

Minutes of the Works Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 18th October 2023 at 6.00 p.m. at the Parish Centre, Gerald's Way
in accordance with notice given

In the Chair: Cllr Samaroo

Present: Cllrs Funnell, Gardiner, Mayo, Oakley, D Taylor, Wood

In attendance: Clerk & Chris Attwood

Cllr Samaroo welcomed Cllrs Funnell and Gardiner to the Works Committee. Cllr Samaroo reminded Cllrs of the rules of a meeting for the benefit of new members.

W.01.10.23 Apologies – Cllr L Taylor

W.02.10.23 Public participation – None

W.03.10.23 Declarations of interest – None

W.04.10.23 Minutes of last meeting - Cllr Oakley proposed “**acceptance of the minutes of 20th September 2023**” This was seconded by Cllr D Taylor, there were two abstentions.

W.05.10.23 Clerk’s Report –

Bus shelter mural – The Committee were pleased that students at Thomas Keble School would like to be involved with this project, and are happy to progress this idea earlier than the Spring if this suits the School's curriculum. The Head of Art suggested the students work in the style of Hundertwasser as this ties in nicely with the years 8's current project. The Committee considered the example of art that had been sent from Thomas Keble. Cllr Wood proposed “**we request the school go ahead and draft their design(s) in the style of Hundertwasser**” This was seconded by Cllr Mayo and unanimously agreed. The design(s) will be brought back to the Committee at a future meeting for their consideration. **ACTION: Clerk**

Frith Wood tree work – The SDC consultant tree officer inspected the trees in Frith Wood which are covered by TPO110. He has queries about some aspects of the work we are proposing to carry out and has requested a site meeting with our tree surgeon. This meeting is scheduled for Thursday 9th November at 3pm; Cllr Samaroo and Chris Attwood will attend. **ACTION: Cllr Samaroo/Chris Attwood.**

Land at Stonecote Ridge – Bisley with Lypiatt PC own this area of land and CPC maintain it. As this land falls within our parish, Bisley with Lypiatt PC have suggested that the ownership is transferred to CPC. Should both PCs agree to this, the legal fees could cost CPC approximately £1000.00. Bisley with Lypiatt PC have not yet discussed this matter but both Councils need to be in agreement in order to take this forward. Cllr Oakley proposed “**we agree in principle to taking on the ownership of the land in Stonecote Ridge and refer to the Finance and management Committee to consider the cost implications**” This was seconded by Cllr D Taylor and unanimously agreed. **ACTION: Clerk/RFO**

Resident request to plant at Burcombe Way entrance of FLPG – The resident has confirmed that they plant the oak tree in the coming weeks.

Wych Elm Frith Wood - Friends of Frith Wood advised us that there was a dead Wych Elm in one of the nature sanctuaries. Sam Kelly has inspected and has quoted to remove this tree.

W.06.10.23 Referrals – None

W.07.10.23 Correspondence – A resident contacted us to request that we consider a trial of not strimming the edges of France Lynch Pleasure Ground. The Committee felt that it is necessary for the perimeter to be cut just once a year to manage saplings, brambles etc This is due to be carried out in November and should go ahead. **ACTION: Chris Attwood**

W.08.10.23 Consideration of Works precept requirements - The Committee were provided with current Works budget figures and earmarked reserves for their consideration prior to the meeting. The Committee discussed their requirements for the 24/25 precept and completed the figures they feel are required for the coming year. This document will be referred to F&M for consideration at their next meeting on 7th November. Cllr Oakley queried the funding for FoFW of £13,022.00. The Clerk will ask the RFO to confirm. **ACTION: Clerk/RFO**

W.09.10.23 To consider our tree surgeon's recommendation for the future management of trees – The Clerk confirmed that 'ash trees on parish land' and 'other areas' were due to be inspected this year and the inspection report has been received. Cllr Wood proposed **"we follow a five-year tree inspection policy as per our tree surgeon's recommendation. In addition, we agree to inspect ash trees on parish land on an annual basis"** This was seconded by Cllr Mayo and unanimously agreed. The Clerk will amend the existing 3-year tree management policy to reflect 5-years as per our previous inspection policy. It was agreed to review the tree management plan at November's meeting. Chris Attwood will update the 'ash trees on parish land' list as some ash trees have been felled over the last 12 months. **ACTION: Clerk/Chris Attwood**

W.10.10.23 Review cutting schedule – Cllr Samaroo proposed **"the working group should meet to carry out a full a thorough review of the cutting regime"** This was seconded by Cllr Mayo and unanimously agreed. It was agreed to meet on Thursday 26th at 3pm. The Clerk will compile a list of concerns in readiness for the meeting. **ACTION: Clerk, Chris Attwood, Cllrs Mayo, Samaroo, Oakley and Wood.**

W.11.10.23 To consider ChalCAN's request to apply to Highways for a licence to cultivate on Brantwood Green. The Committee discussed ChalCAN's request, there were mixed feelings, some members had concerns about applying on behalf of a community group. Cllr Wood explained that it is easier for Council's to gain permission to plant on Highways land than it is for a local group, but it is the group who will be responsible for the planting. It was agreed that we should support ChalCAN but to mitigate potential risk, Chris Attwood should carry out the necessary utility checks and dig in readiness for the trees to be planted and back filled by members of ChalCAN. Cllr Wood proposed **"we apply to Highways on ChalCAN's behalf for a licence to cultivate on Brantwood Green"** This was seconded by Cllr Oakley. There was one abstention. The Clerk will contact Highways to organise the necessary paperwork. **ACTION: Clerk/Chris Attwood**

W.12.10.23 Garden Trail plaque - The Garden Trail have suggested they use the following wording **"The King Edward VII Oak - provided and named by James Restall and planted by his wife in celebration of the King's coronation in August 1902"** Cllr Mayo proposed **"we approve the revised wording that has been suggested by The Garden Trail"** This was seconded by Cllr Gardiner. There was one objection.

W.13.10.23 Footpath Group report - Cllr Oakley provided updates to his report. The painting of the metal barriers has been postponed. The repairs to the seats on Blackness Banks have been carried out. The waymark posts have been replaced and concreted in Frith Wood. The improvements to the entrances to our playing fields is a work in progress. Cllr Oakley will speak to Cllr Gardiner about this as he has experience of this. Cllr Gardiner confirmed that he can donate approximately 1 tonne of hoggins towards this project; our thanks to Cllr Gardiner. **ACTION: Cllrs Gardiner/Oakley/Chris Attwood**

W.14.10.23 Chris Attwood report – Cllr Samaroo requested that Chris continue to provide detailed reports.

W.15.10.23 Ward Matters - Cllr Oakley noticed that the road sign at Ashley drive needs repair. The Clerk will report to SDC. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Wood raised concern with the potholes on the Marle Hill footpath. This footpath is due to be re-tarmacked. Cllr Oakley and Chris Attwood will look. **Action: Cllr Oakley/Chris Attwood.**

Cllr Mayo advised that a few of the posts on The Old Common have come out opposite to Freame Close. Chris Attwood will install replacements. **ACTION: Chris Attwood.**

Cllr Samaroo thanked Chris Attwood for adjusting the noticeboard on the A419.

Cllrs Samaroo and Wood asked if there was an update about the broken defibrillator that was located at The Methodist Hall. The Clerk confirmed that this has been referred to the technical department at Zoll by the Community Heartbeat Trust. Chris Attwood has spoken with our contact at Zoll and he has carried out the necessary checks; we await further information. From experience this is a very slow process, this is highly frustrating as this is a lifesaving piece of equipment. The defibrillator has been removed and has been marked as 'out of action' by the Ambulance service. We are still trying to get in touch with the new owners of The Methodist Hall to see if we could perhaps remove the defibrillator dependent on their plans for the property. Cllr Gardiner knows who the owners are and will ask them to get in touch with us. **ACTION: Chris Gardiner/Clerk**

W.16.10.23 Any Other Matters – There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 7.25pm.