



**Open Spaces Committee Meeting -
Minutes
Monday 22nd July 2024**

Meeting held in Fyning Recreation Ground starting at 6.00pm.

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

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

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- 1) **It was noted the meeting would not be recorded.**
- 2) There were no **apologies for absence** because all members were present.
- 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 20th May 2024 were approved for signing by the Chair.
- 6) **Action updates from last meeting** (not covered elsewhere):
 - a) Registering Fyning Recreation Ground – Clerk noted this is now finally complete. However, it was registered at her old address and on checking two of our other parcels of land they are registered with a long-ago Clerk's address. The solicitor has suggested it would cost approximately £100+vat to change which it was agreed is necessary.
 - b) White Horse gate post – OP has spoken to the landlord.
 - c) Litter on top road – AC has looked along the road and feels there is less litter than previously and doesn't think it can all be attributed to B1KE so it was agreed not to pursue with them.
 - d) Village bus stop bin has been fixed by the WSCC contractor who removed it.
 - e) Fyning post box – noted that it still hasn't been moved; Clerk to chase in hope it will be done before the autumn.
- 7) **Woodland management** –
 - a) MH was sad to report that Roger Fitter has passed away.
 - b) MH noted the pine thinning in Terwick Woodland is scheduled for the autumn.
 - c) He is waiting for a price for the rhododendron spraying at Terwick Woodland which he is anticipating to be around £650+vat.
 - d) MH noted Fyning Recreation ground has been trimmed (and all agreed it is looking good) and it is hoped the new contractor can do it again in the autumn.
- 8) **Play areas/outdoor gym** -
 - a) AC explained about the annual RoSPCA inspection reports and was pleased to note there are no urgent matters. After discussion, it was agreed he would walk around the different areas with the reports and LC/OP (as appropriate) to decide which repairs are necessary and if they can be done by a volunteer or need to be carried out by the specialist playground contractor.
 - b) Playground 'S' seat repair – agreed to add this repair to the playground repair contractor list.
 - c) Outdoor gym – Clerk to check annual maintenance inspection agreement.
Post meeting note: the outdoor gym equipment was checked and serviced in February so we have a note to arrange early next year.
- 9) **Footpaths and annual PROW maintenance** –
 - a) Clerk has asked for a report following the WSCC inspections but has yet to receive anything.

- b) ZM noted the footpath reported to Fyning Hill as being overgrown was cleared very quickly; Clerk has thanked them.
- c) OP noted that Garbett's Woodland is looking good – the concerns she raised at the previous meeting were dealt with before we had a chance to report them.

10) Swift boxes – OP had done some research and the conservation group are willing to help. She noted that ideally we need to know where there are swifts and then try to attract them and provide nesting boxes for houses/barns/sheds. They could provide a design if we wanted to make ourselves or they can be purchased for about £20-30. She added that an expert was willing to give a talk about swifts and why it is important to save them (cost £50). After discussion, it was agreed that OP would write an article for the R&T to gauge local interest.

11) Salt spreading at Parsonage

- a) LC reported that Rogate PCC are happy for the spreader to be housed in their shed, which is a central village location.
- b) After discussion, it was agreed MH would talk to the volunteer to ensure he is still willing.
- c) AC will research a suitable spreader at a cost of up approximately £150 as previously agreed.

12) Salt bin levels – The Clerk thanked councillors for checking the bins as the annual return to WSCC has to be completed by the end of the month. AC noted that most of them were full.

13) Litter - bin at village hall playground – Clerk reminded members that we still need to find an alternative to getting this emptied. She has reminded TOK who is trying to put pressure on CDC as we are not the only council wanting a bin emptying service which comes at no cost to them.

14) Rogate village sign (in churchyard) – AC had collected the new 'ROGATE' lettering and removed the sign to refurbish it. He noted it was in good condition but was heavier than he expected and he would need help from somebody with a step ladder to replace it; MH/LC volunteered.

15) The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 30th September at Rogate Village Hall Pavilion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.50pm.

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Chairman

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Date