



**Open Spaces Committee Meeting -
Minutes
Monday 20th May 2024**

Meeting held in Rogate Village Hall Pavilion starting at 6.00pm.

Parish Councillors in attendance: Chair Laura Craven (LC), Max Harwood (MH), Zoe MacLehose (ZM) and Octavia Pollock (OP).

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

Chair: Laura Craven

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- 1) **It was noted the meeting would not be recorded.**
- 2) **Appointment of chair and vice-chair:**
 - a) ZM proposal that LC continued as chair was seconded by OP and supported by MH; LC agreed to continue.
 - b) LC proposal of OP as vice-chair was seconded by MH and supported by ZM with OP agreeing to accept the position.
- 3) **Apologies for absence** were received and accepted from Adrian Collins (AC).
- 4) **There were no declarations of interest** in items on the agenda.
- 5) **Representation from the public** – none.
- 6) **The minutes of the last meeting** held on Monday 25th March 2024 were approved for signing by the Chairman.
- 7) **Action updates from last meeting** (not covered elsewhere):
 - a) Registering Fyning Recreation Ground – Clerk noted the land registry (through our solicitor) had recently requested additional information to prove our continued use.
 - b) White Horse footpath registration – Clerk noted we have moved up to number 12 on the list (we were number 19 in January 2023).
 - c) White Horse gatepost – OP to mention to the new landlord.
 - d) Fyning Lane/Terwick post box moving – latest update (in April) – 12-16 weeks.
 - e) Litter on top road – AC has contacted B1KE to request a site meeting.
- 8) **Annual review of terms of reference for Open Spaces Committee** – having considered these, LC's proposal of resolution '**to accept the unchanged terms of reference**' was seconded by OP and unanimously approved.
- 9) **Woodland management** –
 - a) Clerk noted she has not received a response from Roger Fitter – she will chase. MH added the pink spots marking trees are no longer visible on many.
 - b) MH reminded the meeting we need a replacement contractor to strim Fyning Recreation Ground. The Clerk has given him details of somebody recommended by Terwick Church and who cuts the grass at Hugo Platt – he will try to meet him on site to arrange before it becomes too overgrown.
- 10) **Play areas/outdoor gym** -
 - a) LC reported the outdoor gym and playground at the village hall are fine with no concerns.
 - b) Clerk noted the annual RoSPCA inspections are due in June.
 - c) Playground 'S' seat repair – having looked at the seat AC felt it needs a specialist to supply the seat timbers while the fixings are usable and he volunteered to fit. As he didn't consider it urgent it was agreed to leave until after the annual inspections.

11) Footpaths and annual PROW maintenance –

- a) LC noted the WSCC 15-monthly inspections are due next month. MH has made an appeal for any problems in the R&T.
- b) Agreed to ask again about the missing finger post at Terwick Church and extending the boardwalk near Black Bridge.
- c) We had been told about irrigation pipes over the path near Black Bridge – as well as the pipes being an obstruction they leak which erodes the undergrowth exposing roots. Clerk will get more info as to the exact location.
- d) OP reported the steps into Garbett’s Woodland need some attention – she will get some photos so Clerk can report to the Woodland Trust.

12) Salt spreading at Parsonage – Having spoken to the volunteer MH felt he would be able to responsibly use a spreading device but it needed somewhere to be stored. After discussion, it was felt that a cost of up to £150 was reasonable and it was agreed LC would talk to the Rector as they may allow it to be stored in the church shed.

13) Litter

- a) **Bin at Rogate Village Hall Recreation Ground** – LC noted District Councillor, Tim O’Kelly has raised this and is suggesting there should be more capacity for the service as it operates without cost to CDC and is needed by other parishes too.
- b) **Dog waste bags** – ZM reported no further problems with dumped bags in Fyning but OP noted they are often left by Parsonage field stile entrance. ZM added a previously erected posted had been removed from the stile within hours.
- c) **Bin at village bus shelter** – LC had looked at the siting of the bin and suggested it could be fixed on the left pillar where there is no seat so it won’t impact pedestrians by obstructing the pavement. She will take some photos for the Clerk to forward to WSCC who had said their contractor will fix it.

14) Oliver’s Piece (OP) – AC report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. He had made a site visit, with the land registry map, and talked to the volunteer who looks after the area. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to write to the MOP (as suggested by AC) to explain we have looked into the matter:

- a) Send a copy of the land registry map pointing out that the strip of land adjacent to his property is not owned by the PC.
- b) Reassure him no further clearance of rhododendrons will take place but that we will continue to restrict the height of existing vegetation in order to maintain the view.
- c) Note that we have not received any other reports of parties causing noise or litter at the site. Should he have any concerns we would advise him to report them to the police but would appreciate him informing us as well.
- d) Our site visit could not find it possible for anyone to walk from OP down to the bottom of Rake Hanger.
- e) We will continue to monitor the use of OP.

15) Rogate village sign (in churchyard) – LC noted two of the vinyl letters are peeling off. She will take photos/measurements so we can see if we can get replacement letters. It was agreed we would need to get the complete word ‘ROGATE’ as its unlikely they will match exactly. Clerk suggested trying VSigns as they have done other work for us.

16) The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 6.00pm on 22nd July at Fyning Recreation Ground (unless wet when it will be held in Rogate Village Hall Pavilion).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.58pm.

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Chairman

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Date