

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE **OPEN SPACES & AMENITIES** COMMITTEE HELD IN THE **COUNCIL CHAMBER** AT DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON **20th OCTOBER 2025**

PRESENT: CLLRS A WATERS (CHAIR), J COX (VICE CHAIR) MRS L COX, MRS A THROSSELL, A MULCUCK
MRS N GREENAWAY (CLERK)
MRS L FITCHETT (ADMIN ASSISTANT)

244. **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 8.08pm.

245. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Adlington, N Newman and Mrs M Newman. The previously notified reasons for absence were recorded in the absence book Ref. 596 and accepted and approved.

246. **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

247. **FINANCE**

(a) Financial analysis – Month 6

READ and **NOTED**.

248. **TREES & PLANTING**

(a) Dead Sycamore tree removal

It was **NOTED** that the council had been made aware of the removal of the self-seeded Sycamore tree that had grown between the fence and the boundary of the community centre verge with Scott Close. The owner of the garage is responsible for replacing the fence panel and is aware of this responsibility.

(b) Conifers on border of NRRG

It was **NOTED** that a property that borders the NRRG has very tall conifers which roots are pushing through the tarmac path.

RESOLVED to contact Tree Surgeon and ask advice re impact of just cutting roots. If advised that cutting roots is safe then proceed to mend path. If not then proceed to contact householder to discuss.

249. **ALLOTMENTS**

(a) Annual Rent Review

It was **NOTED** that costs had been presented regarding costs of maintaining the allotments.

RESOLVE to agree 26/27 rates incorporating these recommendations and notifying tenants as soon as possible.

(b) Draft 2025 tenancy agreement

The draft tenancy agreement was **NOTED** and agreed.

RESOLVED to immediately notify tenants of a change of terms effective from 01/11/26, in order to meet with the 12 months' notice as required in allotment law.

250. **QUARRY**

Fence repair and signage update

It was **NOTED** that the recent fence improvements look much better.

RESOLVED to complete fence work next spring within next year's budget.

251. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Magazine's for noting – Countryside Voices & Open Space Magazine

READ & NOTED

252. **PLAYGROUNDS**

MUGA Surface/Tree Root Investigation

It was **NOTED** that a tree root from a nearby lime tree is affecting the MUGA surface. A quote of £750 has been received to take to stump level. It was requested to investigate further by digging a pit on the grass side to verify roots. Also suggested that the stump should be taken back to ground level. This would have an additional cost. There will then be costs further associated with the repair to the MUGA surface. **RESOLVED** to take to next meeting for further discussion, once advice received from Tree Surgeon.

253. **5 YEAR PLAN**

It was **NOTED** that a meeting had taken place recommending draft ideas.

RESOLVED to further discuss priorities and costs for presenting in future.

254. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.