

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE HELD ON  
TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2015  
IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7 PM

\* This meeting was recorded.

Cllrs Present: Mr Roger Hanauer (Chairman)

Mr Chris Kemp

Mr David Burden

Mrs Carry Smith

Mrs Maggie South

Miss Samantha Spriggs

Apologies: Mr Tony Sneller

In attendance: Town Clerk, Mrs Rebecca Knifton

OS/61/15      Representations by the public

None.

OS/62/15      Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Sneller due to work commitments.

OS/63/15      Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary interests in relation to any items included on the agenda for this meeting in accordance with **THE LOCALISM ACT 2011** and the **Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**.

OS/64/15      Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October

Proposed by Cllr South and seconded by Cllr Smith that the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

**RECOMMENDED** that the minutes be adopted by Council.

OS/65/15      Matters arising that are not already included in this agenda

(a) Bus Shelter – **NOTED** that PTC must investigate the grant criteria.

(b) Skate Park - **NOTED** that progress had been made and Cllrs Kemp and Peet had met with Clive Fish from the Youth Club. It was highlighted that the Youth Club had already been using the outside area and therefore, any potential noise had already been acknowledged. Accident rate figures had been found to be low and this had been the main concern from the Youth Club. The feasibility study had been positive and it was agreed that the Youth Club was the logical site for the skate park. **NOTED** that there should be no concerns regarding planning permission. PTC must show that there is a need for the structure and that it will be well used.

Cllr Hanauer presented the final study to Sarah Peyman at CDC which had been met positively. It was **NOTED** that if the skate park was sunk into the ground it would reduce the noise element but would be more costly to install. He mentioned that he had spoken with Elliot at Freestyle to negotiate a drop of £3k for the fencing which they didn't seem too concerned about.

**NOTED** that Planning permission could take 12 to 18 weeks. **AGREED** that PTC will employ a professional and a surveyor to undertake the task. Cllr Hanauer has already made enquiries. **NOTED** that Cllr Evans is a surveyor.

**AGREED** that a neutral party should be instructed to the task. Proposed by Cllr South and seconded by Cllr Kemp.

**NOTED** that the Estates Team will be in contact with PTC regarding the lease and land transfer in due course.

A formal thank you was given by the Committee to Cllr Hanauer for his tireless efforts on this project.

Cllr Smith stated that she fully approved of the new design. Cllr Peet suggested that PTC should get the children of the Parish involved in order to show them what PTC are doing. Cllr Burden suggested that inviting the local youth skaters to a meeting to show them the designs.

(c) De-fib – **NOTED** that the box is still not fitted as there is an issue with the de-fib having its own separate electricity supply. **NOTED** that Pascal, who fitted the emergency refurb of the lighting in the office, had been contacted but he had stated that it would not be a simple process as the walls of the Leconfield Hall are 3ft thick. Further **NOTED** that that it the fitting would cost in the region of £400.

**AGREED** that come the next tax year, PTC will be actively costing such projects.

**NOTED** that the Petworth Society have donated £500 towards the box.

A discussion about the de-fib in the phone box at Grove Lane took place and the possibility of fitting ‘de-fib’ signs over the top sections where it currently says ‘phone box’.

**NOTED** that the brass plaques will cost £40 which may have to wait until the new financial year.

**AGREED** that a press release will be drafted.

(d) Footpath around the hills – Cllr South was congratulated by the Committee for all her hard work on the project.

Bins – Cllrs Hanauer, Kemp and South to form a working group to resolve the issues with the bins.

**AGREED** that a budget to widen the path should be considered for 2016/17. **NOTED** that WSCC should financially assist as the path is an ‘E’ road. Cllr South is in contact with Steve Hodd and has discussed that the long-term plan is to tarmac the path.

(e) War memorial – The Grants organisation have approved for Tilley’s to commence. Further updates will be brought back the next meeting.

(f) Phone box – As minuted in (c) above.

(h) Litter Bins – Cllr Kemp proposed to remove and re-site the bins. Seconded by Cllr South.

**AGREED** that it will be put to Council that PTC will contact Simon Penny at CDC and request that two bins are removed from Rosemary Gardens and re-sited.

**AGREED** that PTC will negotiate the contact for emptying.

(i) Grass cutting and hedges – **NOTED** that CDC are currently contracting the grass cutting at the cemetery and a discussion regarding PTC taking on the contract and requesting £6k from CDC to manage it took place. It was discussed that Naldretts could undertake the contract for Horsham Road and Bartons Lane but it was also **NOTED** that Naldretts already do some of the cutting, as well as the Estate and CDC. Members were shocked by this as very little work had been witnessed. **AGREED** that Bob Riley from CDC should be contacted to be informed that the work was not being done. **NOTED** that the cemetery should be ‘an oasis’. Cllr Kemp has contacted Bob Riley to obtain a quote to look to undertake remedial work on the trees so that PTC can maintain them going forward.

(j) Planters – Cllr South has planted pansies in the tubs around the Co-Op side of Leconfield Hall and will be planting begonias in the tub outside Austins. **NOTED** that the opposite side of the Hall will be empty over winter.

Cllr Spriggs mentioned that she may be able to source some donations as there will be 5 empty planters.

Cllr Kemp spoke on behalf of the Council and said that that a letter will be written to Spriggs to thank them for the planting at the War Memorial which was **NOTED** as ‘beautiful’.

(k) Petworth volunteers – Deferred.

(l) Budget – **NOTED** that Cllrs Kemp and Petersens had met with Finance Consultant, Alan Copus on Monday morning to go through the budget. Any further suggestions to brought to the attention of the Finance Committee.

OS/66/15 Play Areas

(a) Rosemary Gardens & (b) Hampers Common – **NOTED** that there had been some vandalism at the Play Park at Rosemary Gardens which had necessitated the Park being closed for several days. **NOTED** that the renovation work at Rosemary Gardens is due to commence in two week’s time and that a letter is being sent out to local residents to inform them of potential noise and disruption. **NOTED** that the works at Hampers Common are due to commence in 7 days time. Further **NOTED** that the project does not require planning permission as the tower structure is under 4m and is therefore classed as permitted development. There has been a lot of positive feedback and anticipation from the many families who live on the estate.

**AGREED** that an update will be given at the next meeting and a further press release will be drafted.

**NOTED** that Lord Egremont has kindly agreed to formally open the Park at Hampers Common.

OS/67/15 Allotments

**NOTED** that the majority of allotment rents have been received. The Clerk will compile a definitive list and contact anyone who is still yet to pay.

**NOTED** that the Clerk and Cllr Kemp had met with Michael Naldrett to discuss clearance work on a number of derelict plots. Naldretts have quoted £100 per plot which will be brought to Council for approval.

**NOTED** that the hedge on the Midhurst Road is due to be cut in the next few days.

Cllr Kemp has received a quote for the taps which far exceeds any previous quotes.

**AGREED** that PTC must look at the allotment rents and in turn, the maintenance to ensure that income and expenditure balances and meets with requirements.

OS/68/15 To consider other items at the Chairman’s discretion

None.

Meeting closed – 8.57pm

Signed.....  
Chairman

Dated.....