

Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Spaces Committee of Ashurst and Colbury Parish Council.
Held on Tuesday 24th July at 5pm in the Recreation Ground.

Present: Cllr Caroline Hubbard (Chair) (CH), Cllr Heather Richards (HR), Cllr Emma Lacey (EL).
Locum Clerk; Lorraine Wheeler (LW)

	Action
OS/036 Election of a) Chairman It was proposed by Cllr Emma Lacey and seconded by Cllr Heather Richards that Cllr Caroline Hubbard be made Chair of the Committee for the coming year. b) Vice – Chair It was proposed by Cllr Caroline Hubbard and seconded by Cllr Emma Lacey that Cllr Heather Richards be made Vice - Chair of the Committee for the coming year. All Members present agreed.	
OS/037 Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from Cllr Thomas and the absence of Cllr White (CW) was noted.	
OS/038 Declarations of Interest. Cllr Richards as an allotment tenant.	
OS/039 Minutes of Previous Meeting. The minutes were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting held on 27 th April 2018.	
OS/040 Matters Arising from the Minutes. OS/032 Signs – Recreation Ground and Play Area - Ongoing, the Clerk will provide quotations. No Cycling – to be removed by EL OS/033 d) Fencing - Quotations agreed, the Clerk is awaiting receipt of the S106 Funds before placing the order. OS/033 e) Nightingale Groundcare have been contracted for the grass cutting. The Lengthsman will be asked by the Clerk to maintain the beds along with help from a working party which will be advertised in the magazine by CH.	The Clerk EL The Clerk The Clerk CH
OS/041 Recreation Ground Matters to Consider; a. Safety Review The RoSPA Report has been received and was reviewed by the Committee. b. Equipment It was agreed by all Members present that the Trim Trail was beyond economic repair and will require removal in due course. Some maintenance work is required such as oiling the swing chains and replacement of some links. LW to enquire if NFDC can undertake. Thought will be given to replacement equipment and public consultation in due course. Shrinkage around the edges of the flooring – the lengthsman will be asked to infill and remove weeds by the Clerk. Footpaths – to be monitored and reviewed by the Committee re cracking and dipping at entrances. c. Drainage The Clerk had advised that Farwells had installed the drainage and will be contacted for further advice. d. Benches – to Consider Location/Cost The Council had been contacted by a resident regarding the position of a bench near his garden attracting youths gathering, smoking and using foul language. Totton Police have agreed to patrol regularly as the youths were not thought to be local. In addition, the PCSO and Members of the Committee (in hi viz jackets) will regularly walk the area in an attempt to dissuade the youths from using the bench. It was agreed by all Members present that moving the bench would not alleviate the issue, as the area would continue to be used as it is shady and out of sight. The resident is advised to contact 101 every time the problem arises so that a record is being kept of the problem. The Clerk will write to the resident. The Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator is also aware. e. Wild Play	LW All Members The Clerk All Members The Clerk All Members The Clerk

This is progressing. The Clerk met with Claire to agree the position and Claire has secured funding. There may be S106 funds available in addition if required.

The Clerk

f. Any Other Matters

CH advised that the Mayor's Tail had been sprayed and upon inspection it was seen to be dying back.

Feedback is awaited from the Parish Plan Questionnaire whereby a master plan can be formulated for the Recreation Ground as a whole and considered at the next meeting.

OS/042 Allotment Matters to Consider;

a. Walkabout Update – Chair and Vice Chair

CH advised that two walkabouts had been undertaken by Cllr Hubbard and The Clerk. Two wasps nests had been found. Cllr Richards agreed to accompany Cllr Hubbard going forward.

b. Inspections - Update

Eight letters had been sent following the first walkabout regarding condition of plots as this was affecting neighbouring plots. Four letters were sent following the second walkabout and three plots had been improved and re-let. There are currently four vacant plots with 2/3 non-residents waiting, the remainder will be advertised by the Clerk. Dialogue is taking place with the remaining untidy plot holders. The agreed process is if no improvement is made following two letters, a third letter will result in the plot being taken back. The next inspection will be held in September.

The Clerk

c. Clearance and Maintenance (including CPS Services)

CPS have attended and cleared the ditch and half a plot.

CH/HR

d. Allotment Numbering – Replacement/Cost

Ian Oliver is looking into metal spikes and door numbers and will provide a cost to the next meeting. Cllr Hubbard to chase.

e. Any Other Matters

Cllr Richards agreed to meet a prospective plot holder who could only attend on a Saturday to show them the vacant plots.

CH

HR

OS/043 Any Other Business.

Ian Oliver (IO) has asked whether the BBQ could be let out for use by plot holders for friends and family. Following consideration by the Committee it was decided that as there were concerns regarding access and security to the site and protecting the Allotment Holders who may go there for some peace and quiet and the Parish Council would need to check their Insurance Policy to see whether it would cover such an Event as the Committee are not sure that it does, the consensus was that it would be better if there were more barbecues/events held for all Allotment Holders to be invited to (but not for IO having to organize them as it is a huge amount of work). Cllr Hubbard said she would be happy to attend if a Parish Council presence were required.

Also discussed was the possibility of an Open Day at the Allotments and restarting the Working Party Day, which could have a barbecue for Allotment Holders at the end of it.

Cllr Hubbard agreed to advise IO of the Committee's decision.

CH

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.25pm. The date of the next meeting was provisionally agreed as Wednesday 10th October 2018 at 5pm in the Colin Room, subject to the Clerk's availability. To be confirmed.

The Clerk