

**MINUTES** of the **Works Committee Meeting** held on  
Wednesday 20 April 2022 at 6.00 p.m. at the Parish Centre, Gerald's Way  
in accordance with notice given

**In the Chair:** Cllr Samaroo

**Present:** Cllrs Lilly, Mayo, Oakley, L Taylor, Wood, Wright

**In attendance:** Clerk & Chris Attwood

**W.01.04.22 APOLOGIES** – Cllr D Taylor, personal.

**W.02.04.22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – none

**W.03.04.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – none

**W.04.04.22 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Cllr Lilly proposed, “**acceptance of the minutes of 16 March 2022**” This was seconded by Cllr Mayo. There was one abstention.

**W.05.04.22 CLERK’S REPORT** – attached

The Clerk referred to Community Infrastructure Levy funding of £4,120.85 that we have been awarded. During our discussions, ideas for the funding may arise.

**Update: Jubilee Oak trees** – the second tree is to be planted by the end of this week. Plaques are with the engraver and will be ready next week, after which ceremonies can be arranged.

**France Lynch and Bussage Pleasure Grounds’ disabled accesses** – Cllrs Lilly and Oakley met with a Barnwood Trust representative today to discuss our plans and possible funding from them towards the cost. The advice given is that we need to think big and ahead and get everything done at once to include in one bid. The first thing we need to do is to obtain an access audit. The name of a suitable person to carry out the audit will be given to us. One entrance per playing field side is sufficient and we need to include parking. The 1.2 metre gap and barrier may not be wide enough for larger mobility scooters. Barriers to be painted yellow for the visually impaired. Match funding would have to be investigated.

**A419 Triangle** – ChalCAN Biodiversity has confirmed that the wild plant turf has been laid.

**FOFW** has confirmed that the management plan for the wood is nearing completion. Once complete it will be put on the agenda for consideration.

**France Lynch P.G. wet pour surface** – Greenfields laid a new surface over the Easter weekend but it has cracked. We have asked them to come back and relay.

**W.06.04.22 REFERRALS** – none

**W.07.04.22 CORRESPONDENCE**

A resident has emailed asking if branches can be cut back on a tree bordering the path at the back of Bussage School and the resident’s property. The branches overhang a child’s trampoline with the consequence bits drop on to the equipment that must be cleared before a child can access the trampoline. The resident has been advised that it is a healthy tree and no work can be undertaken but they have the right to cut back any offending branches overhanging their property.

#### **W.08.04.22 WORKS BUDGET**

An end of year budget was given to all committee members. After consideration, Cllr Lilly proposed, **“we ask Finance and Management to carry forward to the 22/23 budget the following:**

<b>Fuel and Lubricants</b>	-	<b>£500 to cover the increase in fuel costs.</b>
<b>Grit and Litter bins</b>	-	<b>£400 to fund a new litter bin.</b>
<b>Skips</b>	-	<b>£400 to cover the cost of an outstanding skip emptying bill”</b>

This was seconded by Cllr Oakley and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: F&M**

#### **W.09.04.22 MOWING/STRIMING REVIEW AND PROPOSALS**

Cllr Oakley had drawn up the attached report on the above. Cllr Oakley provided the committee with a summary of proposals. A discussion took place on these proposals. Comments made were: The ‘Daffodil Bank’, on The Ridgeway has been eyesore over the last few years. It was confirmed that the first cut of the bank will be 6 weeks after the daffodils have stopped flowering.

Bussage Pleasure Ground – Cllr Oakley asked for consideration to be given to a higher cut of this area in 2023 to improve the wildlife. Cllr Lilly referred to an assessment of the ground carried out by an ecologist who had said that this ground is not as rich as France Lynch P.G. due to the ground having been modified over the decades. The ecologist had not found anything of interest. After a discussion, it was agreed to ask the ecologist to carry out some research of the ground and provide us with a report. Cllr L Taylor reminded the committee that this is a playing field, not a garden.

**ACTION: Clerk**

The Old Common/The Ridgeway and corner of Tanglewood Way – the Clerk will email the SDC Officer responsible for grass cutting to confirm that they will still be cutting these areas. **ACTION: Clerk**

It has been agreed with SDC that we will take over maintenance of some of the areas previously maintained by SDC on behalf of GCC. The funding to cut these areas is very minimal, approximately £230. The comment was made that the administrative effort may outweigh the financial gain. Cllr Lilly suggested adding it to our annual bill for verge and Brantwood Green grass cutting. The Clerk will speak to Highways about this. **ACTION: Clerk**

There are 3 areas of ‘amenity land’ (currently owed by SDC) that we have spoken to the SDC Officer about that we could take ownership of, those being:

The Ridgeway – South of the bus shelter, opposite Munday Close. (We maintain the north of this shelter). The ‘Daffodil Bank’, The Ridgeway. Lypiatt View/Burleigh View triangle. Cllr Oakley proposed, **“we speak to SDC Estates Department about taking over ownership of the above areas.”** This was seconded by Cllr Lilly and unanimously agreed. The Council will need to agree that we can proceed. **ACTION: FC Agenda**

#### **W.10.04.22 BUS SHELTER MURALS**

**a. Marle Hill bus shelter** – a meeting is due to take place tomorrow so this item is deferred until next month.

**b. Bussage shelter** – it was agreed that the bus shelter on The Ridgeway, opposite Munday Close would be the most appropriate for a Queen’s Platinum Jubilee mural. The green area behind the shelter is partially maintained by the Council and it is hoped we will be able to take ownership of the whole green area in due course. This area could be called ‘Jubilee Green’. It was suggested that we could go down the route of Adverse Possession in order take ownership of the land. A seat on the green has broken and been taken away. The seat was supplied by Thomas Keble School.

We have made the school aware and we are waiting to hear if they will replace. Cllr Lilly proposed, **“we meet with an artist to consider details for a Jubilee mural in the bus shelter.”** This was seconded by Cllr Samaroo. There was one abstention. The seat issue will be put on next month’s agenda. **ACTION: Clerk**

#### **W.11.04.22 BUSSAGE PLEASURE GROUND**

**a. Golden Valley Rangers Football Club** – the committee considered the current agreement. Cllr Wood proposed, **“we increase the annual rental to £150 for the 202/23 season.”** This was seconded by Cllr Lilly and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

**b. Flag Pole** – Cllr Wright had drawn up a report and had provided costs for various flag poles, details of which had been forwarded to all committee members. The committee considered the details. After a discussion, Cllr Lilly proposed, **“we purchase a 6m flagpole and accessories from Harrisons at a cost of £565 plus VAT.”** This was seconded by Cllr Wright and unanimously agreed. The cost to be referred to Finance and Management with a request that funding is taken from the CIL funds. **ACTION: Clerk**

**c. Activity Trail** – it was agreed at last month’s meeting to remove the current trail and to replace with something else. It was agreed that Cllrs Oakley, Samaroo and Wood will meet to consider a suitable item/s. Finance and Management to be asked if funding for this could come from CIL funding. **ACTION: Cllrs Oakley, Samaroo, Wood**

#### **W.11.04.22 THE VATCH, BUSSAGE**

ChalCAN Biodiversity has submitted a proposal for tree planting in this area. The proposal is to plant 16 5-7ft specimen trees in this area. A member of Hilltop Gardening Club has contacted us about this matter, stating that there are sufficient trees planted in the area and in addition, we must consider the views of households who overlook the area. After a discussion, it was agreed that the planting of 16 trees would make the area far too cluttered. It was therefore agreed not to support the proposal. There may be room to accommodate a few more trees. It was suggested that residents could apply to the Council to have a memorial tree planted here. This was thought to be a good idea.

ChalCAN Biodiversity is advised that when investigating areas to plant, household views should be taken into consideration. **ACTION: Clerk**

#### **W.12.04.22 FRANCE LYNCH P.G.**

Two stumps are remaining, following the felling of the lime trees. Two quotes have been received. After consideration of the costs, Cllr Mayo proposed, **“we contract Golden Valley Stump Removal at a cost of £450 plus VAT.”** This was seconded by Cllr Lilly and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

#### **W.13.04.22 DORRINGTON COURT/FREAME CLOSE JUNCTION**

This area of grass is owned by Gloucestershire County Council. A resident has asked for consideration to be given to the installation of a seat and possibly a couple of trees in the area. It was agreed that if permitted by GCC, this is an area where ChalCAN could be involved. It is suggested that 2 or 3 trees could be planted here. The Clerk will speak to GCC in the first instance. If a seat is to be installed, it was agreed a bin will be needed. **ACTION: Clerk**

#### **W.14.04.22 FOOTPATH GROUP**

A report was given to all committee members prior to the meeting. Cllr Oakley provided the meeting with an update. MCH69 Marle Hill – the drainage/flooding has not proved to be a problem lately.

Dry Stone Wall Training is due to take place on 3 dates in May. Cllr Lilly warned that there are waist high stinging nettles along the wall. Chris Attwood will cut these back. France Lynch Pleasure Ground – some of the entrances could do with some chippings laid. The planings, currently stored in the car park area at Frith Wood, could be used. A volunteer is continuing to carry out work rebuilding stone walls around Bussage Pleasure Ground. The volunteer works extremely hard and the committee thanks him for all he does. More stone is required. It was suggested that there is stone at the side of the path that runs from Tanglewood Way down to the Cemetery. **ACTION: CA**

**W.15.04.22 CHRIS ATTWOOD REPORT – attached.**

**W.16.04.22 WARD MATTERS**

**Frithwood ‘Tanglewood Way’ entrance** – the entrance is unsuitable for disabled users and cannot accommodate a wheelchair. This matter will be included in our bid for funding from the Barnwood Trust.

**Accommodation Lane** – currently there is a dog bin positioned behind parked cars approximately 100 yards up from the lane. Cllr Lilly asked if the bin could be repositioned at the start of Accommodation Lane. Bisley with Lypiatt has a dog bin positioned at the other end of the lane. This was thought to be a good idea. The Clerk will need to ask SDC to authorise this. **ACTION: Clerk**

**Brownshill Allotments** – a Covid sign warning people to keep 2 metres apart needs to be taken down. **ACTION: CA**

**W.17.04.22 ANY OTHER MATTER – none**

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.43 p.m.