

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 undertake a project to support Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Treebilee) by planting a small number of trees on the field behind Woodlands Walk and the provision of a picnic area. This would be to keep the character and current uses of the field and encourage enjoyment of the field by the community.**

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