

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 20th MAY 2019

PRESENT: CLLRS MRS K DENNISON [CHAIR], A MULCUCK, MRS J COOPER,
MRS A THROSSEL, MRS J THWAITES, MR M PORTER AND MR N NEWMAN
MR N SAUNDERS (Grounds Supervisor)
MRS G JEFFS (Administrative Assistant)

37. OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 8.15pm.

38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were **RECEIVED** from Cllr Mrs Dearden. The previously notified reason for absence was recorded in the Absence Book Ref: 429 and **ACCEPTED** and **APPROVED**.

39. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Mrs Thwaites declared a personal interest in item 32 as her Husband retains an allotment.

40. ELECTION OF VICECHAIR

Cllr Mrs Thwaites was nominated by Cllr Newman and seconded by Cllr Mrs Throssell. There being no further nominations, Cllr Mrs Thwaites was duly elected Vice Chair of the Open Spaces and Amenities Committee for 2019/20.

41. FINANCE

(a) Financial Analysis Month 1 if available

Cllr Newman asked for it to be **NOTED** that he felt this information was rushed and arriving late to the meetings. Whilst all Councillors were happy with the figures they would like to see a different layout if this possible.

42. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Commonwealth War Graves Commission – Cllr Mulcuck Update if available

It was **NOTED** no update was available.

(b) Litter Bins – TMBC Update if available

It was **NOTED** no update was available

(c) Ditton Minors Licence Renewal – The New Road Recreational Grounds Update if available

It was **NOTED** a date sensitive letter would be sent to Ditton Minors for an update.

RESOLVED Administrative Assistant to send the letter.

43. **RECREATION GROUNDS MATTERS**

(a) Event Finish Time on the Terms and Conditions of hire

It was **AGREED** a finish time of 8pm unless otherwise agreed will be enforced for events on the Recreational Grounds.

RESOLVED Administrative Assistant to add the finish time to the Terms and Conditions.

(b) Village Green- Preschool sports day in June

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 date is required.

(c) Maidstone United Football Training use of Recreational Ground

It was **REPORTED** Maidstone United Football Club have requested to hold Football Training on the Recreational Ground Thursdays 5.30pm to 6.30pm. The Administration fee of £30.00 plus VAT is payable.

RESOLVED to accede to this request and advise.

44. **ALLOTMENT MATTERS**

(a) Allotment holder request to change plot

It was **REPORTED** a plot holder would like to change his plot.

RESOLVED to accede to this request.

45. **QUARRY LNR MATTERS**

(a) Road chippings for paths (bee cliff, steps and woods)

A request was **READ** from the Working Party Committee for extra road chippings to create extra paths around the Quarry and to top up the steps.

RESOLVED to accede to this request

(b) Quarry Gate replacement

It was **REPORTED** the gate at the Quarry entrance has deteriorated and the fence post is rotten and a new wider gate is required.

RESOLVED Approved the new fence post and gate.

46. **FORD MATTERS**(a) Update on ownership

It was **REPORTED** there is no update available on ownership but it has been **AGREED** an advert will be placed in the next edition of the Gazette to launch a working party for volunteers.

(b) MWVCP Tag team working day

It was **REPORTED** once the Ford working party has been set up, the Parish Council can arrange one days training/work with Medway Valley Country Partnership to help with training and knowledge for the Ground staff and volunteers.

RESOLVED to arrange this training when required.

(c) Groundstaff maintenance

It was **NOTED** the Ground staff are currently clearing the ford twice a month.

47. **TREES**(a) Winter Tree Survey update

The Ground Supervisor **REPORTED** the findings of the Winter Tree Survey. It was **NOTED** many of the trees will need further inspection and work to be carried out as the majority of the trees in the Parish are ageing.

48. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR DECISION – GENERAL**(a) Tonbridge and Malling in Bloom

It was **REPORTED** a competition was announced by TMBC. It was **NOTED** a link to the completion should be added to the Parish Councils Website for residents to enter.

RESOLVED to accede to the request

49. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING**

- (a) Kent Voice Spring/Summer 2019
- (b) Countryside Voice Spring 2019
- (c) Fields in Trust Email Update.
- (d) Fields in Trust AGM – 4th June 2019

CIRCULATED, READ and NOTED.

50. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Chairman
1st July 2019