

NUTHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Open Spaces & General Maintenance Committee meeting, held on 29th January 2020
7.00pm at Mannings Heath Village Hall, Mannings Heath

Present: Cllr J Mercer (Chairman) Cllr D Cotton
Cllr N Bryant (Vice Chairman) Cllr O Hydes (OBE)
Cllr J Chaytor

The Clerk to the Parish Council, Sarah Hall, and 26 members of the public also attended the meeting.

OS042-19/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** that apologies for absence from Cllr R Carmichael, Cllr S Turner and Cllr D Livingstone be **APPROVED**,

OS043-19/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest, as defined under the Localism Act 2011 and the Parish Councils Code of Conduct, were made.

OS044-19/20 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS – none.

OS045-19/209 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the [Minutes of the Open Spaces & General Maintenance Committee](#) meeting held on 27th November 2019 be confirmed as a true correct record and be signed by the Chairman of the Open Spaces & General Maintenance Committee.

OS046-19/20 PUBLIC SESSION

A member of the public, speaking on behalf of a number of residents living at the rear of Woodlands Walk, advised that when the Goodhew Trust sold the land to Bryant Homes for the development of Woodlands Walk. The S106 agreement included the construction of six social houses and the transfer of the field to HDC as an 'Informal Open Space'. The speaker understood that no structures can be erected on an Informal Open Space and that the land is outside the village envelope.

A member of the public, speaking on behalf of some of the residents in Woodlands Walk, read the following statement detailing the residents' concerns about any development of Informal Open Space at the rear of Woodlands Walk;

- Enclosed field, only one access point with properties on two sides
- Increase the insecurity of residents' properties
- Being an enclosed area potential for misuse
- Disruption to wildlife
- The need for a feasibility study on the impact of any development on the residents of Woodlands Walk and neighbouring properties
- Consideration to be given to parking (only 4 parking bays), traffic movements, narrow width of road and footpath (both below the recognised minimum), turning circle, emissions and visual impact on residents of Woodlands Walk

- Narrow access to the field
- Signage
- Field very popular with walkers and dog walkers
- Woodlands Walk part of a local stables exercise route
- Consultation full consultation from the Parish Council on any proposals
- Children's play area on the village green should be reviewed

Cllr Jay Mercer, the Chairman of the Open Spaces and General Maintenance Committee (OS&GM), stressed that the committee was an advisory committee and did not have any delegated powers.

The OS&GM Committee were looking at helping the community make the best use of all the open spaces in the Parish. The committee were in the very early stages of discussing the open spaces, there were no proposals, the minutes of previous meetings included ideas, not suggestions/proposals for the open spaces. To engage in a parish wide consultation three members of the committee had prepared a first draft of a questionnaire to engage residents', of all age groups, views on the facilities within the parish.

The committee members are trying to fulfil their responsibility to manage the open spaces in the parish, residents have raised the issue about the lack of facilities for older children in the parish. The members were also looking into updating the children's play area and the possibility of facilities in the south of the parish.

Cllr J Mercer confirmed that the committee had heard and understood these residents' concerns.

OS047-19/20 PARISH PLAN

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** the updated version of the [Parish Plan 2019/2021](#) be adopted by the Parish Council.

OS048-19/20 FUTURE PROJECTS

- i) **Facilities for older children & updating the children's play area**
It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the draft survey. The survey will be discussed in further detail at the next meeting of the committee on 27th February 2020.
- ii) **Grant Funding**
It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that costed plans are required prior to the submission of grant applications.
- iii) **Updating the village green byelaws**
It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** Cllr J Mercer and the Clerk will prepare a draft for consideration by the committee.
- iv) **Monks Gate pond**
It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that there was no update.
- v) **Maintaining and promoting the [open spaces in the Parish](#)**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the details of all the Open Spaces in the Parish and other possible opportunities (play areas in public house gardens);

- i. Green space between Church Road and Lime Kiln Road
- ii. Green space at junction of Winterpit Lane, Church Road
- iii. Green space on Golding Lane between Pound Lane and Gagglewood
- iv. Green space on Gagglewood between Oak Way and The Birches
- v. Field managed by Horsham District Council behind Woodlands Walk
- vi. The pond and surrounding area bordering Nuthurst Road, Monks Gate
- vii. Green space at junction of Copsale Road and Nuthurst Road, Maplehurst

Field behind Woodlands Walk

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the residents of Woodlands Walk and residents with properties backing onto the fields concerns. It was an impression, not evidenced that the field was not regularly used. The Clerk will forward a copy of the draft questions to Mr Richard Webber for the resident's appraisal.

OS049-19/20 MANNINGS HEATH VILLAGE GREEN

i) [RoSPA Report & Remedial Action](#)

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Cllr D Cotton contacting a number of children's playground manufacturers to arrange site visits and discuss the redevelopment of the area. Plans and costings can then be discussed by the committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** Cllr D Cotton continues to check the children's play area regularly and that the low/medium risk items, which do not require actioning will continue to be monitored until the equipment is replaced.

It was **RESOLVED** to **ACTION** the replacement of the gate post and installation of a new rubber buffer; the Clerk will chase the quotations for the remedial works.

OS050-19/20 GENERAL MAINTENANCE OF PARISH ASSETS

i) [Annual Asset Assessment](#)

It was **RESOLVED** to **REQUEST** quotations and see if volunteers can assist with the cleaning/repairing the bus shelters/signs/village gateways (not on the A281).

ii) **Other maintenance issues**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that there were no other maintenance issues in requiring attention.

iii) **Reduced WSCC Grass Cutting Schedule 2020/21**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that this item will be included on the next agenda.

iv) **Recruitment of volunteers to assist with maintenance in the parish**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that the details will be included in a future edition of the Link magazine.

OS051-19/20 FREQUENCY OF FUTURE MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES & GENERAL MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that future meetings of the Open Spaces and General Maintenance Committee will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month, in Mannings Heath Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

OS051-19/20 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS TO BE REFERRED TO ON THE NEXT AGENDA

It was **NOTED** that the Tree Council Grant, originally applied for by Nuthurst Remembers, is still available and a project needs to be found quickly.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

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Chairman of the Open Spaces & General
Maintenance Committee

27th February 2020
Date