

DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE **OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES** COMMITTEE HELD IN THE **COUNCIL CHAMBER** AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON **MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2023**.

PRESENT: CLLRS. N NEWMAN [CHAIRMAN], MRS J DEARDEN, D ADLINGTON,
MRS L COX, J COX, D MARKHAM & A WATERS
MRS N GREENAWAY [CLERK OF THE COUNCIL]

197. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 7.37pm.

198. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Throssell. The previously notified reason for absence were **ACCEPTED** and **APPROVED** and recorded in the absence book Ref: 526.

199. **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

200. **FINANCE**

(a) **Financial Analysis Month 5**

CIRCULATED, READ and NOTED. The Chair asked about the water charges and the Clerk confirmed that this was because the council had been invoiced in advance based on estimates so was currently in credit.

(b) **MUGA Fees Review**

It was **NOTED** that the fees had previously been reviewed and no increase applied but the current fee notice had not been amended to reflect this. The fees were discussed again and it was agreed that they should not be increased or looked at again until the resurfacing has been done.

RESOLVED not to increase the fees but to amend the sheet to advise of the date of the latest review of fees and that the light tokens are £1.80 inclusive of VAT.

201. **ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM LAST MEETING**

(a) **Allotment Tenancy Agreement Review**

The Clerk circulated three suggestions for the allotment tenancy agreement – (1) was an old version (2) contained some more recent suggested updates and (3) was a reworking of all previous versions plus taking on board some points from neighbour authorities allotment agreements. It was agreed members take the drafts away to read and that a final decision would be taken at the next meeting.

202. QUARRY LNR – MEADOW PROJECT

The Clerk reported that following the initial circulation of information about this project she had attended two “zoom” meetings with representatives from Plantlife about the possible inclusion of some areas of the Quarry Local Nature Reserve in the project. She said that a draft schedule of management of the areas had been supplied with costs for carrying out the work [this would be paid to the council in the form of a grant up to a total of approx.. £34,000]. If the council agreed to be put forward for the funding it would mean that the council would be paid half of the grant up front for equipment and additional labour costs and the rest in two further payments over a 15 year period. Members felt that this would be a good project to be part of.

RESOLVED to express the Council’s agreement to be put forward for the grant funding for the Meadow Maker Project.

203. TREES

(a) Rear of Ragstone Ct

It was NOTED that a resident had contacted the Clerk regarding some trees in the Quarry to the rear of their garden. The Clerk reported that the Head Groundsman had looked at the trees and said he would be able to “thin” them out in the winter and this had been relayed to the resident.

204. SECTION 106 FUNDING FOR PROJECTS

The Clerk advised she still needed to complete some paperwork before the projects could be moved forward. She apologised for the delay and hoped to be able to undertake the necessary paperwork as soon as time permitted.

205. CORRESPONDENCE

It was **NOTED** none received to date.

206 . CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Chairman
2nd October 2023