

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee held on Tuesday 19th September 2017 at 7pm at the Town Hall

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

Also Present: Jeremy Pitman – Tree Warden
Emma Curtis – Parish Clerk

Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Received from Mr R Biss. Mr Lock commented that it was with regret he had to state that Mr Lockey would no longer be a member of the committee after resigning from the Council. Mr Lock thanked Mr Lockey for all his hard work and commitment over the years.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None received
3. **Minutes of the Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 18th July 2017** 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. The Clerk was requested to circulate the updated list following the meeting.
5. **Tree Warden Report:** Mr Pitman commented that a tree at The Clump was low and that the crown needed lifting and raising by about 9ft. Mr Pitman stated that the Beech Tree at Station Copse was deteriorating but he was keeping an eye on it. Mr Lock stated that the Lime Trees near Church Path needed pollarding and asked Mr Pitman to assess the trees and advise on a plan of action. Mrs Lock commented that the buddleia growing from a bungalow was still overhanging the road despite being written to by Highways and requested the Clerk as Highways to write again to the occupier.
Action – Clerk to contact Phil Poulton regarding work on the tree at The Clump, Mr Pitman to assess Lime Trees at Church Path and Clerk to contact Highways regarding the buddleia.
6. **Allotments:** No report received
7. **Cemetery and Churchyard:** The Clerk commented that she had not heard back from the Medlycott family regarding the mausoleum in the churchyard. Mr Lock mentioned that he would need to hire a digger to move the chippings at the cemetery and sought approval from committee members which was given.
8. **Community Woodland:** Mr Lock and the Clerk confirmed that Station Copse had been strimmed and was looking in good condition. The Clerk confirmed that a new dog waste bin for the woodland had been ordered.
9. **The Clump, The Ball Court and The Grove:** Mr Lock stated that the broken wall and fence had been fixed at The Clump and that he had instructed the Ranger to

strip the ivy off some of the trees there.

10. Play Area updates – Gainsborough and Springfield Road:

Springfield Road – The Clerk stated that as Mr Lockey had resigned from the Council a replacement playground inspector would need to be arranged to carry out the weekly playground inspections. The Clerk confirmed that if no member wished to do the inspection then she would be happy to carry it out. The committee asked the Clerk to communicate with Mr Lockey to see if he would like to volunteer to carry on the inspection as he spends a lot of time at the playing fields, and if not, the Clerk would undertake the duty. The Clerk also mentioned that the roundabout still had not been painted and commented that she would ask Mr Lockey if he still intended to do so, and if not, the Clerk would instruct the handyman or another volunteer. To conclude the Clerk confirmed that she had been in contact with the dog warden who had confirmed she would undertake more patrols of the playing fields along with adding more signage.

Gainsborough – Mrs Flynn stated that the handyman would soon be fixing the wooden slats on the mound and that a contractor had been suggested to fix the broken picnic bench. The Clerk was asked to contact the contractor. Mrs Flynn commented that she had not seen much animal mess so far this autumn and that the bins appeared to be being used but that the bin outside the park was broken and requested this be reported to SSDC. She also commented that the tarmac appeared to be damaged at the bottom of the skate ramps and could pose a hazard. The Clerk confirmed she would ask Mr Parr from SSDC to inspect and report back. Mrs Flynn mentioned that a young man would be working with her again over the next few months towards his DofE and would be helping to undertake the inspection of the play area. The Clerk suggested this young man may be interested in undertaking the “Respect your Park” campaign and Mrs Flynn confirmed she would speak with him on the subject. To conclude, Mr Pitman was requested to inspect the overgrown tree in the play area and report back to the committee with advice.

Action – Clerk to contact Rob Parr and inform SSDC Streetscene about the broken bin

11. Consider options for village litter picks: This item was carried forward to the next meeting once the article had appeared in the village magazine.

12. Consider ranger contract: Mr Lock confirmed he was meeting with SSDC the following day and would consider the following items regarding the ranger contract:

- Shrubbery at Gainsborough Play Area
- Churchyard maintenance and yew trees
- Hanging baskets (with possible different contract for watering)
- Lawnmowing at The Ball Court and The Grove
- Tree care at Church Place

The Clerk requested that a specification was prepared in time for the Finance Committee Meeting in November.

13. Update on footpaths and any issues arising: A number of footpaths issues were raised which the Clerk was requested to pass on to the Rights of Way Officer Eve

Wynn. Most of these problems had been raised before and members expressed frustration that they had not yet been dealt with by the Rights of Way department.

- 14.** The date of the next **Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee** meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 17th October 2017**.

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