

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 23rd APRIL 2018

PRESENT: CLLRS MRS J THWAITES (Vice-Chair), MRS A THROSSELL, MRS J DEARDEN,
MRS K DENNISON,
MR N SAUNDERS (Grounds Supervisor)
MRS N GREENAWAY (Clerk of the Council)
MRS G JEFFS (Administrative Assistant)

493. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Vice-Chair at 7.34pm.

494. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were **RECEIVED** from Cllrs Porter and Mulcuck. The previously notified reasons for absence were recorded in the Absence Book Ref: 388 and **ACCEPTED** and **APPROVED**.

495. **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Cllr Mrs J Thwaites declared a personal interest in item 7 as her husband retains an allotment. Cllr Dearden declared a personal interest in item 10(a) as Cllr Dearden Co-owns the Pre School.

496. **FINANCE**

(a) **Financial Analysis Month 11**

The previously **CIRCULATED** financial analysis was **READ** and **NOTED**.

(b) **Replacement Gang Mower**

It was **NOTED** the Gang Mower will be purchased shortly and the Wood Chipper will be put on hold and purchased in the autumn. It was **NOTED** Richard is to attend a Chainsaw course before the purchase of the Wood Chipper.

RESOLVED To place an order for the Replacement Gang Mower.

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

- (a) **Footpath Protection (Open Spaces Society) Updates [if available]**
 (i) **Quarry Circular Footpath (Nov 2017, Page 138, Item 433(a)(i))**
 (ii) **Golding Close/Woodlands Road (Nov 2018, Page 138, Item 433(a)(ii))**
 (iii) **Medina Road/Nursery Road (Nov 2018, Page 138, Item 337(a)(iii))**

It was **NOTED** the Administrative Assistant is to collate the footpath questionnaires in respect of each footpath and if there is a sufficient amount, they are to be submitted to KCC.

(a) Bowls Club request for Barrier [Page 193, Item 438(a)]

It was **NOTED** that at the last Full Council Meeting (April) it was agreed in principal that the Bowls Club can pay for and install a new height restriction barrier to the track. It was further **NOTED** the Bowls Club had originally obtained a quote from an online company but were now looking to use a local company Dowles who previously surveyed the site and submitted a quote to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED The Bowls Club may be given permission to proceed with Dowles and the Clerk to check who would be responsible for insuring the new barrier.

498. **RECREATION GROUNDS MATTERS**

(a) Ditton Minors 50th Anniversary – Saturday 7th July 2018

It was **REPORTED** that the Clerk and Admin Assistant had attended a further meeting with Ditton Minors and the event is being well organised they have many confirmed stall holders and community groups in attendance. It was **REPORTED** Ditton Minors would like to display banners for Local Businesses on the day to help contribute to the cost of the event.

RESOLVED They are able to display these Banners, but they must stay at foot level on the MUGA and the trailer they will be using for the stage. They must provide a full list of clients to the Council that wish to advertise their business before the event.

It was **NOTED** the Council will be mail dropping the local residents to warn of the event and formally invite the local community.

It was also **REPORTED** from the same meeting Ditton Minors were unaware of the previous rules set in September 2017 regarding Tournaments. These are as follows:

- Mobile toilets are required at the expense of the hirer for the duration of the event.
- £250.00 per day for the large events which preclude the use of the Community Centre to other hirers.
- A sign to be placed in the car park to say FREE PARKING

RESOLVED As they are now aware of the new rules these will take effect for all future events.

(b) Multi Sports Change of Surface – [Info from Ditton Minors – Playfiveaside]

It was **REPORTED** there was a previous concern with the rubber as to its content Cllrs Mrs Dennison had not been able to find any recent research into the content and safety of this Rubber.

It was **NOTED** this project should be placed on hold and would be re looked into if grants are available.

499. **ALLOTMENT MATTERS**

It was **REPORTED** two allotments have become available and the next two people on the waiting list will be contacted.

It was **NOTED** most tenants are behind with their work because of poor weather. It was further **NOTED** that the new shelter and toilet were in place and known as the 'Pea Pod'.

500. **QUARRY LNR MATTERS**

- (a) It was **REPORTED** from the last litter pick, there was a substantial amount of litter. Also It was **REPORTED** Cllr Peter Homewood has donated a grant for Stone Chippings for the Footpaths.

501. **TREES**

The Grounds Supervisor **REPORTED** the Tree Surveys have taken place and most of the trees are in very good condition except two outside the Church wall. These are a Memorial Silver Birch Tree and a Blue Cedar. It was **NOTED** we will need to remove the Silver Birch as this is damaged and dying due to poor light.

RESOLVED To try and contact the Family that planted the tree and request permission to plant a new tree in its place.

The Blue Cedar will need to be cut back as there is a large branch over hanging.

RESOLVED To request a visit from Liz Guthrie the TMBC Tree Warden for advice.

502. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION – GENERAL**

- (a) **Resident Ragstone Court – Pre-School Outdoor Area**

It was **REPORTED** a complaint had been received from a resident regarding the use of the land at the rear of the property. The Pre school use this land as a Forest School, this teaches children the importance of gardening, where food comes from and allows them to use the land for different activities.

RESOLVED A letter will be sent out the resident explaining the use of land.

- (b) **Ditton Church Pre-School – Request to hold annual Summer Fair on Village Green**

It was **REPORTED** the Pre – School have requested to hold their Summer Fair on the Village Green.

RESOLVED Permission be granted (subject to the usual conditions) on which ever date is decided.

- (c) **The Kent Men of The Trees – Trees in the Village Competition**

It was **NOTED** the Parish have been invited to enter the Trees in the Village Competition.

RESOLVED To express an interest in taking part in this year's completion.

503. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING
CIRCULATED, READ AND NOTED.**

Open Spaces Society:

Open Space, Spring 2018
Mailing Preferences

The Kent Men of the Trees

Spring Magazine
AGM Information 21 April 2018
Programme of Events May to October 2018

National Allotment Society

Spring News 2017
AGM Information 10TH June 2017

CPRE Countryside Voice

Spring 2018

CPRE Kent Voice

Spring/Summer 2018

Magnificent Meadows:

Achievements 2014-2017

504. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.57pm

Chairman
9th May 2018