

PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Grounds Committee held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Petersfield, on Thursday 17th November 2016 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr J Matthews (Chairman), Cllr Mrs L Farrow, Cllr D Holdaway, Cllr P Strawbridge and Cllr Ms M Vincent

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr J Deane (Town Mayor), Mr N Hitch (Town Clerk), Mr D Budd (Senior Groundsman), Mr S Field (Office and Committees Manager), and 2 members of the public.

G 0447 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the November meeting, which would be the last meeting for the year. It was noted that the firework event had been a great success this year, without any repeat of the ground damage caused last year. This had been helped by the hard standing area and introduction of bollards. Thanks were given to David Burstall and team for laying the new sleepers in the Heath Car Park. In respect of taking over the Ramshill green spaces, this was still progressing. Various play areas across Petersfield had had remedial work carried out, with further work on the rocking horse on the heath, and the birds nest on Bell Hill still to be repaired. The draft Heath Management Plan is also progressing, and a report is now being written by Colin Hedley. Finally the Chairman announced that the Annual Grounds User Meeting would be held on 25th January 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Rose Room.

G 0448 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr N Orr

G 0449 DISPENSATION UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT (2011)

No requests for dispensation were received.

G 0450 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

G 0451 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Grounds Committee held on 13th October 2016 be received and approved

G 0452 PUBLIC REPRESENTATION

A resident from Upper Heyshott wished to re-enforce his emails regarding the removal of the oak tree that had been planted recently as part of the Queens 90th Birthday, near to his property

RESOLVED: that the order of the agenda be changed to enable item number 10 concerning the removal of an oak tree in the Love Lane wire area be considered as the next item of business

G 0453 **LOVE LANE OAK TREES**

Members received several pictures showing the oak tree, and its location in proximity to the property, and is part of the trees that were planted to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday. The tree is planted less than 10m away from a property, as part of a proposal 2 years ago for a wooded glade area with seating. The residents are concerned that the tree will eventually shade their garden. It was discussed by members that some expertise could be gained from a knowledgeable tree person, and management of the tree could be considered, to ensure that it did not affect the shade in the residents garden.

RESOLVED: to seek advice regarding the rate of growth and management of the tree, and costs to remove and replace tree. A final decision would be made in the January meeting.

G 0454 **GROUNDS REPORT**

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

It was discussed that the area by the sluice gate on the heath would be levelled and maintained, with the intention of reseeding at an appropriate time.

G 0455 **OPEN SPACE SIGNAGE COSTS**

Members received details of costs for the new signage across all open spaces owned by Petersfield Town Council.

RECOMMENDED: that subject to a cost of not more than £450 being negotiated with supplier C, that the first 13 signs for the heath would be ordered

RESOLVED: that Cllr J Matthews and the Office & Committees Manager determine how many notice boards are required to assist with final requirements and negotiations

G 0456 **PETERSFIELD POND WORKING PARTY**

Members received the final 'work required' document for the maintenance and improvements to the heath pond. It was

RESOLVED: that Salix be invited to provide an indicative cost for the work identified in the "work required from external contractors" section of the project document.

G 0457 **DRAFT POLICY FOR ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN OPEN SPACES**

Members received a draft policy concerning anti-social behaviour in open spaces and discussed possible amendments and additions. It was

RESOLVED: that make all suggested amendments made by members be incorporated in the policy document and reviewed at the January 2017 Grounds meeting

G 0458 **CORRESPONDENCE WITH FRIENDS OF PETERSFIELD HEATH**

Members received and discussed correspondence to and from Friends of Petersfield Heath. It was

RESOLVED: that as Petersfield Town Council representative to Friends of Petersfield Heath, Cllr P Strawbridge would share member's thoughts and views with Friends of Petersfield Heath, and report back to members

CONFIDENTIAL

G 0459 There was no confidential matters to discuss

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Grounds Report

November 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

- Autumn maintenance schedule.
- Install new knee rail fencing at disabled drop off.
- Install 2 new hooded bins.
- Cut and chip saplings from around cricket club.
- Dig out from around benches surrounding pond and replace with same surface as path.
- Dig out and replace surface under picnic benches located around play area.
- Top up sand pits in toddler area.

Love Lane Playing Fields

- Carrying out regular litter picking and bin emptying (every other day).
- Cut down large woody shrub located in the wild area.

Penns Farm Playing Fields

- Autumn maintenance schedule.
- Install 5 new hooded bins to fully replace open top bins.

Bell Hill Recreation Ground

- Autumn maintenance schedule.
- Cut and tidy roundabout.
- Leaf collection.
- Replace and move the sleeper bridge across ditch.

Paddock Way

- Autumn maintenance schedule.

General

- Final flail mower cut back of paths at the Rotherlands.
- Install 3 new hooded bins at The Avenue to fully replace open top bins.
- Cut back and improve access to Woods Meadow gate and path area.

Dugg Budd
Senior Groundsman
7th November 2016