



WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 June 2018 at 7.30pm
in The Ellendune Community Centre

Present Cllr C Clark (Chair)
Cllr G Jones (Vice-Chair)
Cllr P Bhardwaj
Cllr L Campisano
Cllr H Dosanjh
Cllr J Hewer
Cllr S Pagett
Cllr A Richards
Cllr A Woodhead

Clerk Jodie Smart

OS/01 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn.

OS/02 Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr A Woodhead declared an interest in agenda item 6 (Maunsell Way Refurbishment) as Group Scout Leader and spouse of a Wroughton Youth Football Team Manager. Cllr C Clark declared an interest in agenda item 16 as the partner of the Chair of BMX Wroughton.

OS/03 Public Questions

There were two members of the public present.

A resident remarked that she had a specific request that the parish grounds team should not cut the cow parsley and wildflowers at the Pitches and that the Parish Council re-think the grass cutting protocol by looking into what is currently done in Shaftesbury and Gillingham. The resident is keen to promote wildflowers and good mowing of verges where necessary. The resident added that she was pleased to see a Flora and Fauna item on the agenda and offered to help. The Chair responded that the Council had listened to the resident's original comments and that was why the subject was put on the agenda.

A second resident stated that he was interested in the allotment item as an allotment holder. The resident stated that he was surprised by how many vacant plots were available. The resident expressed an interest in assisting the Parish Council in any way possible and had set up a facebook page for local allotment enthusiasts. The Chair thanked the resident and stated that she had received comments from Cllr T Kimberley-Fairbourn on how the allotments could be improved to increase the uptake of plots. This will be discussed at the agenda item.

The Chair moved agenda item 8 forward.

OS/04 Ridgeway School Meeting

Members **NOTED** the report of Cllr H Dosanjh, a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

Members discussed the various issues surrounding the school site and agreed that the current course of action whereby the Parish Council, Swindon Borough Council and local schools were liaising and seeking quotations for suggested improvements was to continue.

The Chair moved agenda item 5 forward.

OS/05 Allotments

Members **NOTED** the report of the Administration Officer, a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

The Chair informed members that there had not been an increase in allotment rent for many years. That the Parish Council had recently started to pay for water at the site and that Swindon Borough Council had increased the rent charged to the Parish Council. This had led to the agreed increase in rents to allotment holders which they had just recently been given twelve months' notice of, in accordance with allotment rules.

Cllr H Dosanjh left the meeting at 8.20pm

The Chair suspended Standing Orders at 8.20pm to take comments from a resident.

The resident reiterated his offer of assistance and that he would be interested in taking part in the Allotment Working Party meetings.

The Chair reinstated Standing Orders at 8.25pm.

Members **RESOLVED** to set a meeting with the allotment holders and complete a survey of all allotment holders on how to encourage new plot holders. It was agreed that an advert in the Link magazine would be investigated as well as re-issuing adverts on the Parish Council website and social media outlets.

The Chair moved agenda item 10 forward.

OS/06 Flora and Fauna

Members discussed options for improving wildlife and biodiversity within the village by introducing wildflower areas.

Members **RESOLVED** to recommend the formation of a working party to Full Council. The working party will include Councillors, the Grounds Team Leader, Elspeth Wollen (resident) and members of Vision 4 Wroughton and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust will be invited to attend meetings and/or join the working party.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders at 8.45pm to take comments from a resident.

The resident thanked the committee for agreeing to set up the working party and investigate the possibility of becoming a pollinator friendly town.

The Chair reinstated Standing Orders at 8.46pm.

The Chair moved agenda item 12 forward.

OS/07 Litter and Dog Fouling

Members **NOTED** a report from Cllr S Harcourt regarding the litter picking initiative, a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

Members discussed possible locations for the first litter picks to be organised by Cllr S Harcourt.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders at 9.02pm to take comments from a resident.

The resident confirmed that she would be willing to assist with the litter picking initiative.

The Chair reinstated Standing Orders at 9.06pm.

Members **RESOLVED** to issue Elspeth Wollen with a street map of Wroughton to enable her to highlight 'litter hotspots'. Recommendations for areas to tackle litter will also be sought from the Grounds Team. The Parish Council will assist with risk assessing areas and approval for the purchase of litter picking equipment was approved.

Members discussed possible methods for tackling dog fouling within the village.

Members **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will contact the Swindon Borough Council Dog Warden to seek advice and that residents should be encouraged to report offenders to the Dog Warden with new signage in areas of prolific offending such as Maunsell Way and the Weir Field.

Cllr P Bhardwaj left the meeting at 9.25pm.

OS/08 Chair's Report

The Chair welcomed members to the new and exciting committee. The Chair expressed thanks to Becky Gough and Jess Black for delivering another great Scarecrow Trail and informed members that the money raised would be split between Wroughton Community Asset Trust and BMX Wroughton.

OS/09 Maunsell Way Refurbishment

Members **NOTED** the statement of need drafted by the Chair of Open Spaces and Vice Chair of Community Buildings regarding Maunsell Way Pavilion, a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting for a further thirty minutes at 10pm.

Members considered the statement of need and made suggestions on how to amend the document.

Members **RESOLVED** that the Chair re-write the statement of need, simplifying users of the pavilion and removing some options, leaving the options for a new build and extension only. This document will be circulated to the Open Spaces Committee and submitted to Full Council at the meeting on Monday 18 June 2018 for a formal decision.

OS/10 Footpaths

Members **NOTED** that the Clerk was awaiting a response from the Swindon Borough Council Rights of Way Officer regarding a forthcoming Rights of Way meeting.

OS/11 Milestones

Members **NOTED** that the Clerk had made contact with the Chair of Wroughton History Group and the Swindon Borough Council Conservation Officer to enable the two to cooperate and assist with the refurbishment and monitoring of the village milestones.

OS/12 Memorial Tree

Members **NOTED** that an application for a memorial tree to be planted in Belmont Green had been received.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the memorial tree application, subject to the location being approved by the Grounds Team Leader.

OS/13 Notice Board

Members **NOTED** the report of the Clerk regarding the request for a notice board at the Alexandra Park Play Area, a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations within the report.

OS/14 Badgers Brook Play Area

Members **NOTED** that the play area at badgers Brook has now been transferred from the developers to Swindon Borough Council. The Clerk and Property Asset Manager for Swindon Borough Council are in discussions regarding the lease from Swindon Borough Council to Wroughton Parish Council.

Members requested that the Clerk inspect the standard of the play area and request that Swindon Borough Council install a litter bin before the transfer is agreed. Members also requested that the Clerk check what space outside of the play area (if any) is included in the transfer.

OS/15 BMX Pump Track

Cllr G Jones Chaired the agenda item. Cllr C Clark took no part in the vote.

Members **NOTED** that the BMX pump track installation is set to be complete ready for a 'grand opening' on Saturday 21 July 2018.

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the request of BMX Wroughton to remove the pedestrian gate next to the BMX pump track subject to making good the ground and providing level pedestrian access.

The meeting closed at 10.25pm

Signed.....
Date.....
Chairman of the Council