the age of the equipment (15 years) and it being much used.

It was suggested that perhaps it was time for a re-vamp with new equipment being installed rather than just repairs; subject to grants being available.

10) Bulbs –

- a) LC noted our successful bid for a CDC Coronation grant of £500 for native spring bulbs. She asked Members to consider where the gaps are at the moment as they will not be obvious when planting in the autumn. She will obtain some prices and we can plan a couple of planting sessions with bulbs throughout the parish – ideas included Parsonage entrance, Rake bus shelter, Oliver's Piece, Rake Orchard, under village gateways, additional crocus bulbs for the churchyard.
- b) Clerk added that there is also a requirement for a plaque/commemorative information of some description. There have previously been a suggestion of a 'Kings Oak' tree which could possibly accommodate a plaque.
- c) LC will write item for R&T News.

11) The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 22nd May 2023 at the Pavilion, Rogate Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.00pm.

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Chairman

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Date