

REPORT OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 9th JANUARY

MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE

Chairman: * Tony Edwards

Councillors * Jo Clark
Raj Khiroya
* Jill Leeming
* Alison Preedy
* Martin Trevett
* Steve Watkins (ex officio)
* Sarah Wright
* Jane White (ex officio)

* Denotes members present

Officers present Yvonne Merritt – Clerk

There were three members of the public present.

17/65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Raj Khiroya

17/66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION

None

17/67 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Open Spaces Committee and Allotment Users meetings held on 7th November 2017, be approved as a true and correct record.

17/68 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

17/69 FINANCIAL COMPARISON STATEMENT 2017/18

It was noted that £3500 of the money in Misc Income had come from a donation towards way markers for the nature trail.

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the report

17/70 OFFICER'S REPORT

The report was considered in detail.

Christchurch Car Park- The Clerk advised the current situation with regard to the use of the tarmac area formally used as a playground for Christchurch School. It was agreed that a meeting should be set up with the School, Church and the Parish Council to see what was needed and how it could be funded. Cllrs Trevett and Wright offered to attend the meeting.

Virtual Fencing Replacement: The Clerk confirmed that the virtual fencing was in place for the next season of grazing.

Nature Trail: The Chairman commented that during the Christmas period he had walked the common on a number of occasions and received very positive comments about the sculptures, these included a vote of thanks to the Parish Council for the trail.

The Clerk explained the ethos of the Memorial Tree and advised that 12 spaces had initially been set aside for memorial plaques. Currently there were nine enquiries being dealt with.

Green Space Action Plan: The Chairman advised that a site meeting had been held with the CMS. He had received a number of comments to the first stage of the plan – most of which were constructive. The main area of general concern was the golf course fairways. It was suggested that could be maintained differently by allowing the grass to grow slightly longer creating a rough and semi rough around the perimeter of the fairway therefore creating habitat for butterflies, reptiles and small mammals. The Golf Club has agreed to meet with the CMS to discuss these proposals.

It was agreed that more emphasis would be on the education and information on and about the Common – this would be helped with new signage and the information on line about the nature trail.

The Committee
RESOLVED
To note the report

ALLOTMENTS

17/71 OCCUPATION

The continued availability of allotment plots at all sites was noted.

The Committee
RESOLVED
To note the occupation

17/72 WAITING LISTS

The Committee
RESOLVED
To note the details on the waiting list.

LAWN CEMETERY

17/73 INTERMENTS

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the number of interments that had taken place.

COMMON AND GROVEWOOD

17/74 BUTTERFLY AND MOTH SURVEY

The Chairman asked Michael Hyde to speak regarding the butterfly survey. It was noted that there were two new species found on the Common in the last year. Numbers were down on previous years, this however appeared to be a nation trend.

The Chairman thanked Michael Hyde and the volunteers for the continued supported and advised that this information would be forwarded to the Herts Biological Records Centre and the Butterfly Conservation Board.

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the report.

17/75 ICE CREAM CONCESSION ON CHORLEYWOOD COMMON

Councillors considered the details within the report and agreed that the ice cream concession probably had run its course. They did however suggest that a position for a refreshment van to be located on the common could be advertised on Social Media to see if anyone was interested. Once the information is available Members could review the information and consider offering a new concession.

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the vacancy for a Refreshment Concession be advertised on Social Media and that officers report back any interest.

This was proposed by Cllr Preedy, seconded by Cllr Edwards and unanimously approved.

GENERAL

17/76 FOUR YEAR VISION

Nature Trail – it was noted that the British Horse Society had responded to an email in October 2017, however due to IT issues the Clerk confirmed that she had not received it . It was acknowledged that a copy had been forwarded and the Clerk agreed to respond accordingly. Other areas regarding the Nature Trail had already been discussed elsewhere in the agenda.

Parish Paths – The Chairman advised that most of the paths had now been walked and areas of interest were being collated. Cllr Watkins was also taking photographs of area of interest. The Chairman advised that the written information about the paths together with instruction would need to be tested. A number of Councillors volunteered to audit and test the information before publication.

The Chairman also advised that there was a meeting to be held on 23rd January to move this forward.

It was agreed that the completion date be changed to April 2018.

The Committee
RESOLVED
To note the report

17/77 HEALTH AND SAFETY

There was nothing to report on this item.

17/78 CLOSURE

The meeting having commenced at 7.30 pm closed at 8.40pm.

Signed agreed via email Date 19.1.18

These minutes were agreed as a true and correct record at the Open Spaces meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Signed..... Date.....

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING ACTION

REFERENCE	RESOLUTION / ACTION	ACTION REQUIRED	BY WHOM
OS 16/76	Action	To write an article for the next edition of Chorleywood Matters explaining the CiL rules and the use of the initial monies received for the Nature Trail. <i>Ongoing: target the Spring issue of Chorleywood Matters</i>	Cllr Raj Khuroya
OS 16/89 & 17/06	Action	To arrange a parish paths meeting to move the leaflet forward. A meeting to be held with the residents who had volunteered to assist with documenting the parish paths in Chorleywood. <i>Ongoing: Action points combined and progress update to be given at next meeting</i>	Deputy Clerk
OS 17/06	Action	Formal letters to be sent to Sky Vision and the local Taxi company that were abusing the parking arrangements in the permissive parking areas. <i>Ongoing: The Clerk advised that the taxi company had been approached and were no longer parking at Shepherds Bridge. Cllr Martin Trevett advised that he was trying to get the parking restriction signage replaced outside the station.</i>	Clerk / Cllr Martin Trevett
17/35	Action	To advise and explain the legislation covering cycling on the common to local schools for further dissemination and use social media and the Parish Council website to further support this action to discourage cyclists from using the Common. <i>Ongoing</i>	Clerk
17/35	Action	A tool to report issues with Parish Paths be built into the new Parish Council website currently under development. <i>Ongoing</i>	Deputy Clerk
17/70	Action	Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Church and School to discuss the tarmac area on the Common	Clerk
17/74	Action	Send the information from the Butterfly and Moth Survey to the HBRC and Butterfly Conservation.	Deputy Clerk
17/75	Action	Advertise for a refreshment concession for the Common on Social Media Outlets	Admin Officer

