

MINUTES of Chalfont St. Peter Parish Council

OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE meeting held on Monday

12th Jan 2015 at 8.00pm in the Council Office



Chairman issued instructions regarding emergency exits in the event of fire

Present: Cllr Harper (Chair), Cllr Hatton, Cllr Southworth, Cllr Dale, Cllr Beane and Cllr Day

In Attendance: Nick Stayt (Deputy Clerk) Mike Stevens (Head Haywarden),

74S Apologies - none

75S. Declarations of interest - None

76S. To approve minutes of meeting held on 3rd November 2014. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Dale, seconded by Cllr Day and were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

77S Review action points from last minutes

39s(d) Water meter. Done. The Committee thanked the Haywardens for this, which was a bigger job than anticipated.

82O Bollards at Wagon and Horses. Done.

4S Tree survey in digital format. Cllr Hatton to report. **Carry forward**

26S(a) Teen shelter graffiti. Cllr Mrs Dickson to ask Yorkshire BS. **Carry forward**

37S Apprentice Haywarden. No applications received. The committee wanted to continue with the project of employing an apprentice, however with the likely devolution of BCC services, the consequent need for a full time Haywarden, employing the Apprentice would be put back to later in the year.

62S(b) Pic Nic benches, Boundary Rd and Mill Meadow. DC to order in Feb. **Action DC**

64S(c) Replacement Sycamores. Done

67S(b) Garden of Rest Regulations. Revised copy published on web site

70S Terms of Reference. To go back to Main Council in January. **Refer to Main Council**

78S Correspondence - Letter 28 Oct regarding bench in Mill Meadow. The existing bench was rotten and it was agreed to recommend replacement with a recycled plastic bench. **Recommend to Main Council that a Glasdon Phoenix bench with arms up to the value of £500 be purchased from Miscellaneous Projects budget.**

79S Village Wellbeing.

(a) HH had nothing to report.

(b) Bollards at Rickmansworth Lane. Cllr Hatton to look into an acceptable type of deformable post. **Action Cllr Hatton**

80S Market Place Sign

a. The BCC solicitor had advised that the best option at this time would be for them to negotiate a legal access agreement with the Hobby Shop. This was agreed. **Action, Clerk and DC to ask BCC to start this process.**

b. Cllr Hatton to report on current position with Mr Birring. Cllr Hatton said Mr Birring was keen for the painting to go ahead as the wall was deteriorating.

81S Strategy for development of playground facilities.

a. **All wheels skate park.** DC had written to Biffa saying we would not be applying at this time. It would be 6 months before we could apply to Biffa again.

The working group wanted to go ahead with an integrated play area and skate path of the type proposed by Freestyle but both the Council Regulations and Award Granting organisations need work of this value to be tendered. The DC believed a Design, Build and Fund Raise tender should comply with this requirement. There were two possible ways to go with this, either write our own contract with the help of a Quantity Survey at a Cost of several thousand pounds or use the Espo 'pre qualified' route, which may also need assistance of a QS but to a lesser extent. It was decided the DC should research this more and call a meeting of the Working Group. **Action DC.**

b. Area of land adjacent to Boundary Road. It was decided to recommend to Council that we look into Claiming this land for the people of Chalfont St Peter. **Recommend to Main Council.**

82S Community Groups/Volunteering Policy. Nothing to report.

83S Commons Management Plan.

The HH reported that they had another visit the Chiltern Rangers planned for the 22nd Jan and would be 'Holly and Laurel bashing' themselves in the coming weeks. They were also continuing to create paths with the Wood chips produced. The HH believed that working with the chipper took about a quarter of the time that previous methods had taken. He also advised that in a year or two a professional Tree Surgeon would be needed to deal with some of the larger trees on the commons.

84S Greening and Trees

- a. **Trees.** Cllr Southworth had got agreement from a resident to water the ninth tree.
- b. **C4C nut grove.** C4C have not contacted the DC.

85S Allotments

DC reported that all allotment renewals were completed and there were now 4 vacancies on Hill House and 3 on Love's Delight. DC to advertise vacancies on web site. **Action DC.**

86S Garden of Rest

- a. There had been further protests from a few Area K Deed holders and others. **Noted**
- b. DC had written to the Funeral Director who had asked to leave a headstone in area K with the incorrect fitting. There had been no action from them yet.
- c. Ross Stonecraft from Slough had also fixed a headstone with the incorrect fixing and had not complied with Parish Council request to change this. As Ross Stonecraft were likely to request approval again it was agreed that they should not be allowed to work in the Garden of Rest until they had corrected this error. **Agreed**
- d. It was agreed that the out of area charge for a memorial bench should be double the resident's charge, consistent with memorial trees. **Agreed**
- e. Some memorial benches had had stone plant pots, animals and other trinkets placed below them. This would be a problem for strimming around when the grass was growing. It was agreed to write to the purchasers of the benches and tell them that these must be removed or the Parish Council would remove them in accordance with Regulations. **Agreed.**

87S Dog Waste Bins. Bins ordered. Cllr Hatton requested a new bin on Chalfont Common in the next tranche.

88S Sign Board for Lady Gibb Wood. Replacement board for Lady Gibb Wood. Main Council had agreed to go to Nature Sign Design. DC to circulate old and proposed wording for the board, **Action, DC to circulate existing words and Councillors to propose revised wording**

89S Budget. Approved as amended

90S Replacement Storage Shed for Council Offices.

Passed to Finance Committee. Cllr Hatton has experience of containers and will advise.

91S Celfunde signs on all roads into village

DC to find prices, where we can obtain them from and to look at locations. **Action DC**

92S Requests by Cllr Southworth.

- a. Wagon and Horses Green, additional bollards. DC said that he did not believe there was space for them due to the high number of underground services. It was agreed to ask Comms and PR to start a campaign to discourage parking on green areas. Action, **Pass to Comms and PR**
- b. Wagon and Horses Green, repaint road sign. DC to check with LAT who is responsible for this. **Action DC**
- c. Top of Monument Lane, column base covered in yellow tape. DC/HH to check it and get street light contractor to deal with it if it is one of the Parish Council's columns. **Action DC/HH**

93S Information items.

- a. Cllr Hatton asked if we could get the ivy on the trees opposite the Wagon and Horses cut back.
- b. There was an unauthorised memorial tree with plaque planted on Gold Hill Common. The committee felt the officers should check the bylaws and put up signs to say that planting of trees was not allowed. Cllr Southworth said she would look at a policy to plant donated trees in the village.
- c. Cllr Harper said that, in response to PR/Comms' request for council policies, the policies used by Open Spaces Committee were for the Garden of Rest and Commons Management.

The meeting closed at 22.05.

Next meeting Monday 23rd March 2015 at 8:00pm.

Signed:

Dated:

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