



Bothenhampton & Walditch
Parish Council since 1886

MINUTES OF OPEN SPACES AND PLAY AREAS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
25TH JANUARY 2023 AT Ivy House, Bridport at 2pm

Initials:	Invited
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: None	
1	<p>MINUTES OF MONDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes, having been agreed by email were accepted. <p>MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING ON 17TH OCTOBER 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding Bothenhampton Nature Reserve – Overhanging branches. The Clerk confirmed that this issue has been resolved 30th November 2022. Action completed. • Regarding John Holt Play Area and John Gundry Play Area – Football pitch goal mouths – returf as appropriate. The Clerk confirmed that an email had been sent to the grass cutting contractor on 17th October 2022. Action completed. • Regarding John Holt Play Area – gate problem – Cllr GS has spoken with the Playground Inspector (KH) and a quote has been received. See pages 3 and 4 below). Action completed. • Regarding Bothenhampton Nature Reserve - request an update following DIGS' meeting on 5th August. The Clerk confirmed that an update had been received and sent the letter from Roger Snelgrove to Councillors. Action completed. 	

Graham Styles

Minutes agreed: Chairman

Ref			Papers
	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING ON 17th OCTOBER 2022 (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regarding John Gundry Play Area – Play Area Re-design – Specification, outline sketches and photographs have been posted to websites in Bridport and various contractors asked to quote. The Clerk confirmed that a contractor has been selected – see page 4 below. Action completed. ● Regarding Fields in Trust – contact problem – Cllr Addis has since taken this on and has been in touch with the Solicitors Kitson and Trotman to progress the Land Registry updated Title Deeds. These are awaited. No further action at this time. Action completed. ● Regarding Play Area Equipment Quotes – Cllr GS has obtained 3 quotes for potential additional equipment – see pages 3 and 4 below for more information. 		
1	<p>MAIN BUSINESS</p> <p>Lengthsman Hours – The Clerk had sent the latest spreadsheet detailing the Lengthsman’s hours to this sub-committee in order for councillors to consider whether there are any further issues to report. There was nothing to report. Action completed.</p> <p>Nature Reserves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jellyfields Nature Reserve - Cllr JB referred to the large sycamore that has branches overhanging gardens in Howard Close. The Clerk confirmed that the grass cutting contractor had visited the site and removed a branch that had fallen during the storms. Cllr JB said that it would be prudent to ask the Dorset Council tree officer to look at this tree to establish whether it needs to be cut back. The Clerk will contact Dorset Council Tree Officer. ● Bothenhampton Nature Reserve – Cllr GS confirmed that he had looked around the nature reserve recently and referred to a tree that is overhanging the path, he did not consider it a danger at the present time. <p>Cllr JB referred to the DIGS report wherein DIGS had recommended a Geology Information Panel to be placed within the Reserve providing information to the general public. Councillors welcomed this and were of the opinion that the best place for it to be located is with the other information panels near the entrance of the Reserve.</p>	Clerk	

Ref			Papers
2	<p>John Holt Play Area (Cont.)</p> <p>Cllrs GS and JB both preferred the quote for £4,000 + £1,300 (£5,300) for the Kinglade unit and thought it the best option to complement the existing play area equipment.</p> <p>Detail of the Kinglade - Made by Hand Made Places in Bordon, Hants. An advantage being that it is a dig-in installation, so no concrete is required – this significantly reduces the installation costs and also makes the replacement and repair of timbers in the future very straightforward . The item has a fall height of under 1m and is suitable for installation straight onto grass.</p> <p>It was agreed to send this decision to next month’s F&F sub committee for its consideration.</p>	Clerk	
3	<p>John Gundry Play Area</p> <p>Cllr GS referred to the Inspection Report for Q4 received from the playground inspector (KH). The Clerk confirmed that she had asked the grass cutting contractor to move the goals and this will be done in due course.</p> <p>It was agreed the condition of the picnic tables and benches is adequate for now.</p> <p>Play Area Re-Design</p> <p>Cllr Addis has taken the lead on the re-design of the JG Play Area and this has progressed to the tender stage, with contractors meeting Cllr Addis on site to discuss the specification and method statement. The successful contractor – Ashley Cooper Turf and Transport at a cost of £2,750.00 plus VAT.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that she had written to the successful contractor advising him of the terms and conditions and that, subject to the weather, confirmed that work will commence in the next 2 to 3 weeks.</p> <p>Cllr GS recalled Cllr JB’s suggestion that a work party will be required in the Spring to cut back the perennial weeds and brambles.</p> <p>There was some discussion around equipment for older children and Cllr JB suggested a basketball net could be installed. The Clerk agreed to put this onto the F&F Agenda to be discussed at the meeting on the 17th February.</p>	Clerk	
4	<p>Lower Walditch Play Area</p> <p>Cllr GS referred to the Inspection Report for Q4 received from the playground inspector (KH). No issues were raised.</p>		

Ref			Papers
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>Cllr JB raised some concern regarding a sycamore tree within the Valley View Community Area / Howard Close. He said that branches had dropped recently and there remains the risk of damage to adjacent properties.</p> <p>Cllr JB requested that the DC tree officer examine the tree to determine its current state. The Clerk agreed to include this on the request when asking for his help with the other issues highlighted above.</p>	Clerk	

Date of the next Open Spaces and Play Areas Sub-Committee Meeting: - 24th April 2023 at Ivy House, Bridport or via Zoom, 2pm.

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 25th JANUARY 2023

Action	Owner	Page
NATURE RESERVES		
<p>Jellyfields - Regarding the large sycamore – request Dorset Council Tree Officer examine this tree to establish whether it needs to be cut back. The Clerk to contact Dorset Council Tree Officer.</p>	Clerk	2
<p>Bothenhampton - Regarding DIGS report and the Geology Information Panel. Write to DIGS offering financial support.</p>	Clerk	3
PLAY AREAS		
<p>John Holt Play Area - Regarding Gate Issue and possible new equipment. Quotation to be placed onto the F&F Agenda for the meeting on 17th February.</p>	Clerk	3
<p>Regarding state of picnic tables and benches. Assess the condition of the benches and tables and report back.</p>	Cllr GS	3
<p>John Gundry Play Area - Regarding Basketball Net. A basketball net would benefit older children. There was some discussion around equipment for older children. Place onto the F&F Agenda for the meeting on 17th February.</p>	Clerk	4

Action	Owner	Page
TREES		
Walditch Village Green Horse Chestnut - Regarding poor state of health of the tree. request Dorset Council Tree Officer examine this tree to establish what can be done. The Clerk to contact Dorset Council Tree Officer.	Clerk	5
Sycamore Avenue - Regarding lack of response and action relating to the trees along the Avenue and especially to the letter of 1 st November 2022 asking for tree replacements within the conservation area. Remind Dorset Council Tree Officer and copy to Dorset Councillors.	Clerk	5
Valley View Community Area / Howard Close - Regarding sycamore that had dropped branches recently. The Clerk to contact Dorset Council Tree Officer.	Clerk	6

ITEMS ROLLED OVER – 25th JANUARY 2023

Action	Owner	Page
None		

RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE – 13th February 2023

Item	Page
None	

RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO F & F SUB-COMMITTEE &/OR T T & F SUB-COMMITTEE – 17th February 2023

Item	Page
John Holt Play Area – Gate Issue A quote of £200 has been submitted by KH who will mend the gate and the latch.	3
John Gundry Play Area – Basketball Net For older children who use the Play Area	4
Walditch Village Green Horse Chestnut – the cost of Dorset Council Tree Officer to look at the tree.	5