



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 JULY 2022**

PRESENT: Cllrs Court (Vice Chairman), Campbell, Clarke, Ellis-Brown, Hare, Lawson and Riddle.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs H Knight (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

In the absence of the Committee Chairman, the Vice Chairman, Cllr Court, chaired the meeting.

12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and reasons approved from Cllrs. Hunt (personal commitment), Esdaile (personal commitment) and Henly (unwell).

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CHANGES TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS

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

14. MINUTES

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th May 2022 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and the Chairman signed them.

Clerks Report

Min. 3, 26.05.22, Ground Treatment Work / Rivermead Nature Reserve:

The Clerk had met on site at Rivermead Nature Reserve with the HDC Parks and Countryside Manager and another officer to discuss whether they would be interested in taking on management of the area on behalf for the Parish Council, as previously discussed by the Committee.

The Clerk had established that in fact the site is not owned by the Parish Council but is on a 99 year lease from HDC. Subject to ascertaining any legal issue and agreement by both Horsham District Council and the Parish Council, it should therefore be feasible and straightforward for HDC to resume responsibility for the site. HDC officers would be reporting back their proposals and the subject would be part of the autumn review of the site management.

15. PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no public present.

16. RECREATION CLUB REPORTS

No club reports had been received but the Clerk reported the following for information:

Sussex Clubs for Young People (SCYP)

The SCYP termly report 21st April-27th May 2022 had been circulated to Members. The Clerk reported that the Team Manager, Sheri Birch, had hoped to attend tonight's meeting but had been unable to. She had advised that she would be moving position in September and the new local Team Manager will be Lisa Worley. SCYP had also advised that they will be running 4 x 3hr sessions over the summer school holiday to make up for a session missed due to staff sickness in June and one not running on 28th July.

Cricket Club

The Clerk reported that the club has advised it is struggling to maintain sufficient members, which in turn has had a financial impact. It was noted that they were no longer in the county league due to the lack of numbers. They were planning a recruitment campaign which the Clerk had offered to help promote where possible.

Sports & Social Club

The Clerk reported that the club has, via councillor representatives, requested permission to build and install a new cupboard in the club premises. The Clerk has requested written details for clarity, which is awaited before bringing to the Committee.

17. SIX MONTHLY PLAYGROUND INSPECTION AND WORKS TO EQUIPMENT

Members considered the Playground Inspection Report from March 2022 and recommended action. It was noted that all findings were marked Low Risk apart from one Moderate Risk relating to issues with the Wicksteed Galleon. Members had received 3 estimates from Kompan for various works arising from the report, however the Clerk advised that as these had expired, new quotes had been requested but not yet received. It was noted that the sums involved were above the Committee's delegated spend limit of £3,000 and if agreed upon would need to be a recommendation to Full Council.

Some elements of the report findings were not clear and it was noted that there appeared to be a discrepancy over which playground gate (main recreation ground) was being referred to since photographs of both gates had been included. The Clerk was asked to instruct the Groundsman to undertake various items already identified in the report by the outgoing Deputy Clerk such as moss and algae removal and rubbing down of rough wood edges.

After considerable discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to recommend to full Council that Kompan be instructed to proceed with the report recommendations for remedial works to the Wicksteed Galleon as quoted, at an estimated cost of £3,390.42 + VAT – firm figure to be obtained by the Clerk for consideration at the Council Meeting on 21st July 2022. All other works identified would be reviewed as part of the next six monthly inspection, due in September.

18. REQUEST FOR COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE ON TREE

The Clerk advised that the non-resident members of public who had requested the recent planting of a tree (Catalpa) in memory of a Pulborough resident had now asked for permission to have a commemorative plaque at the tree, which they would provide and inscribe.

It was not clear whether the intention was for a plaque attached to a tree or free standing but Members considered attachment would not be possible as the tree trunk would be too thin.

Following consideration, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk advise the requester that permission would be given for a small, free-standing plaque to be sited adjacent to the tree in question, with dimensions to be reasonable and at the Clerk's discretion, but that as the Council had concerns regarding potential for vandalism, the installation is entirely at the member of public's own risk, with the Council accepting no responsibility for the plaque for security, public safety, maintenance, or replacement matters.

19. CORRESPONDENCE

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

WSSC

Email 15.06.22 advising that local Access Ranger will be organising Public Rights of Way inspections I the parish next month (July), when issues with the paths, including vegetation, and furniture (signage, stiles, bridges etc) will be recorded and logged. Following the inspection, routine maintenance work for which WSSC is responsible will be prioritised for delivery by their contractor.

SDNPA

- Email 14.06.22 Re. Town and Parish Council action on Climate Change – request to pass on survey/message to relevant community groups, enabling common interests to be explored and good practices shared. (*Email forwarded to Sussex Green Living and Wild Pulborough*)
- e-newsletter for June 2022

Action in Rural Sussex

e-newsletter June 2022

S&SC

Minutes of Committee AGM on 25.06.19 and Year end accounts for fiscal years ending 31.03.21 and 31.03.22 (*Copied to Committee*).

Residents

FOI request 17.05.22 regarding herbicide use at Rivermead and Clerk's response (*Copied to Committee*).

Publications

Wey & Arun Canal Trust – quarterly magazine issue 199, June/July/August 2022

20. PAYMENTS

There were no payments to be approved.

The meeting closed at 8.24pm

.....CHAIRMAN

.....DATE