



PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
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**MINUTES OF THE
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE ROTHER HALL AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY, 14TH OCTOBER 2021**

PRESENT: Cllrs Henly (Chairman), Clarke, Court, Hunt, Lawson, Riddle and Santo.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs H Knight (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Hare.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CHANGES TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.
There were no changes to Register of Interests.

38. MINUTES

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th September 2021 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

Clerk's Report

Min. 26 Public Speaking – SCYP: The Chairman had liaised with the Village Hall Manager very quickly following the discussion at the last meeting, who had confirmed that Sussex Clubs for Young People (SCYP) could potentially hire the Arun Hall on Wednesday afternoons and had contacted them. SCYP had then contacted the Clerk to advise that the cost was too high and asking if the Council could assist financially. The Clerk had advised that the impression from the meeting discussion was that SCYP could fund raise to meet this. To date no further communication had been received and the Village Hall manager had not heard further from the club.

Min. 30, Fence at Allotments: The plot holder seeking the fence and vegetation improvements had contacted the Committee Chairman to advise that he and the property owner concerned had together cut back the overhanging hedge and vegetation themselves. The Clerk reported to the committee that if correct this may interfere with the tree works order already placed with Beechdown Arboriculture Ltd. The contractor had been appointed and instructed to undertake various tree works at the allotments, including overhanging vegetation from the adjacent property. The work had been awaiting HDC TPO permission, which had recently arrived, and it was understood the contractor would carry out all the allotment tree work on 1st

November 2021. The Clerk had not yet had a chance to contact the property owner concerning the damaged fence panels, as agreed at the last meeting, but would make this a priority.

Min. 33, Tree condition at main recreation ground: The Clerk confirmed that the diseased red oak tree had been felled and removed, as agreed.

The Tree Warden had raised concerns about several mature trees on the south side of the recreation ground, which in his view were in poor condition and were probably nearing the end of their life. The next triennial tree survey was due in February 2022 but as these trees could potentially be a public danger over winter, Beechdown Arboriculture Ltd had agreed to look at them when undertaking the allotment work, to advise whether more urgent action was required.

Private use of main recreation ground car park: The Clerk had received a resident request to be able to use the car park for approximately 6 private vehicles from 5-9pm on Saturday 13th November. This would only be if parking was not available in New Place Road. In liaison with the Committee Chairman and the Sports & Social Club, the Clerk had confirmed permission and requested that the cars be kept to the rear/bowls club side of the car park.

Sussex Wildlife Trust Storrington & Arun Valley Regional Group

The Clerk had been sent details of the group's forthcoming meeting on Wilder Horsham, at Pulborough Village Hall on 29th October 2021. Details to be circulated.

Asbestos fly tipping at Rivermead nature reserve: Cllr Riddle had recently notified the Clerk of suspected asbestos waste fly-tipped in several refuse sacks. The Clerk had notified HDC Environmental Health who had confirmed that HDC would remove this under licence as it is on public land. Arrangements were now in hand for HDC waste contractor to carry out a site visit, with removal expected the following day (Friday 15th October 2021).

39. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no public present.

40. RECREATION CLUB REPORTS

The following written reports had been received by the Clerk:

Cricket Club

Cricket is now in closed season and we recently carried out the end of season pitch renovation in readiness for the 2022 season. In an attempt to keep members of the public from destroying this work by walking over the prepared area we have erected a plastic fence around the square and trust it will not be vandalised over winter.

Bowls Club

As you may be aware next year is our Centenary and we will be celebrating this with various activities. We will be playing Sussex County Bowls and The Past Presidents as well as launching our Mens Invitation Triples as part of our Centenary year matches. Opposition clubs will receive pennants to commemorate our Centenary and our club bowlers will be given new bowls stickers showing our 100-year milestone, dates for the above will be confirmed a.s.a.p. We hope to have other events throughout the season, but to date only the above have been arranged. We will, of course, have our full season of league and friendly matches, so the coming season looks to be very busy.

41. PLAYGROUND INSPECTION

Members had received the six monthly September 2021 Inspection for consideration. In addition, the Clerk had tabled an update from Kompan on final works carried out today. These had arisen as a result of comments and P1/P2 risks highlighted in the latest inspection report, which the Clerk had queried with Kompan and asked them to address. Kompan had now fitted a new pitch roof to the Wicksteed Woodlands Galleon (P1 in latest inspection report) and a new infill panel to the Wicksteed 3 Tower Rainbow Modular Unit (P2 in latest inspection report). They advised that all edges had been painted and post caps fitted. They had also advised that the gate was very old and the closer speed was reduced as much as possible without preventing closure. It had today been further reduced to avoid finger traps, but this meant the gate would not close properly. Kompan will be providing a quote for a new steel powder coated self-closing gate. The Clerk had not had an opportunity to check that all outstanding matters had been dealt with.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Groundsman be asked to visually check the final works against the inspection report, and also that Cllrs Hunt, Santo and Riddle would meet the following day to assess the work. These findings and the P1s and P2s in the latest inspection report would be discussed at the next meeting.

42. MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY FOR MANAGEMENT OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT

Following deferment from the last meeting, Members considered the re-circulated spreadsheet of P3s and anticipated equipment lifespan.

Cllr Hunt reported that she had contacts with parents/users of the playground equipment who would be happy to feedback their views on suitable replacement equipment. It was noted that this would be more relevant at the point that items were being considered for replacement. Currently, it was pertinent to review actual lifespans and assess the likely budgetary costs needed to be built up.

Following lengthy discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk build a new amount of £9,000 into the new draft annual budget being drawn up for the Finance & Policy Committee.

Reference was made to the need for improvements to the MSF (Multi-sports facility), The Clerk reminded members that last year it was agreed to investigate the potential for applying for SDNP CIL funds for a new facility to complement the pavilion improvements. This was had been temporarily delayed but would be researched very shortly.

43. OFFER OF FREE TREES ON PARISH COUNCIL LAND

Noting the removal of the felled red oak tree from the recreation ground, Members wished to consider a replacement tree. It was considered that this would need to be at the council's cost since it replaced a previous tree. Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk arrange to purchase a checker / wild service tree up to a limit of £75.

Members had not identified any suitable locations as yet for the free trees. The Clerk reported that the contractor who had removed the red oak had confirmed he would be happy to suggest suitable parish locations and varieties, however he had not yet done so. The Clerk would contact him again with the request and maps of parish owned land. In light of the foregoing, it was **RESOLVED** to discuss this item at the next meeting, as trees could be planted in late autumn/early winter.

44. REQUEST FOR COMMEMORATIVE TREE

Members considered the request from friends of a deceased resident for a tree to be planted in his memory at one of several locations he had enjoyed sitting in. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk advise the applicant that unfortunately this would only be possible if they were prepared to pay for the tree, since the Council had to consider setting a precedent for other such requests as well as the addition of the tree to its maintenance programme and costs.

45. FIRE EQUIPMENT QUOTATION

Members considered the quotation from Fire Risk UK for essential work, following their recent inspection of the sports pavilion and sports & social club premises. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation of £173.87 (no VAT) and approve the supply and installation of 3 x replacement emergency lights, 1 x heat detector and 1 x call point.

46. TREE TAGGING

Members considered the quotation of £1,295.00 (no VAT) from ArbTec Tree Care for the re-tagging of council owned trees (excluding allotments which had already been carried out separately). Unfortunately, for resourcing reasons it had not been possible to obtain alternative quotations for comparison. It was **RESOLVED** to approve that ArbTec Tree Care be instructed to proceed as per their quotation. The Clerk was asked to request that trees with TPOs be identified within the tagging system.

47. ALLOTMENTS

Members considered the enquiry from a plot holder as to whether the Council would be interested in purchasing the shed he had supplied, should he decide not to renew his tenancy agreement. Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Council did not wish to purchase the shed and the Clerk would advise him accordingly of this.

48. CORRESPONDENCE**SDNPA**

Joining link for Councillors for the 'Nature Recovery' webinar on 13.10.21 at 6.30pm. (email forwarded to whole Council)

CPRE

Confirmation and membership card from 16.11.21 to 16.11.22, including option to increase donation.

Pulborough Re-wilding projects and Lower Street improvements

Update from Mrs E Hunt (email 06.10.21) advising that BT has granted the volunteer group an annual renewable licence for their community gardening project; that the Royal Mail sorting office railings and phone box/defibrillator station have been painted (by contractor to specification), and imminent improvements to façade of The Pulborough Exchange, as part of Lower St improvements/community gardening.

Additional information update from Pulborough Community Partnership of potential advice for community projects from Creative Waves, contact forwarded by PCP and HDC.

Publications

- Wey & Arun September and October e-newsletters.
- Wey.South – quarterly magazine, issue 196 September/October/November 2021

49. PAYMENTS RESOLVED

Members approved the following payments and were signed by one authorised signatory, the other signatory will sign them outside the meeting in the Parish Office.

Kent County Council	£82.35
Travis Perkins	£31.69
Beechdown Arboriculture Ltd	£840.00
Heather Knight	£20.00
Pulborough Social Centre (Village Hall)	£196.10
Laker Builders Mercant	£3.18
Burgess & Randall Ltd	£18.34
Burgess & Randall Ltd	£23.34
Burgess & Randall Ltd	£1.84
Burgess & Randall Ltd	£3.80
Daisy Communications	£21.38
Horsham District Council	£49.60
Horsham District Council	£59.85

The meeting closed at 9.07pm

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE