

PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Meeting held 24/05/2017

Present: Clrs Kemp, Copus, Burden & Hanauer
Apologies: Clr Peet.

Election of Officers: Clr Roger Hanauer re-elected Chairman
Clr Michael Peet elected Vice Chairman
Clr David Burden having stood down from that role.

Representations by the Public

The Committee listened to a briefing by Mr Gordon Stevenson on his views about the recently constructed walkway adjacent to the Virgin Mary Spring. He expressed his various concerns about the structure, his main one being that it desecrated a site of religious and spiritual importance to a number of parishioners. He also felt that the muddy state of the path was mainly caused by an overflowing cattle trough and not poor drainage from the spring itself. Regarding the walkway itself, he felt it was poorly finished i.e. Trip hazards at either end, an insubstantial handrail and protruding bolts.

It was made clear that whilst a Councilor had met Mr Nick Scott from WSCC pathways to discuss necessary maintenance to the path as a whole and various options for where the slippage had occurred, no firm plans had been agreed. It was unfortunate that WSCC had not appraised the Town Council of the design and dimensions of their intended solution to the eroded pathway before their volunteer force embarked on it's construction. Whilst the Committee felt that some remedial work was justified, the walkway was unnecessarily large and intrusive. Clr Copus suggested that some of the planking could have been used to form shuttering whereby aggregate could have been used to level the pathway and thereby return it to its previous form. Mr Stevenson was thanked for his attendance and input.

Minutes of the O.S. meeting held on Wednesday 3rd May 2017 were approved.
Proposed Clr Copus seconded Clr Burden.

5 Bus Shelter for Station Road

Clr RH to meet a Ground Works engineer from Queensbury shelters to discuss the suitability of a cantilever type for the site, thereby negating the need for re-routing the footpath. This would result in a saving of Ground Works costs and enable the shelter to be positioned closer to the bus stop. Mr Fred Hill would be invited to attend the meeting to represent the interests of the potential shelter users.

Skatepark

Clr RH stated that Wheelscape were still waiting for CDC car parks to provide a revised layout for the bottom corner of the car park, whereby they could provide the Town Council with a more fully realised design to suit the site.

C Footpath around the hills

It was reported that the path was in a good state, and was not encroached upon by foliage.

The question of information boards was laid aside for the moment.

The Bartons Lane turnstile is to be refurbished.

D We await confirmation from BT that Hampers Green phone box is disconnected and ready for removal.

E Playpark signage has been ordered from Steeples and will be ready in 2 weeks. Hampers Common will be provided with a waste bin and CDC alerted to the need to include it in their emptying schedule.

It will be annotated as suitable for dog waste and thereby enable the dog waste bin to be removed.

F Allotments

All rental payments have been made. Letters to encourage defaulters to bring their plots up to an acceptable standard are being sent out.

G Fox Hill finger post is in the process of being refurbished.

L Mr Saxton's grass cutting contract and risk assessment to be completed and returned to Andrew Howard.

J New Farmers Market barriers and carrying trolleys will be ready for the next market.

K Boy's School graves

A small display has been made ready for the Town Meeting on May 26th

Local sculptors are being contacted to ascertain the likely cost of an artwork appropriate to the importance of the site to the Town.

It was noted that the developer is trying to amend the time frame of the Commitment to fund a suitable artwork on him as part of his planning consent.

Meeting closed at 20.40hrs