



Bothenhampton & Walditch  
Parish Council since 1886

**MINUTES OF OPEN SPACES AND PLAY AREAS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023 AT Ivy House, Bridport at 2pm**

<b>Initials:</b>	<b>Invited</b>
GS	Cllr Graham Styles (Chair)
JB	Cllr Jim Basker
TC	Tan Cox (Clerk)

Ref			Papers
	Declaration of any pecuniary interests relating to items in the agenda: None		
	Apologies: Tan Cox (Clerk)		
1	<p><b>MINUTES OF MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes, having been agreed by email were accepted, with the proviso that, towards the end of page 2 (Valley View Community Area/Howard Close), the final sentence (“Cllr JB reminded...”) is incorrect (two trees referred to have been confused).</li> </ul> <p><b>MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING ON 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regarding <b>Picnic Benches and Tables</b> – Recommendation agreed at Main Committee. Benches and Tables ordered and installed.</li> </ul>		

*Graham Styles*  
Minutes agreed: Chairman

Ref			Papers
1	<p><b>MAIN BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>Nature Reserves</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jellyfields Nature Reserve - Cllr GS reported he had visited the Reserve on 17 July. He agreed to approach the Town Council (BTC) regarding repairs to the bench to the right of the main path, down from the entrance. The Volunteer Footpath Officer (VFO) had also visited the Reserve earlier this month, and he too had noticed paths becoming overgrown in one or two places as well as a low hanging branch; Cllr GS undertook to approach Dorset Council (DC) about this, but it was noted that this would not be a priority.</li> <li>● Bothenhampton Nature Reserve – Cllr GS reported his meeting with Roger Snelgrove (Dorset’s Important Geological Sites (DIGS)) on 18 July, following the DIGS work party that morning. Mr Snelgrove had said the missing DIGS panel had been located and reinstated. He preferred that any new information panel should be placed at the quarry site, so visitors could see what was being described, although a suitable indicator to the panel could be placed on the central plinth with the other two panels. It was agreed DIGS need to inform the PC of the cost of the new panel in due course. Cllr GS recalled that he had asked the VFO to clear the path leading to the quarry, as requested by Mr Snelgrove.</li> <li>● Management Plans: Cllr GS noted that DC had told BTC on 25 May that the Community Asset Transfer had been approved. The revised Management Plans would serve as a guide for future work once the legal paperwork was completed.</li> </ul>		
2	<p><b>John Holt Play Area</b></p> <p>Cllr GS noted that the new Kingslade equipment had been installed at the end of May. Three new bench/picnic table sets of recycled plastic had also been installed on 14 July. The old broken set had been removed by the Lengthsman and the two remaining old sets would be removed to the ‘new’ Holy Trinity Church in Bothenhampton. A new, large ‘No Dogs’ sign had been fixed to the entrance gate. There was some discussion of the issue raised in the Inspector’s recent report of whether new football nets were required; Cllr JB recalled that nets had been ordered several years ago, but had not been a success. Cllr GS agreed to approach Huck Nets for a quotation for the supply of nets/stanchions and/or entirely new goals for Cllrs to consider.</p>		

Ref			Papers
3	<p><b>John Gundry Play Area</b></p> <p>A new, large 'No Dogs' sign had been fixed to the entrance gate. Quotations had been received for the replacement of the net and crossbar on the climbing net (£2715.98, plus £300 for installation by the Inspector). Cllr GS agreed to check this was on the agenda of the upcoming F&amp;F sub committee.</p> <p>Cllr GS agreed to ask the Lengthsman to apply preservative to the timber framed equipment over this summer, as recommended by the Inspector. He noted that he had asked Cllr CA to liaise with the Lengthsman over installation of the two new bench/picnic table sets. Cllr JB wondered if one of the old sets might be moved to the Village Green, and undertook to enquire.</p>		
4	<p><b>Lower Walditch Play Area</b></p> <p>Cllr JB reported that the Lengthsman had removed the overhanging branches and vegetation. Rowdy behaviour had been reported to the LWPA&amp;O committee and the Community Support Officer had been contacted to observe the area on a regular basis. Neighbours were keeping an eye open for any further football games on the play area.</p>		
5	<p><b>Trees</b></p> <p>Cllr GS undertook to forward the two recent DC reports to the BTC to note work required, in particular the need for an annual inspection of the horse chestnut on the Village Green. DC should be approached to carry out the work on the sycamore at Valley View Amenity Area.</p>		
6	<p><b>Allotments</b></p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>		
7	<p><b>Other OSPA Initiatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picnic tables/benches (see above)</li> <li>• Fields in Trust – The acreage of the relevant sites had now been calculated. Cllr JB undertook to take photos of the Village Green and the Howard Road Amenity Area, to accompany the text supplied. The necessary formal decision needs to be recorded at the next full PC meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> September, as requested by FIT. Cllr JB undertook to check if Cllr CA has copies of the updated Title Deeds containing the new address to supply to FIT.</li> </ul>		

Ref			Papers
8	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Cllr JB noted the need to draw up a list of outstanding issues for Cllrs to hand over to BTC by March 2024.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 1530.</p>		

Date of the next Open Spaces and Play Areas Sub-Committee Meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 at Ivy House, Bridport 2pm.

### SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 24<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023

Action	Owner	Page
<p><b>Jellyfields Nature Reserve</b> – bench in need of repair. Approach BTC. Overhanging branches/overgrown path(s). Approach DC.</p> <p><b>Bothenhampton Nature Reserve</b></p> <p><b>John Holt Play Area</b> – new nets/goals – Approach Huck Nets</p> <p><b>John Gundry Play Area</b> – replacement of crossbar and net on climbing net – check on F&amp;F agenda</p> <p>Application of preservative on timber frames – approach Lengthsman</p> <p>Check feasibility of moving old bench/picnic tables to Village Green</p> <p><b>Trees</b> – work required on sycamore at Valley View Amenity Area – approach DC</p> <p>Forward two DC reports to BTC</p> <p><b>Fields in Trust</b> – photos needed of Village Green and Howard Road Amenity Area. Check if Cllr CA has copies of the updated Title Deeds</p> <p><b>AOB - Draw</b> up list of outstanding issues for Cllrs to hand over to BTC by March 2024.</p>	<p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr JB</p> <p>Cllr GS/ Clerk</p> <p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr JB</p> <p>Cllr JB</p>	

### ITEMS ROLLED OVER – 24<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023

Action	Owner	Page
None		

Tan Cox  
Clerk to Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council

**RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE – 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

Item	Page
None	

**RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO F & F SUB-COMMITTEE &/OR T T & F SUB-COMMITTEE – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Item	Page
None	