



**Open Spaces Committee  
Minutes  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019**

Parish Councillors in attendance: Chairman Max Harwood (MH), Adrian Collins (AC), Carolyn Butler (CB), Val Farren (VF), and Mairi Rennie (MR).

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Debbie Harknett

Meeting started at 7.45pm.

**Chairman:** Max Harwood  
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**Clerk:** Debbie Harknett  
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Prior to the meeting Councillors were driven to the different areas of land the council own and shown some of the items (including the playgrounds, bus shelters and finger posts) the council are responsible for.

- 1) **Recording of the meeting** - It was noted that the meeting would not be recorded.
- 2) **Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**
  - a) The Clerk called for nominations for Chair – MR proposed MH which was seconded by VF and unanimously agreed; with no other nominations MH took the chair.
  - b) MH called for nominations for Vice-Chair proposing AC which was seconded by VF and unanimously approved with no other nominations.
- 3) **Representations by the public:** None.
- 4) **Apologies for absence:** Fiona Dix, Zoe MacLehose and Clare Jardine-Paterson.
- 5) **Declarations of interest:** None.
- 6) **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 7) **Footpaths**
  - a) For new Councillors MH explained WSCC are responsible for looking after the paths and we report issues to the Warden for our area – Kevin Dewitt. MR reminded the meeting we have local volunteers who are responsible for different paths – there is a map in the shop.
  - b) The Clerk passed around photos of garden waste/dog mess fly tipping by the stile at Parsonage Estate. She has contacted the path warden but he is unable to help and suggested contacting CDC. It was agreed to do this and see if its possible to get a sign encouraging people not to continue to dump waste.
  - c) AC asked about stiles partially blocked by chicken wire to discourage dogs – it was agreed these should be reported to WSCC footpath warden – footpath number and exact location required.
- 8) **Woodland Management Plan**
  - a) For new Councillors MH explained the history of the Woodland Management Plan and the work already completed.
  - b) It was noted the area at Fyning is too small to get anybody to coppice the chestnut and it was suggested perhaps we could ask the other local landowner if it could be done in conjunction with their land when next organised.
  - c) MH reported a small tree at the entrance to Fyning Recreation Ground needs removing from the path – he has obtained a quote for £50. After discussion, MH's

proposal of **resolution 'to remove the tree at the entrance to Fyning Recreation Ground at a cost of £50'** was seconded by MR and unanimously approved.

**9) Garbitts Wood**

- a) VF noted the entrance is very overgrown – Clerk to report to Woodland Trust.
- b) MH to see how often the school children are using the area.

**10) Play areas**

- a) MH reported the annual playground inspections have been completed and the reports have been sent to R.J. Playground service for a quote for necessary repairs.
- b) The Clerk passed a new 'no dogs allowed' notice to VF for the gate at Hugo Platt.
- c) MH noted we have received a quote of £390 for repairing five fence posts at the village recreation ground play area. CB to try to obtain another quote.

**11) Bus shelters**

- a) The new shelter at Fyning Lane has been built by WSCC volunteers – there are a couple of issues but MH is dealing with them. The team have two more to replace and are due to continue work later this week.
- b) The new shelter in the village has been built by Ben Law (with the help of funding from SDNPA) and is receiving positive comments.
- c) Unfortunately, the bin outside the village shelter is now in the wrong position and looks out of place. The Clerk had obtained one price – CB to look at further in hope of taking a recommendation to the full council meeting next week.
- d) MH noted Stagecoach are hoping to replace the bus shelter flags but the cost will need to be met by WSCC.

**12) Review of Open Spaces terms of reference**

These had been circulated prior to the meeting. After agreeing to change the maximum number of councillors to eight and to have five meetings a year they were unanimously approved.

**13) Replacement fire beaters at Fyning recreation ground**

The rubber heads on the fire beaters at Fyning recreation ground have perished. MH's proposal of **resolution 'to purchase two new fire beaters at a cost of £25.71 each'** was seconded by AC and unanimously approved.

**14) SSE Cables at Fyning recreation ground**

MH and the Clerk met with SSE representatives who wish to remove overhead cables that run from Fyning Hill through Fyning Recreation Ground to Foresters Cottage and lay them underground. As Fyning has been subject to a lot of power cuts and a woodland fire was caused by a broken cable it is sensible. SSE are going to arrange an ecological report and get their archaeologist to look at the area. We will require an easement but any legal costs will be met by SSE.

**15) Date of next meeting:** The next Open Spaces Committee Meeting was scheduled to be held at 7.30 on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at Rogate Village Hall Pavilion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**