

HENSTRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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Draft Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on Wednesday 30th October 2019

Present: Carolyn Nichols (Chair), Ken Courtenay, David Nichols, Peter Crocker and Barry Howlett

Clerk: Emma Curtis

There were no members of the public present at the commencement of the meeting.

The meeting started at 19:30

1. Apologies for absence

Received from John Graham.

2. Declarations of Interest

None received

3. Public Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance

4. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th September 2019

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the minutes as presented.

5. To note: Correspondence from a member of the public regarding a memorial to her father and where we are regarding fulfilling her request.

Carolyn Nichols confirmed a request had been received from a member of the public wishing to plant a memorial tree for her late father and that two locations were being considered; the Recreation Ground and the Old Station. Both sites would be appropriate; however, ownership of the land at the old station was unknown and it would be unwise to plant a tree there unless ownership was sought and permission granted. The types of tree were considered by the Committee. It was agreed the Clerk would contact the member of the public explaining the situation and seek a way forward.

6. Ranger: Autumn schedule and start date.

The Clerk confirmed she had received confirmation from SSDC that the Ranger was ready to start as soon as possible and that she had requested a copy of the Ranger's schedule for the next few months.

7. Village Hall Car Park Improvements: Update.

David Nichols confirmed that the Village Hall Management Committee was sourcing an architect to undertake a full survey of the site in order to plan for significant improvement of both the hall and car park. It was agreed by the Committee to revisit this once the survey had been completed.

8. Allotments: To look at initial plans for fruit tree planting and raised beds.

Carolyn Nichols confirmed that she and the Clerk had been to the allotments and viewed a site for possible trees. It was agreed to regroup with the allotments representative following the allotment training session in November.

9. To receive reports from the Clerk on: Allotments, Recreation Ground, Burial Ground, Fly Tipping, Highways issues and grit bins.

No reports received on the Allotments, Recreation Ground, Burial Ground and Fly Tipping. The ongoing issues with Highways within the village were considered in detail and it was agreed that further discussion would take place at the Full Council Meeting in November. The Clerk confirmed that SSDC were once again providing grit for the grit bins and would be responsible for replenishing them.

10. BMX Pump Track: To receive a report on the status of the new BMX Pump Track

Carolyn Nichols reported that the track should be complete by the end of the week. The Clerk confirmed that the loan application had been approved and that s106 funding may be available for the

funding shortfall and that this would be considered at Full Council in November. The Committee noted that it was disappointing some vandalism had taken place during the works.

11. Hedge cutting and conifer trimming: Update.

Quotes for the hedge trimming at the Recreation Ground were considered and a contractor confirmed to undertake the work. The quotes for the conifer trimming were deemed rather expensive and as trimming had been undertaken the previous year it was agreed to put this in abeyance. David Nichols commented he would seek another quote from a different contractor for comparison.

12. Green shed utilisation: Update regarding users.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to those groups with items within the green shed and ask whether storage of their items was still required.

13. Date of the next meeting: The date of the next Open Spaces Committee meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 22nd January 2020 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.



Emma Curtis
Parish Clerk