

PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2014 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 K Lintill.

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

1. Apologies were received from Mr Sneller. Mrs Shepherd did not attend.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th January, having been circulated and passed at the Council meeting on Thursday 16th January, were signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Horsham Road Chapel: In Mr Sneller's absence there was no update.

(b) Bus Shelter: The Assistant Clerk has obtained three estimates and has sent them to the insurance company.

(c) Street Cleaner: The Clerk said the Assistant Clerk had written to Mr Rod Darton and was waiting for a response. Mr Copus asked who paid the street cleaner, the Clerk replied the District Council. Mr Robbins said he hopes it can be arranged for the bins in Rosemary Gardens to be emptied by the street cleaner as, if the Naldretts are asked to continue emptying the bins, he didn't think they will renew their contract in April. The Clerk to follow this up.

(d) Bin in Sylvia Beaufoy Car Park: The Clerk said she had sent in request for a bin in the car park but had received no response. She will follow this up.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY

(a) Hanging Baskets: Mr Robbins said that the Community Garden will be unable to provide hanging baskets this year but to ask them again next year. The Clerk to speak to Mr Spriggs.

- (b) Brackets: Mr Chandler confirmed that Mr Ticehurst could make the brackets at a cost of £20 each. Someone will have to be found to fit them, the present fittings can be used but they need to be set in resin. A discussion followed, finally it was agreed that Mr Chandler ask Mr Ticehurst to go ahead and make the brackets. Mr Robbins will see if he can find someone to fit them.

6. SKATEBOARD RAMP

Mr Chandler said as mentioned by the Chairman at the Council meeting last week BT has not agreed to the skateboard ramp on its land. Mr Robbins suggested that another look be taken at the Herbert Shiner site, Mr Lintill said he is not in favour of this, it has to be policed and the Caretaker will not want the responsibility. A discussion took place on other possible sites, Mr Robbins asked about re-visiting Hampers Common, Mr Chandler said as the landlord has already said 'no' this is not a possibility. Mr Robbins also suggested the far end of the main car park where the refuse vehicle is sited. It was thought this could be a possibility. It was also suggested that an article be put in Petworth Pages, together with a picture of the ramp, asking for ideas as to where it could be sited, stating unless somewhere can be found the council will have to abandon the idea.

7. ROSEMARY GARDENS

- (a) Trees: Mr Chandler said Mr Robbins has obtained three quotations for the work on the trees, £950, £1,050 and £1,500. The cheapest, from Mr Foster, is the tree surgeon Mr Robbins usually works with. It was unanimously agreed that the quotation of £950 from Mr Foster be accepted.
- (b) Slide: The Clerk reported that the slide, which is part of the large multiplay equipment, has been damaged, there is a large hole in it. She has been in touch with Chris at Playsafe Playgrounds who will be looking at it. To stop any child using it she was asked to tape it off.

8. HAMPERS COMMON

- (a) Ditch: Mr Chandler said he has had a look at the ditch, it is not too silted up as the water is still running through. When the weather is right he will go out with a machine, clear it and take the soil and rubbish away. Councillors asked that their thanks be minuted.
- (b) Footpath: Mr Robbins said that the grass along the footpath has been cut.

9. ALLOTMENTS

- (a) Hedge along the Grove Lane Allotments: Mr Chandler said he had been to see the hedge, the Naldretts had done a very good job but had only cut it to the edge of the common and not, as requested, as far as the tennis club's land. He had spoken with them, there had obviously been some misunderstanding, and they will be cutting the remainder.

(Clerk's Note: This has now been done, and has improved the area.)

- (b) Inspection: Mr Robbins and Mrs Simmons will carry out an inspection towards the end of March.

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

Light in Car Park: Mr Lintill said the light by the old District Council office and the toilets is flickering on and off. The Clerk to report it.

Wooden Tubs: Mr Chandler said some of the wooden tubs are looking rather sad, especially the one north east of the Leconfield Hall. After a short discussion it was agreed to find out the cost of a replacement. Mr Robbins said he will make enquiries.

(Clerk's Note: The following day I met Mr Spriggs going round the town adding daffodils to all the tubs. I've sent him a letter of thanks.)

Bus Stop by the Leconfield Hall. The Clerk said she had seen her window cleaner earlier this week who had said he would be interested in quoting for the work.

Footpath to the Gog: Mr Robbins said that there are fallen trees along the footpath to the Gog. This is the Leconfield Estates responsibility. He will speak to Mr Humphris.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm