

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE **OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES** COMMITTEE HELD IN THE **COUNCIL CHAMBER** AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON **22nd SEPTEMBER 2025**

PRESENT: CLLRS A WATERS (CHAIR), J COX (VICE CHAIR) N NEWMAN, D ADDLINGTON, MRS L COX, MRS A THROSSELL, MRS M NEWMAN and A MULCUCK
MRS L FITCHETT (ADMIN ASSISTANT)

201. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 7.40pm.

202. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies were received

203. **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

204. **FINANCE**

(a) **Financial analysis – Month 5**

READ and **NOTED**. Chairman asked for clarification for some expenditures **RESOLVED** to direct to Finance for review at next meeting.

(b) **Repairs and other expenditure**

The Admin Assistant shared an update on recent repair costs and purchases of grounds team's equipment. It was **NOTED** that there had been a number of repairs to equipment and some were still undergoing services or repairs.

205. **ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Nothing to report

206. **TREES & PLANTING**

(a) **Tree survey completed**

It was **NOTED** that the tree survey was completed on 23/07 and only one tree has been identified as at risk of needing emergency felling due to disease. It was **RESOLVED** to monitor this. Three others were identified as low risk.

(b) **Woodland Trust tree's confirmed**

It was **NOTED** that confirmation has been received and the trees (medium wild harvest 105 saplings) are due in November.

RESOLVED that these will be planted in pots until next autumn to provide more maturity and protection before being placed near quarry.

207. **ALLOTMENTS**

(a) Annual Rent Review

It was **NOTED** that a proposed increase of 5% had been proposed in line with other recent increases.

RESOLVED to implement this and review next annual increase at next meeting to incorporate other increased costs and allow the required 12 months' notice to tenants.

(b) Draft 2025 tenancy agreement

The draft tenancy agreement was **NOTED**. Cllr Mrs Throssel raised a question regarding tenancy from differing addresses.

RESOLVED for council to review fully prior to next meeting to roll out and confirm final approved version.

208. **QUARRY**

(i) Fence repair and signage update

It was **NOTED** that the Quarry fence repairs commenced today. The OSA Chairman explained the route of the fence and the purpose to repel e-bikes and scooters.

(ii) Reports of damage caused by persons using shovels to dig up quarry grounds

It was **NOTED** that reports of damage to the quarry turf had been received by two separate residents. It was **NOTED** that the grounds team had back filled the holes only to find their work dug out the next morning.

RESOLVED to monitor for any further damage and bring this to the attention of Community PC, if this continues.

209. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) For Decision

Request to host charity match

READ & NOTED An email from a resident requesting to host a charity match next April/May. **RESOLVED** to agree in principle and further information provided.

(b) For Noting

(i) Wasp nest reported and removed at quarry

It was **NOTED** that a pest control company were called out to remove the wasps.

(ii) Overgrown/sloping fence reported at the boundary with NRRG

It was **NOTED** that the Grounds team responded and assisted with the issue by tying back the fence.

(iii) St Peters Resident that borders Parish Land has requested Ivy to be removed from fence

It was **NOTED** that a resident's fence that borders Parish Land had seen a large growth of ivy growing over it and the grounds team assisted in removing the ivy from the Parish boundary.

(iv) Resident concern regarding over grown pathway on Bradbourne Lane under KCC responsibility

It was **NOTED** that this path is the responsibility of KCC and they carry out work 2/3 times a year.

RESOLVED to wait a month for KCC to carry out the contracted works and review next month and approach KCC Councillor if not completed.

(v) Magazine's for noting – Allotment and Leisure Gardener & ARBOR (KFOTT)

READ & NOTED

210. **PLAYGROUNDS**

(a) Update on repairs

It was **NOTED** that the wet pour surfaces repairs have been completed and recent annual inspections had been carried out and identified all follow up maintenance as at low risk.

211. **5 YEAR PLAN**

The Council Chairman requested that thought be given to current outside equipment infantry and its life expectancy.

RESOLVED to hold a meeting with OS Chair/Vice Chair and OS staff to compile a list of possible future expenditure.

212. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

