

PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON THURSDAY 29TH AUGUST 2013 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Mr R Chandler (Chairman), Mrs A Simmons,
Mr A Copus, Mr J Robbins and Mr A Sneller.

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

Mr Chandler welcomed Mr Copus to the committee.

1. Apologies were received from Mr K Lintill.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 27th June, having been circulated and passed at the Council meeting on Thursday 18th July, were signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Horsham Road Chapel: Mr Sneller said a group of people who are interested in the restoration of the chapel are meeting at 6.00 pm in the Angel Inn on Wednesday 4th September after which it is hoped a public meeting will be arranged. One of the ideas is, if a use can be found for the chapel, that a Trust will be formed to take responsibility for it. Trustees would then be able to apply for funding. A discussion followed. Following the article in the Observer it had been hoped that someone, or some group, would come forward to claim ownership, but this has not happened. Instead several people, who had shown no prior interest in the chapel, had come out of the 'woodwork' to express their opposition to its demolition. Mr Chandler said it will be interesting to see what happens.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Seats along the Hills: The Clerk said she had now written to both Mr Allnatt and his brother-in-law but had received no response from either. It was agreed that, as it appears they aren't going ahead with the seat along the Shimmings, replacement seats will be looked at for next year.

Turnstile: Mr Chandler said the turnstile has been refurbished by the Leconfield Estates and he then replaced it. There is still a further one lying in some bushes. The Clerk to write to Mr Knight to thank him.

6. SKATEBOARD PARK

As nothing further has been heard from the Leconfield Estates it was agreed that the Clerk write to Lord Egremont.

7. ROSEMARY GARDENS

Wet Pour Surface: Mr Chandler referred to the three estimates that had been received for replacing the worn areas of wet pour in the play area. After a discussion it was agreed that, although it is not the cheapest, to go for the estimate from Playsafe Playgrounds of £2,356.00, plus VAT. Mr Copus and Mrs Simmons to put this to the Finance and General Purposes committee next Tuesday.

Trees: Mr Robbins said after the meeting he would like Councillors to make a site visit to Rosemary Gardens to enable him to explain the work that is needed on the trees. This was agreed.

(Clerk's Note: Mr Robbin's report is attached.)

8. HAMPERS COMMON

Mowing: Mr Chandler said he considered that the contractors are doing a very good job and it is certainly an improvement on last year.

The Ditch: Mr Chandler referred again to the ditch on the east side, it is becoming silted up and blocking the culvert. It wouldn't be too difficult to clear it, the problem is in taking away the soil, bottles, etc.

Kebab Van: Mr Copus said this now appears to be a permanent fixture and questioned whether it should be taxed. Mr Robbins said only the vehicle pulling it needs tax. Mr Chandler said it appears to be well used and there have been no further complaints about the van or the litter.

Fireworks: Mr Sneller asked if the common could be used for the annual fireworks display on Saturday 2nd November. This was agreed.

9. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported there don't seem to have been any problems. Mr Robbins and Mrs Simmons said they will be carrying out an inspection in September.

10. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

A283: Mr Chandler said the Leconfield Estates has cut back some growth along the western side of the A283, near its junction with the A272, but has

left some large stumps which are protruding out, and wing mirrors on wide vehicles have been broken. The Clerk to write to Mr Granlund.

Lorry Route: Mr Chandler said in certain places the overgrowth along the Lorry Route is protruding onto the highway making it difficult for two large vehicle to pass. The Clerk to contact Highways.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05 pm and was followed by a site visit to Rosemary Gardens.