



PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
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**MINUTES OF THE
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM AT PULBOROUGH SPORTS PAVILION
ON THURSDAY 13TH APRIL 2023**

PRESENT: Cllrs Henly (Chairman), Campbell, Clarke, Court, Ellis-Brown, Esdaile (arrived during min. no. 99.), Hunt (arrived during min. no. 99.), and Riddle.

IN ATTENDANCE: N Wiltshire (Deputy Clerk) and two members of the public.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

97. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and reasons approved from Cllrs Lawson (personal reason) and Hare (personal reason).

98. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CHANGES TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest or changes to the Register of Interests made.

99. MINUTES

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th March 2023 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

Clerk's Report

• **Nutbourne Common**

It has been reported that the Wild Cherry tree, which was donated by HDC as part of the Queen's Jubilee Green Canopy, is thriving. As in previous years, volunteers at Nutbourne Common have been engaged in maintenance work in the early months of the year.

• **Recreation Ground – Sussex FA**

At the previous meeting it was reported that the Premier League, the FA, and the Government's Football Foundation was hosting a webinar to show case available funding opportunities to help improve grass pitches. This was attended by Cllr Hunt and the webinar slides have been emailed to Committee Members.

- **Rivermead**

In progressing surrender release a week before the transfer was due to take place, Horsham District Council advised that the land is not theirs but was transferred to Saxon Weald as part of the transfer of the housing stock some 20 years ago. Saxon Weald have been in contact and confirm that the land is registered to them. Their Neighbourhood Manager in charge of grounds management will be visiting the site in the next few weeks. Their assessment of the condition may require the Parish Council to implement some work and there may be a cost to the deed of surrender for which Saxon Weald may ask for a contribution.

100. PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Chairman invited a resident who had given formal notice to speak on behalf of the Pulborough Protect the Rec Group regarding agenda item 5. **RECREATION CLUBS REPORTS**

The speaker said that they spoke for the Pulborough Protect The Rec Group and commented on various matters associated with sports clubs, rents and the condition of the Recreation Ground.

Meeting adjourned: 7.35pm

Meeting reconvened: 7.40pm

The Chairman thanked the speaker for taking the time to address the Committee.

101. RECREATION CLUB REPORTS

The Deputy Clerk reported the following for information:

Bowls Club

The Club advised that they had erected new machinery shed. They are looking forward to their new season, which starts on 15th April 2023.

Football Club

The Club asked that the youth team be able to mark out a small pitch, as in previous years, so that they can continue to train during the summer, which was **AGREED**.

Stoolball Club

The Club notified that their home tournament would be taking place as usual on the third Sunday in July, i.e., 16th July 2023 and that they will require a large part of the Recreation Ground for two pitches. The new Cricket Club committee had included this date for a match in their fixture list (copied to the Parish Council), however, they have kindly agreed to step aside.

Sussex Clubs for Young People (SCYP)

The CEO, Chris Cook, notified the Office that he could speak at a committee meeting in May with the key aim of discussing club accommodation in place for the Autumn term onwards.

102. PULBOROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP (PCP) – CORONATION PICNIC

Members **NOTED** the Risk Register produced for holding a Coronation Picnic at the Recreation Ground on Saturday, 6th May 2023, an event organised by Pulborough Community Partnership (PCP) and Pulborough Sports and Social Club.

103. PULBOROUGH PARISH FOOTPATH CHARTER

Following deferral at the previous meeting (Min. 91, 09.03.23) the review of the Pulborough Parish Footpath Charter was discussed following Cllr Hare's liaison with West Sussex County Council (WSCC). Members discussed Cllr Hare's

amendments to the Charter and the update he had made to consider the comments on both stiles and barbed wire fencing by including footnotes with links to the relevant clauses on the WSCC website. This incorporated additional information, while preserving the integrity of the document, which had always been to summarise the informal arrangement between footpath-user and landowner on a single A4 sheet. However, Members felt that additional wording should be incorporated regarding stiles being replaced by kissing gates and barbed wire being removed and replaced, where possible and that rather than footnotes having links they needed to be made more explicit. It was **RESOLVED** that these changes would be considered at the next meeting. The Deputy Clerk reported that he had been unable to check with HALC as to whether there are other Parish Councils that may have a Footpath Charter but would follow up on this.

104. PULBOROUGH RECREATION GROUND – PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Members received and considered options regarding preventative measures that might be implemented at The Recreation Ground. During discussion, it became clear that the aim should be to make the site secure from unwanted visitors. However, in using soil to construct barriers Cllr Davies' biggest concern was the potential damage to the root plates of the existing trees due to the weight of the soil so he had tried to make the design sympathetic to the existing trees. Members **AGREED** that Cllr Davies' plan for the construction of berms should be implemented. In his covering email, Cllr Davies indicated that while the design needed to be finalised by the Committee, he suggested that wildflower be planted on the berms as it only needs two cuts a year.

105. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items were noted, as per the list previously circulated:

SDNPA

South Downs News March 2023.

HDC

Email 03.04.23 Horsham District Climate Action newsletter – April 2023

S&SC

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 21st February 2023 and Profit and Loss Comparison. (Copied to Committee)

CPRE Sussex

Countryside Voices Spring/Summer 2023

Email 06.03.23 March Newsletter – Food waste, recycling, water day and Earth Hour

Publications

Email 04.03.23 Wey & Arun Canal News - March 2023 e-newsletter.

The Rural Bulletin - 7 March 2023.

The Rural Bulletin - 21 March 2023.

The Rural Bulletin - 28 March 2023.

The Rural Bulletin – 4 April 2023.

Wey South – Quarterly Magazine of the Wey & Arun Canal Trust Issue 202 March | April | May 2023

106. PAYMENTS

Members **RESOLVED** approval of the Payments List, which was duly signed by two authorising members, comprising the following payments:

Viking	£196.98
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The meeting closed at 8.30pm

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE

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