

Ron Allen and a small group set up the conservation area. Pat Redhill took on the job until he left for Australia in 2005. There were many helpers including those who wanted to bring otters back into habitation. Unfortunately Minks began to populate the area and cause problems for the local wildlife.

With Petersfield population growing, and housing being built in areas near to the stream, there is a danger of pollution, and it is therefore important that a group is re-formed to maintain these areas, and keep our rivers clear and clean. Several 100s of homes are being built around the Crittle and smaller southern streams, and near to the sewage works.

G 0168

GROUNDS REPORT

Members received and noted the Grounds Report for July 2016 by the Senior Groundsman. *(A copy is attached to these Minutes as Appendix A)*

- The Senior Grounsman was asked if signs were put up when weed killing spraying was taking place in Penns Place. It was confirmed that signs were being used.
- The Heath Hedge would be cut in September when the ground was firmer for the tractor to be used.
- Durford Road crossroads hedges to be looked at and possibly cut sooner
- Rotherlands - we are currently maintaining the pathways and swathes of land. Giant Hogweed has been identified and Rangers have been contacted to remove the Giant Hogweed in next couple of weeks. A plan is in place to coppice and cut back some of the areas before the winter, and this work will be added to the current Grounds schedule of work.
- Penns Sports Hub - Members discussed the needs of the future revamped sports fields i.e removal of some hedges. It was noted that initial concepts were not necessarily to scale, and therefore final accurate drawings would need to be presented before we knew what was actually required. Playing field requirements to be presented at next Grounds meeting
- Town Juniors to present their requirements of Penns Sports Hub at next Grounds meeting
- Bell Hill - ditch has now been cleared
- The Heath - Millennium Path to be revamped 12-27 September. Signs will be put out to inform public

G 0169

GREEN SPACE SIGNAGE

Members received an update from Cllr J Matthews regarding the Green Space Signage. We were now ready to acquire quotes for the work, and a couple of possible companies have been identified for this purpose

RESOLVED: that quotes are acquired for new signage on the heath, and funding sources explored

G 0170

MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF PETERSFIELD HEATH 7 JUNE

Minutes from Friends of Petersfield Heath committee meeting dated 7 June were received

G 0171 **DOLPHIN REPORT ON PETERSFIELD HEATH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2015**

Dolphin Ecological Surveys are an independent company who were asked to write a report regarding a plan to manage the heath. The report was well received, and it was considered to be a potential replacement for the existing heath management strategy which was considered to be too detailed, and contained too much demand on resource that made it impossible to carry out. At best, the work laid out in this document was being cherry picked, rather than accepted as a complete concept.

One of the significant suggestions in the Dolphin report, was the set-up of a 'Working Group' who could then agree on a Management Strategy going forward.

RECOMMENDATION: that a Working Group be formed consisting of the Chairman of Grounds (or Deputy), Cllr Mrs L Farrow, 2 members of Friends of Petersfield Heath and Town Clerk or Senior Groundsman. Other members of the group will either be invited as required, or co-opted onto the group by resolution if required on a regular basis

G 0172 **PETERSFIELD RUGBY CLUB BUY A SEAT CAMPAIGN**

Members received details about the "Buy A Seat Campaign"

RECOMMENDATION: that Petersfield Town Council award the sum of £790 for the new balcony project subject to the project being given the go-ahead by Petersfield Town Council

G 0173 **PROPOSAL FROM HEATH POND ASSOCIATION FOR "MANAGEMENT OF HEATH POND"**

Members received a proposal from the Heath Pond Association regarding the "Management of Heath Pond"

RESOLVED: that the proposal be approved for a period of 2 years with amendments to the title "Management of Heath Angling" and that the "Maintenance Contracts Manager" is amended to "Town Clerk"

G 0174 **CLOTHING RECYCLING BANKS**

Members received a report regarding the change of recycling clothing banks on Petersfield Town Council land, with a choice of three alternative charities.

RESOLVED: that the charity Hampshire First Responders be chosen as the preferred charity.

G 0175 **PADDOCK WAY RECREATION GROUND SECURITY**

Members received a proposal to make Paddock Way Recreation Ground more secure, and to stop vehicles going onto the site.

RESOLVED: that the Senior Groundsman explores options and costs of making Paddock Way Recreation Ground more secure

G 0176 **ANNUAL ALLOTMENTS USERS MEETING**

Members received a selection of dates to hold the Annual Allotments User Meeting

RESOLVED: that the meeting be held on 6th September at 7.15pm in the Rose Room

CONFIDENTIAL

There were no confidential matters to discuss

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

Grounds Report

July 2016

This report seeks to inform councillors of matters of interest affecting any of the public open space land which we own or manage. Members are reminded that its contents are not available for debate, but questions can always be asked and we will seek to answer them, however it should be borne in mind that if they involve the need for investigation or would be complex or lengthy, answers will need to be given outside of the meeting. If councillors consider that any matter on the report is in need of debate, the subject can be added to a future meeting's agenda for this purpose.

The Heath

- Continual assessment of dead trees on barrow 20.
- Continued summer maintenance schedule.
- 2 metre sweep around Sussex Rd car park cut back from sleepers.

Love Lane Playing Fields

- Carrying out regular litter picking and bin emptying (every other day).
- Arrange graffiti removal date with contractor.

Penns Farm Playing Fields

- Start and maintain summer maintenance schedule.

Bell Hill Recreation Ground

- Start and maintain summer schedule.
- Replace vandalised/broken fence pailings.

Paddock Way

- Start and maintain summer schedule.
- Still awaiting quotes for the continuation of drainage for playing field.

General

- Return to full maintenance schedule for all PTC sites.
- Weed killer applied to areas around Town Hall and other sites maintained by Grounds.
- Summer planting of planters on College Street.
- Regular maintenance of Rotherlands area commencing last week of every month.
- Continual assessment of Knotweed at Love Lane commencing this month.
- Weedkill relevant areas on PTC sites.
- Clip back shrubbery around Avenue Pavilion car park and path.

Dugg Budd
Senior Groundsman
4th July 2016