



**EMERSONS GREEN**  
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee**

**10 May 2022 in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council**

**Present:** Councillors S Budd, S Hill, P Morgan, M Palmer, D Somers (Chairman) and R Sunderland

**Absent:** Councillors S Bassett, C Edwardson and R Nichols

**In attendance:** Richard Hull (Committee Clerk), Ian Lyons (Clerk)

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

**2021.121 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Edwardson.

**2021.122 Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011**

No interests were declared at this time.

**2021.123 Public participation (not to exceed 5 minutes)**

There was no public participation.

**2021.124 Minutes of the Open Spaces meeting held on 10 May 2022**

It was **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 May were a true and accurate record of the meeting and these were signed by the Chairman.

**2021.125 Outstanding Items from these minutes**

- To consider banning the use of weedkiller by allotment tenants;  
*Cllr Sunderland has agreed to write a proposal to put to the committee.*
- Installing more flexible supports for the trees at Blackhorse Road common;  
*Committee Clerk to request a quote.*
- Planting and watering a tree at Blackhorse Road common;  
*Committee Clerk to request quotes. This has not been progressed yet as the recommended time for planting is November to March.*
- 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;  
*The Committee Clerk has put up one "Uneven ground" sign and has requested a quote for more fixings to enable the second sign to be put up.  
The Locum Clerk and Councillor Somers have sanctioned a quote of £280 from Chris Belcher for replacement of the stock fencing and other repairs and he has been instructed to do the work.*

**2021.126 A report from Ed Drewitt, a naturalist, for Green Lane with recommendations for increasing biodiversity**

This was noted by the members.

**2021.127 A proposal from Cllr Sunderland for the Friends of Emersons Green Park to voluntarily implement some of Ed Drewitt's recommendations in his report on Green Lane**

It was **Resolved** that the Friends of Emersons Green Park can implement all the plans in the proposal.

**Action; Councillor Sunderland**

**2021.128 Reply from the Town Council's insurers in relation to the request from the Friends of Emersons Green Park to use Green Lane for activities during the Three Greens Festival on 18 June**

This was noted by the members.

**2021.129 A reply from Mangotsfield School about the litter between the perimeter fences**

It was **Resolved** to thank the school for the reply, to emphasise that it is the litter between the two fences that is the concern and to ask when the work will be completed.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.130 A letter from a resident about litter around the lake in Lyde Green**

It was **Resolved** to tell the GreenSquare group about the resident's concern that the area around the lake is kept tidy and to ask how frequently the area is litter picked.

An update will be sent to the resident.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.131 An offer from South Gloucestershire Council to spend one week in the Town Council's area to address any general maintenance issues and to agree a list of priorities**

Members made the following suggestions;

Councillor Somers;

- Clear the stream along the east side of the allotments.
- Clear overgrown path edges.

Councillor Sunderland;

- Install a stile on a footpath.

Councillor Hill;

- Cleaning of the signs along the roads and cycle paths.
- Straighten signs that are bent or hanging down.
- Install missing signs.

Councillor Palmer;

- Repair the barriers at the Park & Ride.
- Tidy up School Square.

It was **Resolved** to ask the committee members to provide further detail on the suggestions and any further ones to add to the list.

Councillor Hill is available on 31 May at 2.30pm to meet SGC and Councillor Palmer may be available.

**Actions; Committee Clerk and Councillors Hill & Palmer**

**2021.132 An email from a resident about a footpath between Elmleigh Road and Colliers Break becoming overgrown**

It was **Resolved** to add this to the list of issues to provide to SGC as per item 131 and inform the resident.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.133 A report from the Committee Clerk about fire damage at Rodway Common and graffiti**

This was noted by members.

**2021.134 Recommendations of Councillors Budd and Palmer for replacing signs that refer to Mangotsfield Rural Parish Council**

It was **Resolved** that Councillor Sunderland will draft wording for a sign to replace the existing ones in Green Lane.

**Action; Councillor Sunderland**

It was **Resolved** that Councillors Budd and Palmer will review the other signs on the list to confirm or clarify their recommendations for which ones should be replaced and whether the content of the signs needs to be changed.

**Action; Councillors Budd and Palmer**

**2021.135 Dibden Lane allotments**

- a) To consider a request from a tenant to remove some of a felled ash tree in the northeast corner of the site;

It was **Resolved** to agree to the request.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

- b) Following the review of poorly maintained plots on 29 April letters will be sent to 12 tenants;

This was noted by members.

- c) The Committee Clerk will invite the committee members to do judging in June;

This was noted by members.

- d) An email from a tenant about rubbish in the car park;

It was **Resolved** to inform the tenant that the tenancy agreement states that rubbish must be removed from plots and taken from the site.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

- e) A reply from a tenant about complaints about their plot;

This was noted by members.

- f) An email from a tenant about poorly maintained shared paths;

It was **Resolved** to inform the tenant that the adjoining plot is under review.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.136 Signs for the four commons**

The contractor is trying to source the correct size of materials.

It was **Resolved** that if the contractor has not been able to source the materials within four weeks then the Committee Clerk will inform councillors Hill, Morgan and Somers.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.137 Plants for the planters on Emerson Way**

Councillor Hill volunteered to purchase the plants. It was **Resolved** at the meeting on 1 March to spend up to £100 on plants and compost.

Councillors Budd, Hill and Morgan volunteered to put the plants in on 30 May.

It was **Resolved** that the Avenue Café can remove and use the conifers in the planter outside the café.

**Actions; Councillors Budd, Hill and Morgan**

**2021.138 A proposal by Councillor Hill to move a dog waste bin at Rodway Common so that it is not in line with the recently planted trees**

It was **Resolved** to find out the cost for South Gloucestershire Council to move the bin to about 1 metre away from the gravel footpath.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.139 Does the artwork for the information boards at Lyde Green common meet the requirements of Full Council as agreed on 14 April**

It was **Resolved** to ask the Lyde Green Open Spaces group to alter the wording from; “This sign was funded by Emersons Green Town Council upon request of Lyde Green Open Space group”

To;

“This sign was funded by Emersons Green Town Council in partnership with Lyde Green Open Space group”

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.140 The Rodway 10k**

This was noted by members.

**2021.141 An email about antisocial behaviour at Mangotsfield Railway Station**

This was noted by members.

**2021.142 A request from the Friends of Emersons Green Park to SGC to hold the Three Greens Festival**

This was noted by members.

**2021.143 A request to install a dual-purpose bin**

Members noted that the cost to install a bin is £599.55 and £161.54 for a year to empty once per week. Members noted that there are bins on Quarry Way, Cynder Way and by the bus stop on the A4174 just south of the Wick Wick roundabout.

It was **Resolved** to decline the request, to monitor the situation and inform the resident of this.

**Action; Committee Clerk**

**2021.144 Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted;

1. Emails with an allotment tenant about broken glass from their greenhouse.
2. A request from a member of the public to improve the paths around the Leap stream.
3. An email from SGC stating they will start watering the 10 newly planted trees at Rodway common the week of 26 April and continue for 20 weeks.

**2021.145 Items from Members to report**

- Councillor Budd reported that the bins at Pomphrey Hill were often full and questioned whether they need emptying more frequently.
- Councillor Budd reported concerns about Springfield Park; an empty area of hardstanding; an area with branches / rubbish.

- Councillor Palmer stated that there is a problem with the height barriers at the Park and Ride.
  - Councillor Palmer suggested the Town Council considers funding a time capsule.
- These matters will be put on the next agenda.

**Actions; Committee Clerk**

**2021.146 Next Meeting; 5 July 2022 at 19.00**

The chairman closed the meeting at 20.55