

**DITTON PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE **OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE** HELD IN THE **COUNCIL CHAMBER** AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON **MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

PRESENT: CLLRS MRS A THROSSELL [VICE-CHAIR] MRS J DEARDEN, A  
MULCUCK, N NEWMAN & D ADDLINGTON  
MRS G JEFFS [ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT]

441. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Vice - Chair at 7.45pm.

442. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None received.

443. **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

None received.

444. **FINANCE**

(a) Financial Analysis Month 12

**CIRCULATED, READ & NOTED**

Cllr Dearden raised enquiries into why some of the cost centres in the budget were overspent. The Administrative Assistant went through each cost centre and explained the reasons for the overspends. Cllr Newman explained that whilst some of the cost centres were overspent the reasons were expected such as tools and equipment that needed replacing and therefore the explanations can be accepted. It was also **NOTED** that although some areas were overspent, the income has almost doubled therefore overall the committee has finished the year well within its budget.

(b) MUGA Light Token cost review

The Administrative Assistant explained that the new lights hadn't been in operation long enough to get a true reading of the costs. With the energy costs increasing the light tokens would probably need to increase to cover these costs.

**RESOLVED** the Administrative Assistant will report back at the June Meeting.

445. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**(a) **Trailer for allotment waste discussion/location**

After much discussion it was **NOTED** that all Committee Members were in agreement that the waste trailer will no longer be offered as a waste collecting option. It was further **NOTED** that a new service of 'bulk bags' had been suggested instead on a six month trial basis. .

**RESOLVED** The Council will now provide bulk/builders bags for **Permitted waste items only**. The Grounds Team will leave four bags at a time and once all four bags are full these will be disposed of once the Parish Office has been notified.

**Permitted Waste:**

Invasive weeds  
Hard stalks ( brassica etc)  
Timber off cuts ( no larger than 6ft in length)  
Cardboard and Paper.

**Non – Permitted Waste:**

Soil and stones ( root balls must be free of major soil)  
Plastics/ chemical containers  
Tyres  
Scrap Metal  
Household waste/general waste  
Fuel & any batteries.

It was also agreed that the Council will no longer dispose of any scrap metal on behalf of Allotment Holders. This is in breach of the Waste Regulations act 2011 as it makes the Council a third party carrier, which we do not hold a licence for.

Bulk/builder bags will be emptied on request when full. Bags must not be overfilled and be moveable by two men, the Ground Staff will collect (when full) 4 bags in total and then leave another 4 bags to be re filled. The bags will need to be kept in the Allotment grounds next to the new shelter and not placed outside the fence line.

It must be pointed out that this revised waste service is on a six month trial basis only. If articles are found in the bags which are forbidden, please be aware this service will be withdrawn with immediate effect.

(b) **Tenancy Agreement Review**

It was **AGREED** that the offer of the new waste service will need to be added to the agreement.

**RESOLVED** Administrative Assistant to make these changes and report back at the next meeting.

(c) **London Road/Bradbourne Lane Litter Bin**

It was **NOTED** that the Administrative Assistant had reported the lack of litter bins on the Lidl side of the London Road to KCC and TMBC. It was further **NOTED** that

with the new shops and food outlets on the other side of the London Road there had been an increase in litter.

446. **RECREATIONAL GROUND MATTERS**

(a) Pitch requests for seasons 2023/24

The Administrative Assistant read pitch requests from Ditton Minors, Castle Colts Ladies (2 teams) and The Kilnbarn Vets. All Committee members were in agreement to these requests for the new season.

**RESOLVED** To accede to these requests.

447. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Countryside Voices Spring/Summer 2023 ( For Noting)

**CIRCULATED, READ AND NOTED.**

(b) Kent Men of Trees village competition.

All Committee members were in agreement to enter in this year's competition. It was **NOTED** that in other years the Village has won prizes for the trees.

**RESOLVED** The Administrative Assistant to enter the village into the competition.

448. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.21 pm.

Chairman  
22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

