



Gateway to the **New Forest**

Open Spaces Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 14th June at 2.30pm

Colin Room, Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury

Draft Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting
Held on Tuesday 14th June 2023 at 2.30pm
At the Colin Room, Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury

Attending

Cllr Caroline Hubbard, Cllr Trevor Jakeman, Cllr Caroline Smith, Cllr Bobbie Torkington, Cllr Clive White, Karen Cramoysan (Clerk), 1 Member of the Public

1	Apologies – Cllr Keith Nutburn, Cllr Sue Robinson,
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2	Declarations of Interest - None
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3	Public Participation - None
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4	Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee RESOLVED: Cllr Trevor Jakeman was nominated for Chair of the Open Spaces Committee by Cllr Hubbard and seconded by Cllr White. Cllr Bobbie Torkington was nominated for Vice-Chair of the Open Spaces Committee by Cllr Hubbard and seconded by Cllr White.
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5	To Receive Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 15th March 2023 RESOLVED: Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 15 th March 2023 were received and signed as an accurate copy
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6	Matters Arising At Chair's discretion (if not covered by agenda below) Recreation Ground Fencing - Cllr Jakeman advised Members that the fencing proposal had been put on hold until after the drainage survey. Recreation Ground replacement of Fire Engine – A verbal order has gone in with A Frost Design. This will be ordered when we know where it is to be sited. Allotments – Complaint from a member of the public over dog barking – Cllr Jakeman and Cllr Torkington advised that they had received a complaint from a nearby resident about a dog barking at the allotments when the trains went past. The complainant's comments were noted.
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7	Recreation Ground a. To Discuss Options for Recently Vandalised Goalposts RESOLVED: All Members agreed to the purchase of 2 x Steel Anti Vandal Goals 166' by 7' – no nets - for the price of £1365.48. Cllr Hubbard is happy to take delivery of these until they can be installed. This decision will be ratified at the next Full Council Meeting. b. Recreation Ground – To Review recent ROSPA Report of Play Area RESOLVED: All Members agreed to remove the slide as this was reported to have sharp and bent edges. Clerk to get quotes for removal.
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8 Community & Environment

a. Sensory Garden

The Clerk was given plans from Cllr Hubbard which were drawn up by Go Botanical when the subject for a Sensory Garden was first raised. Clerk will scan the plans and send them to all Councillors and it will be raised at the next Full Council Meeting.

b. Allotment Waste – Update after Waste Clearance

The Clerk advised that it had taken 2 skips to remove all of the waste from the pile. Amongst the waste was bits of fencing, bags of household waste and allotment waste. This Parish Council thanks to plot-holders who spent two weekends loading the skips and Ian Oliver for organising this.

The Clerk also advised that the contractor still has the old Recreation Ground noticeboard and this is to be sited at the allotments to replace the old one. Clerk will liaise with the contractor and the Lengthsman to get this sorted.

c. To Arrange a Date for New Potential Plot Holders to View Plots

RESOLVED: The Clerk advised that she had prospective new tenants waiting for plots and would forward the details onto Councillors Hubbard and Torkington to arrange viewing the plots. Unfortunately the vacant plots are very overgrown and Cllr Smith asked if the Council would consider paying a contractor to clear them before issuing them to new plot holders. It was discussed and **AGREED:** not to clear the plots. Potential plot holders will be shown the plots and will not be charged for the first year of their tenancy as has been offered in the past.

9 Planters

a. Decision Required to Discuss Future Planting Requirements and Watering of Plants.

RESOLVED: Cllr Hubbard advised that disappointingly, she had only received 3 offers from residents to help with the watering rota following her magazine article and the Clerk's post on Facebook and noticeboards. The issue of spending out on plants and then them not being watered and dying was discussed at length by all Members and it was **RESOLVED:** not to spend on new plants this season until we had sufficient volunteer numbers to ensure that the plants could be watered daily and did not die. It is a shame especially as the planters won an award last year, but it was unfair to expect the same people to continually water them again this year.

Cllr Hubbard will advise Julie Harding who has been organising the restocking and watering of the planters and the Parish Council would like to thank Julie for her hard work in keeping the planters stocked and looking so beautiful.

10 Precinct

a. To Discuss Refurbishment of Council Assets at Ashurst Precinct

The Clerk advised that she has not heard anything from the Contractor who was scheduled to remove the benches and replace them with new ones this last year. She will chase them and report back at the next meeting.

11 Next Meeting Date

a. To Agree the Next Meeting Date

RESOLVED: The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th August 2023 at 2:30pm.

Meeting Closed at 3.37pm

Signed:

Date: _____