



Bothenhampton & Walditch  
Parish Council since 1886

**MINUTES OF OPEN SPACES AND PLAY AREAS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING  
held REMOTELY at 2pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

Initials	Present
GS	Cllr Graham Styles (Chair)
JB	Cllr Jim Basker
AL	Cllr Ann Langridge
EB	Cllr Edward Berry
TC	Tan Cox (Clerk)

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
	<b>Declaration of any pecuniary interests relating to items in the agenda:</b> None	
	<b>Apologies:</b> None	
	<b>CLERK'S NOTE</b>  Due to the COVID-19 virus and social distancing requirements this meeting was held remotely using video conferencing software.  The L01-20 Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (coronavirus) (flexibility of local authority and police and crime panel meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, Regulation 5(2) require that all participants should be able to be seen and heard throughout the meeting and this condition was satisfied.	

Minutes agreed: Chairman

on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b></p> <p>The minutes for the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were agreed. It was noted that there is an error in the minutes at page 5 on the Summary of Agreed Actions where it should read 'Bothenhampton Nature Reserve rather than 'Jellyfields Nature Reserve'.</p> <p><b>MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING ON 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b></p> <p><b>Jellyfields Nature Reserve</b></p> <p>Regarding Broken Handrail – This has now been mended. Action complete.</p> <p><b>John Holt Play Area</b></p> <p>Regarding letter to Dorset Council / laminated notices. Action complete.</p> <p><b>ROLLED OVER ITEMS FROM MEETING ON 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b></p> <p>Regarding John Gundry Play Area – Cllr JB is keeping eye on bark situation. Action complete.</p>	
1	<p><b>MAIN BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>Co-option of Cllr Edward Berry to the OSPA sub-committee</b></p> <p>It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Edward Berry should be co-opted onto the sub-committee and the Chair welcomed him.</p> <p><b>JELLYFIELDS NATURE RESERVE / BOTHENHAMPTON NATURE RESERVE</b></p> <p>Reference was made to the letter that was sent to Dorset Council and Bridport Town Council on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021 regarding the delay in progressing the transfer.</p> <p>There was much discussion about the deteriorating state of the nature reserves, Cllr JB confirmed that Dorset Council had withdrawn the Ranger service in the expectation that Bridport Town Council will provide this via the Lengthsman and community volunteers. However, this has not happened because of the delay in the transfer.</p> <p>Cllr EB said that there was a 3-man team of Council workers recently in Bothenhampton Nature Reserve felling a tree beside the path.</p> <p>There was reference to the DIGS group – Cllr JB confirmed that the group still meets and is predominantly an industrial archeology group.</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
	<p>There was discussion about the 10-year Nature Reserve Management Plan and Cllr JB said that there should be a link from the parish council website to it (the plan is currently on Bridport Town Council's website).</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>Cllr GS to send the Clerk some explanatory updated text and the link to the plan. The Clerk will post this onto the parish council website under the Community Page.</p> <p>Chase Dorset Council for response to the letter of 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 (see note).</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Mr R Goff from DC had replied on 18<sup>th</sup> February, copied to Daryl C from Bridport Town Council and to our Chair Cllr JB; the reply suggested a walk-around the Nature Reserves to assess the situation.</p>	Cllr GS Clerk
2	<p><b>JOHN HOLT PLAY AREA</b></p> <p>Discussion around the inspection report completed by the play area inspector – Ken Hussey (KH).</p> <p>The Inspector had noted that the existing signage did not contain the UK emergency contact number. (note: this criticism extended to all three play areas).</p> <p>The Clerk will create additional signage and progress their preparation.</p> <p>Discussion around the grass matting used to protect children. The Inspector had noted that the matting had sunk below the level of the existing grass.</p> <p>The Clerk to contact KH to ask for a contact to carry out the work. There was also concern that the grass matting would continue to deteriorate, and it may be prudent to investigate whether another solution can be found. Clerk to ask KH for potential other solutions.</p> <p>The Inspector had again recommended that the bench be moved further away from the wall. However, Councillors noted that the bench has been there since its purchase some time ago and is screwed into the concrete on the ground – if removed it may damage the concrete floor. Clerk to notify the Inspector.</p>	Clerk        Clerk   Clerk

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
3	<p><b>JOHN GUNDRY PLAY AREA</b></p> <p>Discussion around the inspection report completed by the play area inspector – Ken Hussey (KH).</p> <p>See above for emergency signage.</p> <p>Cllr JB said that the local residents would like to put hedging between the play area and the allotments adjacent; partly for aesthetic reasons and also to prevent children wandering into the allotment area. Hazel bushes can be provided free of charge and volunteers would be sought from the village to plant them.</p> <p>Action: agreed</p>	
4	<p><b>LOWER WALDITCH PLAY AREA</b></p> <p>Discussion around the inspection report completed by the play area inspector – Ken Hussey (KH).</p> <p>Issues such as the lack of signage directing people to the play area, the broken chain link fence (now fixed), logs on grass (LWPA has informed the Inspector that these are to be removed once the picnic bench is installed). Cllr AL also referred to a dangerous uncapped hinge fitting on the far entrance gate.</p> <p>Cllr GS agreed to speak to the Lengthsman to ask him to deal with the uncapped hinge fitting on the far gate.</p> <p>Cllr AL referred also to the British Standard tags which should have been affixed by PlayQuest before they left the site. They have since sent the tags to Cllr AL. The Lengthsman should be asked to affix the tags. Cllr AL agreed to drop the tags around to Cllr GS so that he can ask the Lengthsman to affix them.</p> <p>The Lower Walditch Play Area Management Group are meeting with Daryl C from Bridport Town Council to discuss the possibility of installing a gate into the cemetery to stop the chain-link fencing from being trampled over again.</p>	<p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr AL Cllr GS</p>

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
	<p>Cllr JB confirmed that a volunteer working party will replace the hedge around the upper entrance to the Play Area.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the litter bin – and that she is still chasing Dorset Waste Partnership for the installation.</p> <p>Cllr JB referred to the Inspector’s comments regarding the COVID-19 notices. It was agreed to look at this again in the next meeting.</p>	
5	<p><b>TREE PLANTING AND REWILDING</b></p> <p>Cllr GS confirmed that he is to meet Dorset Council to arrange a scan for any utilities under the verges in Slades Green before tree planting is undertaken.</p> <p>He confirmed that the Bridport Tree Planting Group had kindly offered to draw up a plan setting out where the trees will go, which will also assist the scanning process.</p> <p>Cllr AL asked what trees were being recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wild cherry</li> <li>• Hawthorn</li> <li>• Rowan</li> <li>• Downy birch</li> </ul> <p>These will be planted in groups.</p> <p>Residents in the area were consulted in December 2020 and welcomed the proposal. Cllr GS hoped volunteers from the community would help with the planting, to take place ideally in March.</p> <p><b>HOWARD ROAD AMENITY AREA</b></p> <p>Cllr JB confirmed that residents within this area had not been enthusiastic about a rewilding scheme within the Howard Road Amenity Area and it would therefore not go ahead as planned. He did say that he had been given 3 birch whips which could be planted within the wild area at the bottom of the hill.</p> <p>Action: agreed</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
6	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>There was discussion around the changes that need to be made. The Clerk will make the changes and forward the reviewed document to OSPA councillors in due course.</p> <p><b>Allotments</b></p> <p>Arising from the discussions relating to the Parish Plan, allotments and Community Land Trusts were mentioned.</p>	
	The meeting ended at 4.30pm. Date of next meeting 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 2pm via Zoom video conference software.	

#### SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Action	Owner	Page
Regarding Bothenhampton and Walditch Nature Reserve – send clerk explanatory text and link to nature reserve plan. Clerk to post to website.	Cllr GS Clerk	3
Regarding John Holt Play Area –		
Create additional signage and progress preparation.	Clerk	3
Contact KH to ask about remedies for grass matting and other solutions and a contact to repair and/or renovate existing grass matting.	Clerk	3
Notify KH of issues surrounding bench.	Clerk	3
Regarding Lower Walditch Play Area –		
Speak to the Lengthsman about the uncapped hinge fitting on the far gate.	Cllr GS	4
Referring to the British Standard tags, Cllr AL to pass to Cllr GS.	Cllr AL	4
Cllr GS to ask the Lengthsman to affix to equipment.	Cllr GS	4

#### SUMMARY OF ROLLED OVER ITEMS – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Item	Page
None	

**RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Item	Page
None.	

**RECOMMENDATION REFERRED TO F&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Item	Page
None.	

**RECOMMENDATION REFERRED TO TT&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Item	Page
None.	