

**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> JULY 2017**.

PRESENT: CLLRS A PIPER (CHAIR), M. PORTER (EX OFFICIO), MRS J THWAITES (Vice Chair), MRS A THROSSELL, MRS J DEARDEN, R PRICE  
MR N SAUNDERS (Grounds Supervisor)  
MRS P ALEXANDER (Administrative Assistant)

155. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 8.05pm. He informed the meeting of the resignation from this Committee of Cllr Peter Dalton and there was a vacancy which would be addressed at the next Full Council Meeting.

156. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were **RECEIVED** from Cllr Mr A Mulcuck, the previously notified reason for absence was recorded in the Absence Book Ref: 365 and **ACCEPTED** and **APPROVED**.

157. **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTEREST**

Cllr A Piper and Mrs J Thwaites declared a personal interest in Item 158 as they keep allotments.

**The Chair moved that Allotment Matters be brought forward so he could pass the Chair to Cllr M Porter for this Item.**

158. **ALLOTMENT MATTERS**

a) Review of Tenancy Agreement (Jun 2017, Page 45, Item 106(a))

The Chair of the Parish Council read out the proposed amendments to the Tenancy Agreement. Discussion ensued regarding entering a clause to the tenancy agreement of defrayed costs being recouped from the Allotment holders should an expense occur. A vote was taken resulting in the Agreement being accepted with the current amendments only, without the clause mentioned above.

**RESOLVED** for the amended Tenancy Agreement to become an Annual Tenancy Agreement sent out to the Allotment Holders in time for November when the annual rent is due.

159. **FINANCE**

(a) Financial Analysis Month 2

The financial analysis made available at the meeting was **READ** and **NOTED**.

160. **GROUNDS WORK UPDATE**

The Grounds Staff Supervisor reported on the works undertaken in the last few weeks and informed the meeting that the Kubota cutting deck had been repaired and returned earlier in the day. This would enable the full mowing schedule to resume.

161. **ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

- (a) Footpath Protection (Open Spaces Society) Update (Jun 2017, Page 44, Item 104(a))

The footpath around the Quarry had been identified as the next path to apply for registration on the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way.

**RESOLVED** to go ahead and enter the Quarry footpath for registration, requesting evidence Questionnaires be completed by residents via the Gazette. La Farge Tarmac would also have to be contacted as a courtesy as part of the walk would be on their land.

- (b) Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation (Jun 2017, Page 44, Item 104(b))

It was **NOTED** that no update was currently available for this item, but the Administrator would continue to chase.

162. **RECREATION GROUNDS MATTERS**

- (a) New Play Equipment for New Road Recreation Ground – Sub-Committee Update (Jun 2017, Page 44, Item 105(a))

The Chair updated the meeting on the Re-Opening Ceremony held at New Road Recreation Ground which had been attended by Postman Pat and it was hoped that photos and a short editorial would appear in the Kent Messenger soon.

Unfortunately there had been some older children who had decided to remove the newly laid turf over the weekend, however a New Road lady resident ably assisted by two small boys had reinstated them and swept up. The Administrator confirmed that CCTV quotations were being investigated for this area.

**RESOLVED** that the lady resident and two helpers should be given awards for their efforts.

- (b) Annual Multi Sports Booking Review (Jun 2017, Page 44, Item 105 (b))

It was **NOTED** this item is still ongoing.

- (c) Recreation Ground – Large Event Fees (Jun 2017, Page 44, Item 105 (c))

After the Chair reported that the meeting of the Review Committee after the last F&A Meeting had failed to come to any conclusion regarding this issue, it was decided that a meeting between the Chairs and Administrators of the Open Spaces & Amenities and the Community Centre Committees be arranged to work through the issues of this item.

**RESOLVED** that a meeting be arranged with the decisions reached being forwarded to the next available Full Council Meeting.

- (d) Ditton Minors Football Club – Request permission to refurbish NRRG Changing Rooms

Cllr Mrs J Dearden reported on a meeting with the Vice Chair of Ditton Minors at their Clubhouse at New Road Recreation Ground.

A list of improvements and repairs were listed that could be carried out by Ditton Minors Club themselves with permission from the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED** that the barbed wire be cut down from the front fence and be disposed of by the Parish Council Grounds Staff.

**RESOLVED** that the colours of the buildings should remain neutral but banners could be applied to the building and fenced areas.

**RESOLVED** to recommend to Ditton Minors that a Fire Inspection of the building is carried out to ensure it complies to regulations.

- (e) Ditton Minors F.C. – Request permission to change details of August tournament

**RESOLVED** to accede to this request.

- (f) Gate Security of Recreation Grounds (Herewith)

Recent local traveller issues were discussed alongside improved track gate security ideas.

**RESOLVED** to investigate the ideas further.

#### 163. QUARRY LNR MATTERS

In the absence of the Sub-Committee Chairman there was no update, however, trees had been identified for treeworks in the recent Full Leaf Survey.

#### 164. TREES

- a) Full Leaf Survey

The Chair updated the meeting on the recent Full Leaf Tree Survey and the resulting treeworks identified.

**RESOLVED** to obtain quotations for winter tree works resulting from the Parish Tree Survey

- b) Memorial Trees Update

It was **NOTED** that 3 Memorial Trees had been purchased with 2 planted so far. The KMOTT winners tree, a Rowan Pagoda had been collected and would be planted with a plaque commemorating the Battle of the Somme in due course.

#### 165. LITTER BIN OUTSIDE KILNBARN BAR

It was **NOTED** that the open design bin outside the Kilnbarn Bar has been seen to be full and overflowing at weekends. Foxes are compounding the issue. The bins are only emptied by the Grounds Staff on weekdays as they are not easy to empty. Designs were put forward

and one agreed for a closed top bin to be placed outside the Kilnbarn Bar, suitable for weekend staff to be able to empty easily.

**RESOLVED** for the annual Seats and Bins Survey to take place and quotations sought for any replacements needed.

**RESOLVED** to make the quotation available for the replacement bins and seats at the next Full Council and to ask County Councillor Peter Homewood for the funds to purchase them.

166. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION – GENERAL**

167. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING**

The following correspondence was **READ** and **NOTED**.

Kent Wildlife Trust

2016 Annual Review  
Wild Kent Summer 2017  
What's On Events Diary

Open Spaces Society

Summer 2017 Magazine Vol 31 No 9  
Annual Report and Accounts  
Invitation to AGM

FIT Fields in Trust

June Ezine

CPRE

Latest News

168. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Chairman  
7<sup>th</sup> August 2017