



Petworth Town Council

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A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE TOOK PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2020 AT 7PM VIA VIDEO LINK

MINUTES

Present: Cllr S. Atkins
Cllr A. Copus
Cllr J. Fynes
Cllr C. Kemp
Cllr M. Peet
Cllr P. Hewlett
Cllr C. Sproson
Cllr H. Desai
Laura Smith, Clerk

120/20 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman requested that mobile phones should be turned off. He also asked for the Committee Members' support in putting out the Silent Soldiers ready for Remembrance Events. Cllr Copus agreed to identify the number of Silent Soldiers stored in the container and to advise Cllr Singleton so a plan can be formulated.

121/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J. Scallon & Cllr L. Singleton

122/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

123/20 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2020 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr Peet, seconded by Cllr Kemp and unanimously approved.

124/20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

125/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

126/20 PLAY AREAS

The committee considered whether to remove the remaining fencing in place at the play area at Hampers Common. It was agreed that the fencing would remain in place with another review taking place at the next Open Spaces committee meeting. Cllr Copus reported that there are 2 damaged fence panels which are currently laid on the ground at the play area. He advised that 1 panel which is being used needs some additional support. Cllr Copus offered to make the necessary adjustments. Cllr Desai offered to post a reminder about the reasons why the tower is closed on social media. She asked

Cllr Copus to send her some photos of the play area, including the tower, which can be used on social media. The committee considered the wording on the draft litter signs and resolved to replace “I’m A Jerk” with I’m Selfish”.

127/20 ALLOTMENTS – The committee considered an email received from Nick Blunt Fencing suggesting the Council installs some steps beneath the new gate at Station Road allotments. Cllr Peet & Cllr Atkins will measure the area on Saturday 10th October before confirming with the Clerk whether steps or a ramp can be installed. Cllr Peet asked the Clerk to seek quotes for the works required and request Hyde Housing contribute 50% of the cost.

128/20 HAMPERS COMMON – Cllr Kemp asked the Clerk to speak with Stennetts to identify when they plan on undertaking the mole draining at Hampers Common. Cllr Peet advised the committee that the Clerk has received notice from the Information Commissioner’s Office that they have received a complaint from Ms Mawby regarding the Council’s handling of her recent Freedom of Information request. Cllr Peet asked the Clerk to inform the committee when further information regarding this complaint has been received.

129/20 ROSEMARY GARDENS – Cllr Sproson reported that the application for a water supply in Rosemary Gardens has been submitted to Southern Water. Cllr Peet thanked Cllr Sproson for completing and submitting the application. Cllr Kemp advised that he will undertake the necessary repairs to the external wall at Rosemary Gardens when weather conditions allow. Cllr Peet & Cllr Atkins will move the bricks from the pathway to cover in Cllr Peet’s garden on Saturday 10th October, to enable them to dry out. Cllr Desai advised that there was a pallet that could be used at Station Road allotments and Cllr Hewlett offered to provide a tarpaulin. Cllr Peet asked all those who are willing to assist with moving the bricks to meet at 2pm on Saturday.

130/20 PLANTING & HORTICULTURE – Cllr Hewlett advised that the winter plants have been ordered from Tawny Nurseries. She reported that Honey Fungus may be an issue in Rosemary Gardens and this is being explored further with the support of Mr M South. Cllr Hewlett asked if the location of the bins in Rosemary Gardens could be reviewed and Cllr Peet asked the working group to review this on Saturday 10th October before developing a plan. Cllr Hewlett advised that she wishes to continue to lead the Town’s planting & horticulture during 2021 at a third of the cost of the proposal received from Windowflowers Ltd. Cllr Kemp agreed that the Planting & Horticulture Working Group should continue to co-ordinate the planting if they wish to do so.

131/20 BT PHONE BOX PROJECT – The Clerk advised that she has not yet received the proposal from Square Apple hence this item will be deferred to the next meeting.

132/20 SPORTS GROUND UPDATE – Cllr Peet advised that the Sports & Physical Activity Working Group had a productive meeting on the 6th October with various policies and adaptations to the current governance model being adopted. Cllr Kemp reported his concerns regarding not having a long-term lease and expressed disappointment that the National Trust do not appear to want any changes to the ground, despite the issues with the current facilities. Cllr Copus suggested that if, following the upcoming meeting with the National Trust, the lease they are offering is not suitable for the Town Council’s needs, the Council should not sign it and should continue on the terms of the current lease.

133/20 ACTION LIST

The action list was reviewed, all updates are recorded on the attached Action List.

134/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.37pm.

Signed
Chairman

Dated.....