



EMERSONS GREEN
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee

1 March 2022 in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council

Present: Councillors C Edwardson, S Hill, P Morgan, D Somers (Chairman) and R Sunderland

Absent: Councillors S Bassett, S Budd, R Nichols, and M Palmer

In attendance: Richard Hull (Committee Clerk);

Councillor Somers welcomed all to the meeting and advised of the evacuation procedure.

2021.100 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Budd and Palmer.

2021.101 Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

No interests were declared at this time.

2021.102 Public participation (not to exceed 5 minutes)

There was no public participation.

2021.103 Minutes of the Open Spaces meeting held on 11 January 2022

It was **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 January were a true and accurate record of the meeting and these were signed by the Chairman.

2021.104 Outstanding Items from these minutes

- To consider banning the use of weedkiller by allotment tenants
Cllr Sunderland agreed to contact Cllr Bassett and offer to write a proposal to put to the committee.

Action; Cllr Sunderland

2021.105 A proposal from Cllr Sunderland to commission a naturalist / ecologist to make recommendations for clearing some ground cover in Green Lane to create more biodiversity

It was **Resolved** to clarify if it is necessary to request 3 quotes.

Action; Committee Clerk

It was **Resolved** that Cllr Sunderland will draft the wording to go to contractors to request quotes.

Action; Cllr Sunderland

2021.106 A request from the Friends of Emersons Green Park (FoEGP) to use Green Lane for activities during the Three Greens Festival on 18 June

It was **Resolved** to obtain copies of; the public liability insurance of FoEGP and Whispering Woods; and the risk assessment by Whispering Woods for an acrobatic dance routine.

It was **Resolved** to seek advice as to whether any other action is needed apart from informing the Town Council's insurers of the proposed event.

Actions; Committee Clerk

2021.107 Recommendations of Cllrs Budd and Palmer for replacing signs that refer to Mangotsfield Rural Parish Council

It was **Resolved** to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

Action; Committee Clerk

2021.108 Dibden Lane allotments

- a) Two complaints about an allotment plot;

It was **Resolved** to point out to the tenant the clauses in the tenancy agreement about bonfires and structures, and to let the residents know of this action.

- b) Plot reviews;

Members noted that the Committee Clerk will send an invite for members to volunteer to do plot reviews after Easter.

Actions; Committee Clerk

2021.109 Tree surveys

Quotes were requested from three surveyors but only one was received for £750 from Barton Hyett Associates. It was **Resolved** to accept the quote on the basis that the survey is done by the end of May.

Action; Committee Clerk

2021.110 Quotes and further information for signs on the four commons

The following was **Resolved**;

- i. To proceed with option 1 which is 1500mm wide.
ii. To have the recycled plastic in earth brown.

Actions; Committee Clerk

- iii. Cllr Hill will check the signs on Siston common to see if they are matt or gloss and the EGTC signs will be the same.

Action; Cllr Hill

- iv. Cllrs Hill and Morgan will consider where the signs should be located and make recommendations to the committee.

Action; Cllrs Hill and Morgan

- v. To delegate to any two of Cllrs Hill, Morgan and Somers any decisions that need to be made up to an including installation of the signs.

Action; Cllrs Hill, Morgan & Somers

2021.111 Installing more flexible supports for the trees at Blackhorse Road common

It was **Resolved** to get quotes for this work.

Action; Committee Clerk

2021.112 Planting a tree at Blackhorse Road common

It was **Resolved** to get quotes to supply and plant a replacement tree and for watering as necessary.

Action; Committee Clerk

2021.113 Open Spaces maintenance procurement

Members noted that will not be progressed at present.

2021.114 An email from SGC stating that Pomphrey Hill Sports Association wish to use the Pomphrey Hill site for a festival on 11 June

This was noted by the members.

2021.115 Concerns from a resident that the tarmac path from Cave Grove across Green Lane is undulating and the resident thinks the broken stock fencing should be replaced

It was **Resolved** that Cllr Somers and the Committee Clerk will put up “Uneven ground” signs at each end of the crossing.

A quote was received in December for the replacement of the stock fencing and other repairs. It was **Resolved** to seek a quote from another contractor.

Action; Committee Clerk

2021.116 Plants for the planters on Emerson Way and ongoing maintenance schedule

It was **Resolved** to check which shops are still agreeable to watering the plants.

Action; Committee Clerk

It was **Resolved** to spend up to £100 to buy plants, compost and paint for the planters.

Action; Committee members

2021.117 Litter alongside Mangotsfield secondary school

It was **Resolved** to write to the Head of the school.

Action; Committee Clerk

2021.118 Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted;

1. An email from the Royal Pigeon Racing Association stating that they will confirm that any non-affiliated organisation has a minimum cover of £5,000.000 Public Liability Insurance.
2. An email dated 2 February from David Tibbatts, SGC, stating that the Common Connections project funding was approved a few days ago by the West of England Combined Authority.

2021.119 Items from Members to report

- Cllr Sunderland asked when the trees at Rodway are going to be planted. The Committee Clerk said SGC will be doing so this month.
- The Committee Clerk brought to the attention of the members an email from the Bristol Orienteering Club advising of an orienteering event that is proposed to take place on 4 May. The members noted the event.

Action; Committee Clerk

2021.120 Next Meeting; 10 May 2022 at 19.00

The chairman closed the meeting at 20.43