

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 17th July 2018 at 7.15pm

Present: Mr P Lock (Chair), Mrs M Lock, Mrs A Flynn, Mr T Campbell and Mr R Douglas

Also Present: Emma Curtis – Parish Clerk

Public Question Time:

There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Received from Mr Lancaster, Mr Laughton and Tree Warden Jeremy Pitman. Reasons for absence approved.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None received.
3. **Minutes of the Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19th June 2018** were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Review and update Action List:** The Action List was reviewed and updated as appropriate. The Clerk will circulate the updated list following the meeting.
5. **Review the Open Spaces and Footpaths Terms of Reference and update if required:** The Terms of Reference were reviewed. It was agreed by all to add the names of areas within the Open Spaces title. The Clerk will update and circulate following the meeting.
Action – Clerk to update Terms of Reference and circulate
6. **Tree warden report:** No report received. However, the Clerk and Mr Lock informed Councillors that a large branch had recently fallen from a tree in East Street car park onto a car. No damage was done; however, the Clerk has requested the Tree Warden and Phil Poulton from SSDC to inspect the tree and report back as soon as possible. Having looked earlier, Mr Lock believes the tree may be diseased. Appropriate action will be taken as soon as the Tree Warden has inspected the tree.
7. **Allotments:** The Clerk reported she had received a letter from a resident suggesting that it may be a good idea to cover the top abandoned plots with thick black plastic to keep the weeds from regrowth. This was considered by the Committee but it was felt it was an expensive option and would not necessarily work. Instead, the Clerk was requested to ask the grounds maintenance contractor to weed spray the area but giving notice to allotment holders regarding when this would be done. The Clerk confirmed she had requested quotes for the two new water troughs but that the new troughs would also require a new pipe from the main road. Mrs Flynn and Mr Lock suggested a “T Bend” may work and Mrs Flynn and Mr Pitman were tasked with putting an alternative plan together. Mrs Flynn stated that the top water trough was still empty. The Clerk stated she would ask the Handyman to repair it.
Action – Mrs Flynn and Mr Pitman to put plan together for new troughs, Clerk to request Handyman repairs trough and instruct grounds maintenance contractor to weed spray the abandoned plots.

8. **Cemetery and Churchyard:** No report received.
9. **Station Copse Community Woodland:** Mr Lock reported that the gate at Station Copse had been damaged and requested that the Clerk instruct the Handyman to repair it. It was noted that there was still a dog fouling issue at the woodland.
Action – Clerk to instruct Handyman to repair gate
10. **The Clump, The Ball Court and The Grove:** No report received
11. **Play Area updates:** Mrs Flynn reported that the Gainsborough Play Area and Skate Park were looking rather shabby. She reported that some of the posts on the mound were again loose and that there was a lot of bird mess on some of the equipment. The Clerk was requested to instruct the Handyman to fix the posts and clean the birds mess on a regular basis. Mrs Flynn also noted that there wasn't much shade in the play area during the hot summer months and it may be an idea for the Council to investigate providing some shading. To conclude, Mrs Flynn stated that she had received a PowerPoint presentation from a student completing their DofE, suggesting improvements for the play area. It was agreed this PowerPoint would be presented at the next meeting.
Action – Clerk to instruct Handyman to repair posts and clean equipment
12. **Update on footpaths and any issues arising:** Committee members expressed their disappointment that several footpaths within the village were still very overgrown and almost impassable despite the Clerk reporting to the Rights of Way team in June. It was noted that repairs had also not been completed to styles and gates as requested by the Clerk. Mrs Flynn and the Clerk noted they were still due to complete their Adopt a Footpath Application form. Mrs Lock requested that the Clerk again chase up the diversion application with the Rights of Way team. Mrs Lock stated she wished to update the walking leaflets and was going to ask the WI to assist.
Action – Clerk to report issues to Rights of Way team and chase up diversion. Clerk and Mrs Flynn to complete Adopt a Footpath form.
13. **The date of the next Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee Meeting was confirmed as as Tuesday 18th September 2018.**