

NUTHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Councils Open Spaces & General Maintenance Committee meeting,
held on 8th July 2021, commencing 8.21pm

Present: Cllr D Harber (Chairman) Cllr O Hydes (OBE)
Cllr N Bryant Cllr J Mercer
Cllr R Cato Cllr T Nelson
Cllr W Ingram

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

OS001-21/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Cllr J Chaytor's apologies for absence.

OS002-21/22 APPOINT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OPEN SPACES AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr D Harber be elected Chairman of the Open Spaces and General Maintenance Committee for the 2021/22 municipal year. **PROPOSED** by Cllr J Mercer and **SECONDED** by Cllr N Bryant.

OS003-21/22 APPOINT THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE OPEN SPACES AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr J Chaytor be elected Vice Chairman of the Open Spaces and General Maintenance Committee for the 2021/22 municipal year. **PROPOSED** by Cllr D Harber and **SECONDED** by Cllr O Hydes.

OS004-21/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

OS005-21/22 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the [Open Spaces & General Maintenance Committee](#) meeting held on 27th January 2021 be confirmed as a true correct record and be recommended for approval to the Full Parish Council (unanimously approved).

OS006-21/22 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman did not make any announcements.

OS007-21/22 TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the [Terms of Reference](#) for the Open Spaces and General Maintenance Committee.

OS008-21/22 PUBLIC SESSION

No member of the public present wished to speak in the public forum.

OS009-21/22 PARISH SURVEY

- i) It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the following items which related to Open Spaces throughout the parish were discussed;
 - a) **Renovation of the Playground at Mannings Heath Village Green**

There is support for a refurbishment of the children's play area on Mannings Heath village green. 62% of respondents supported a full renovation and 21% of respondents supported a partial renovation. 14% of respondents had no opinion and 3% of respondents did not support any renovation.

There is some support for the following (in order of number of comments)

- Adventurous play equipment (12)
- Sports facilities - durable equipment – (7)
- Effective use of limited budget (5)
- Research with young children to identify and justify their need (5)
- Imaginative and innovative equipment that also allows co-operative play (4)
- Not all equipment is over 30 years old (3)
- Alternative location (2)
- Accessibility for all especially the less able bodied (1)

b) **Facilities for older children and adults**

There is support for providing facilities for teenagers and adults. 64% of respondents supported the provision of equipment and facilities, for teenagers and adults, (18% did not support it and 17% had no opinion) but there was variations of comments on the matter, (in order of number of comments)

- Fitness activities, including football, basketball and table tennis facilities (16)
- Consider alternative location (13)
- Not necessary – unlikely to be used (12)
- Good idea – full support (5)
- Trim trail (4)
- Alternative adequate facilities elsewhere (3)
- More information required (3)

STANDING ORDERDS SUSPENDED 8.45PM

A member of the public commented that there were already facilities in the MHVH for older children and adults, volunteers to run the clubs were what was needed. Cllr T Nelson commented that grants could be made available to purchase equipment.

STANDING REINSTATED 8.48PM

c) **Public open space behind Woodlands Walk in Mannings Heath**

A small majority (53%) said 'No facility, leave the field as it is'. Of those who ticked other options, (*which clearly included some who had ticked 'no facility'*) 51% said they would support a picnic area, 50% said they would support a community orchard/tree planting and 49% said they would support a fitness trail for teenagers and adults. There was considerably less support for football and allotments with 37% saying they would support football and 36% saying they would support allotments.

Comments on this issue were varied but in order of number comments were in support of

- Leaving the space as it is especially suitable for dog walking
- Tree- planting / wildlife area /wildlife meadow
- Making it better known as a public space as many people didn't know it existed

- ii) It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** the following projects, for inclusion in the Parish Plan, together with a rationale to the Full Parish Council;
- a) **A project to carry out a renovation of the children's play area by;**
- requesting modified quotes from contractors for a renovation which take account of the outcomes of the Parish Survey and the funds currently available
 - seeking further funding to enable enhanced provision
 - commissioning the work as soon as possible and setting a target for completion of Summer 2022
- b) **A project to provide some outdoor facilities for teenagers and adults and to list and signpost other provision available in the community.**
- c) **A plan to request from HDC permission for the Parish Council to designate use of the field behind Woodlands Walk and, thereafter, to outline ways to keep the character and current uses of the field and encourage enjoyment of the space by the community e.g., undertaking a project to support Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee project (Treebilee) by planting a number of trees on the field and the provision of a picnic area.**

OS010-21/22 MANNINGS HEATH VILLAGE GREEN

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** the following items, which were highlighted in the June 2021 [RoSPA Report](#), to the Parish Council for action;

- Many of the 'medium' risk actions were associated with the swings and it was agreed to recommend setting a deadline for the replacement of the swings
- Replace the missing ball on the gate latch

OS011-21/22 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that Cllr J Mercer would invite Carrie Cort, from Sussex Green Living, to the next Open Spaces Committee meeting.

OS012-21/22 GENERAL MAINTENANCE OF PARISH ASSETS

i) **Annual Asset Assessment**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that many of the remedial tasks have been undertaken by members and the [Annual Asset Assessment](#) has been updated accordingly. Cllr J Mercer and Cllr T Nelson agreed to assess the works required to repair the bus shelter in Mannings Heath.

ii) **Recruitment of volunteers**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that there was no update.

OS013-21/221 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS TO BE REFERRED TO ON THE NEXT AGENDA;

It was **NOTED** that the times of the Open Spaces and Roads and Footpath Committee meetings would be alternated in the future.

OS014-21/22 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the next meeting of the Open Spaces & General Maintenance Committee will be held on 2nd September 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

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Chairman of the Open Spaces & General
Maintenance Committee

Date

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