

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE **OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE** HELD IN THE **COUNCIL CHAMBER** AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON **MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023 7.30PM**

PRESENT:    CLLRS N NEWMAN (CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL), MRS A THROSSELL (VICE-CHAIR), MRS J DEARDEN, A MULCUCK, A WATERS, J COX, MRS L COX & D ADDLINGTON  
              MRS N GREENAWAY (CLERK TO THE COUNCIL)  
              MRS B BENN (ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT)

230.       **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 7.30pm.

231.       **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Markham. The previously notified reason for absence was **ACCEPTED** and **APPROVED** and recorded in the absence book Ref: 528.

.....**ADJOURNMENT**.....  
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A member of the public raised concerns about the maintenance of the New Road Recreational Grounds and the War Memorial, this was **NOTED**. The Chair thanked them for raising concerns and advised that those concerns would be investigated.

232.       **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

None received.

233.       **FINANCE**

(a) Financial Analysis Month 6

**CIRCULATED, READ & NOTED**

(b) The disposal of dead oil up at the yard.

The Administrative Assistant explained that it had come to our attention that 400ltrs of dead oil has been discovered in the shed in the grounds compound. It is in different containers and needs to be disposed of safely. A quote of £495

for disposal was **NOTED**. It was agreed this oil must be disposed of as soon as possible but to obtain other quote.

**RESOLVED** to source an additional quote for the safe disposal of the oil and accept the best option. Also to source a safe storage facility for future waste oil.

Cllr Waters offered to assist with the research for suitable disposal and storage of the oil.

(c) Deposits for large events.

A suggestion that hirers for large outside events should pay a deposit in the same way we take a deposit for events held in the community centre was considered.

**RESOLVED** 25% of the event fee should be paid in advance to secure the booking for large outside events.

234.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

(a) Allotment Tenancy Agreement Review

The draft of the proposed new Tenancy agreement which had previously been **CIRCULATED** was **READ**.

Cllr Mrs Throssell asked if the water to the allotment should be turned off in the winter, as it had been previously suggested some time ago, to protect against burst pipes. The Clerk said she could not recall this being an issue. It was **AGREED** the pipes should be closely monitored and lagged during the winter.

Cllr Mrs Throssell asked if “use by all” for the new shelter should be included. The Clerk said the agreement was for the tenancy of each plot, not the general areas. It was suggested a notice detailing general matters/rules of the site should be put in the notice board.

**RESOLVED** to approve the revised Tenancy Agreement and it will be sent out with the rent request letters as soon as possible.

(b) Rent review for the allotment holders

The rent increase was discussed for the year 2023/24.

**RESOLVED** the allotment rents would increase by 5 % from 1/11/23. Therefore the new rents due are:

<b>Full Plot</b>	<b>£28.60</b>
<b>Half Plot</b>	<b>£14.30</b>
<b>Senior Citizen Full Plot</b>	<b>£26.90</b>
<b>Senior Citizen Half Plot</b>	<b>£13.45</b>

235. **TREES**(a) Trees that need trimming on the Village Green.

It was **NOTED** that three of the planning applications for tree work on the Village Green, were for Parish Council trees and the work will be undertaken by Parish Council Grounds Staff.

236. **SECTION 106 FUNDING FOR PROJECTS**(a) MUGA funding.

The updated quote for the resurfacing of the MUGA was discussed. It was **NOTED** that the quote had increased to £32,255.00. It was **NOTED** the Clerk has emailed to see if the grant can be increased.

**RESOLVED** to approve the amended quotation and to cover the additional cost from the unexpected grant for the lights and the balance would be found by F & A if no additional funding was granted.

237. **CORRESPONDENCE**(a) Correspondence request from Muddy Puddles to put a cabin in their garden area.

A request for a shelter to be put in the preschool garden was discussed.

**RESOLVED** to accede to this request subject to, it being placed on slabs and in a suitable agreed location. Also that the preschool would remove the structure if they vacated the area.

(b) From the Church Warden – repairs for the wall between the Churchyard and the Village Green.

It was **NOTED** that some of the stones had come loose and been removed for safety.

**RESOLVED** to get a quote for the necessary repairs to be wall.

238. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.08pm.

