

## PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY 2014 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7.30 PM

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

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs H Cruikshank (Assistant Clerk)

1. There were no apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 31st October 2013, having been circulated and passed at the Council meeting on Thursday 21st November, were signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Horsham Road Chapel: Mr Chandler asked Mr Sneller to outline the current situation. Mr Sneller said he is not leading the project now. All he knows is that the tower and part of the roof have been covered, but an update can be found on the website.

(b) Bus Shelter: The Assistant Clerk said she is looking into this, she has received two quotations for a similar replacement, and is awaiting a third. When this is received she will be talking to the insurance company.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Brackets: Mr Chandler said he has spoken to Mr Ticehurst, he has quoted £20 per bracket, there are 22 of them. Mr Sneller said not all the brackets need replacing, it is mainly the fixings and suggested that they be set in resin. Mr Chandler concurred. Mr Robbins reminded them that this must be carried out before the baskets are ready for hanging in about 3/4 months time. Mr Chandler to speak to Mr Walsh about the finance for the work.

Wooden Tubs: Mr Chandler said some of these are looking tired.

Hanging Baskets: Mr Robbins said he had not heard back from Kate Brickell, he will see her on Tuesday at the community garden. The Clerk reminded him that she does need to provide a price.

6. SKATEBOARD RAMP

Mr Chandler said he had visited the proposed site by the telephone exchange, the area is about 30m x 10 m, which is just about big enough to site the ramp. Unfortunately it is on a slope so will need leveling, the entrance will be from Rosemary Gardens. He estimated it will cost about £2,000 to put a 2 metre high chain link fence and posts round the area, but this does not include installation. A discussion took place on the pros and cons of siting the ramp there. Planning permission will be needed, the houses at the back do have very long gardens, but there could be some objections. To move this forward the Assistant Clerk will let BT have details of the proposed security measures.

7. ROSEMARY GARDENS

- (a) Trees: Mr Robbins said planning permission has been received and he is now in the process of obtaining three quotes for the work.
- (b) Wetpour Resurfacing: Mr Chandler said he considered a very good job had been done for the money. One Councillor did not think this to be the case and had also complained that rubbish had been left in the car park, but he hadn't seen any. Mr Lintill concurred with Mr Chandler, he thought the repairs were very good, if there had been any rubbish it must have been cleared away as couldn't find any sign of it.
- (c) Flag: The Clerk said the Sussex flag has been badly torn by the strong winds and rain. Mr Sneller said it is too dangerous to put a ladder against the pole, it would have to be taken down.
- (d) Weeds: Mr Robbins said he hasn't forgotten about spraying the weeds in the play area. When the time is right he will be dealing with them.

8. HAMPERS COMMON

General: Mr Chandler said considering the weather the common is looking good, the fallen tree has been cleared away. Mr Sneller said it had been agreed to put tree trunks across the two areas where vehicles could access the common. Mr Chandler said he will speak to Mr Humphris and see if the Leconfield Estate can provide these.

Ditch: Mr Chandler said the ditch bordering the Balls Cross Road will need attention before too long, he is keeping an eye on it but is hoping, as it has stood up well to the storms, it can be left until next year. It will be necessary to employ a contractor to clear it, the contents will have to go to landfill, but the Estate might be able to help on this. The one bordering the eastern side of the common belongs to them. He will report on this at the next Council meeting.

9. ALLOTMENTS

- (a) Hedge at Grove Lane Allotments: Mr Chandler said the Naldretts have been to look at the work and have quoted a price of £300. The Clerk is waiting for a further two.
- (b) General Condition: Mr Chandler said following the last inspection all allotments are in good order and the Clerk has a waiting list. He thanked Mrs Simmons and Mr Robbins for carrying out the inspections. They both said they enjoyed looking at the allotments.

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

War Memorial: Mrs Shepherd asked about the cleaning of the War Memorial. The Clerk reported that Mr Walsh in the process of obtaining three estimates for the work.

Cobbles in Lombard Street: Mr Copus said there are some loose cobbles at the top of Lombard Street. The Clerk said this a matter for the Traffic and Planning committee and has already been reported to Highways.

Street Cleaner: Mr Robbins said Mr Kemp had asked him to raise the subject of the street cleaner. He wanted to know the number of hours, and the areas he is contracted to clean, as he thought there are other parts of the town that should be swept and this Council should take control of the work. Mr Lintill said he isn't there every day and certainly not on Sundays. Mr Robbins said he wondered if he could be asked to empty the bins in Rosemary Gardens as the Naldretts had intimated that if they had continue to do so they would not renew their contract in April. A short discussion followed, Councillors were not fully convinced that this council should oversee the cleaning of the town. After further discussion Mr Lintill said he will speak to his wife and ask her to find out from the District Council if the cleaner could empty the bins in Rosemary Gardens and, if so, if there would be any cost to the council.

Bin in Sylvia Beaufoy Car Park: The Chairman asked if there is any update on having a bin in the Sylvia Beaufoy Car Park. The Clerk said she had asked for one but had heard nothing back. She will follow this up.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm

