



Bothenhampton & Walditch
Parish Council since 1886

**MINUTES OF OPEN SPACES AND PLAY AREAS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
held at Ivy House at 2pm on 5th July 2021**

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

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
	Declaration of any pecuniary interests relating to items in the agenda: None	
	Apologies: None	
	<p>MINUTES OF 10th May 2021 The minutes for the 10th May 2021 were agreed.</p> <p>MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING ON 10th May 2021</p> <p>John Holt Play Area Regarding ivy growing on dry stone wall – form a group to tackle the ivy branches which could be undermining the dry-stone wall. Action completed.</p> <p>Lower Walditch Play Area Regarding writing a letter to the LWPA asking that they discuss any future purchases of play equipment with the Parish Council before they order them. Action completed.</p> <p>Howard Road Rewilding / Fruit Trees Regarding the availability of S106 funds – the clerk forwarded an email on 11th May outlining monies available. Action completed.</p> <p>Sycamore Avenue and Trees Regarding measuring the girth, note location and type of tree and take a dated photograph. Also to send details of Woodland Trust database for uploading data to councillors. See page 3 below.</p>	

Minutes agreed: Chairman

on 31st August 2021

Tan Cox
Clerk to Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
1	<p>MAIN BUSINESS</p> <p>JELLYFIELDS NATURE RESERVE / BOTHENHAMPTON NATURE RESERVE</p> <p>There is still no progress on the transfer of the nature reserves from Dorset Council to Bridport Town Council.</p> <p>There have been a number of requests to Dorset Council to carry out remedial work or to provide advice and guidance (signage at entrances) etc. However, there has been very little progress and Cllr GS and the Clerk are putting together a letter to Dorset Council setting out the areas where the need for action remains</p> <p>There was a dead ash (Ash Dieback) in Jellyfields which had been sectioned off, and the tree has now been removed.</p> <p>The parish council has written (again) to Dorset Council regarding the entrance to the Bothenhampton Nature Reserve / Wessex Water reservoir and the broken gate. Cllr JB to pass Wessex Water contact details to the Clerk to follow up.</p> <p>Cllr EB said that he had asked the VFO whether he would be able to clear overgrown areas of Bothenhampton Nature Reserve up towards the rockface. It was agreed that this was a good idea. Cllr GS agreed to remind the VFO about this.</p> <p>Cllr JB undertook to contact DIGS about this area near the old quarry, to follow up the email the VFO has sent.</p>	<p>Cllr JB / Clerk</p> <p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr JB</p>
2	<p>JOHN HOLT PLAY AREA</p> <p>Cllr GS said he had organised a working party recently to clear ivy from the dry-stone walls surrounding the play area. Cllr EB commented that now the ivy has gone it has exposed the bow in the dry-stone wall and some of the coping stones are broken or loose. There was discussion around future repairs and future cutting of ivy. It was agreed to assess the state of the dry-stone wall regularly. Consider employing drystone waller when significant deterioration occurs.</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
3	<p>JOHN GUNDRY PLAY AREA</p> <p>Cllr GS confirmed that the bark has been topped up by Cllr CA, the sub-committee thanks Cllr CA for his efforts. There was general discussion about a party that had assembled one weekend recently in the play area itself. Thankfully, none of the play equipment had been damaged, and the party had taken place at night, when no children had been around. One gin bottle was found and removed by Cllr CA.</p>	
4	<p>LOWER WALDITCH PLAY AREA</p> <p>Cllr JB confirmed that the anniversary event due on 25th July has been postponed because of Covid. The swing will be repaired during the week beginning 19th July. There was discussion about the letter sent by the LWPA Committee and its request for permission to purchase further equipment and to access additional S106 funds. The Clerk agreed to send the letter to Cllrs GS and EB.</p>	Clerk
5	<p>TREES</p> <p>The survey of veteran trees has not been progressed. Cllr GS said this would be an ideal project for a school or some other discrete group of people. Cllr GS said that Joe Hackett (Bridport Tree Group) had confirmed that the Hyde were receptive to his approach to replace trees on the Hyde and associated lands; we will remain in touch with him.</p>	
6	<p>ALLOTMENTS</p> <p>Cllr GS referred to the Briefing Note sent with the agenda and confirmed that he had been in touch with several people in connection with the two possible sites in Bothenhampton for some type of community activity, such as an allotment. Obviously, nothing would happen without the relevant landowners' consent. He had concluded that one of the sites, near the Paddocks, was not likely to be suitable. With regard to the other, he had spoke to a neighbour of the landowners and would ask her for an introduction to them.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the parish council should look into the level of demand for allotments in Bothenhampton and Cllr JB confirmed that there is a waiting list held by Bridport Town Council. The two sites in Walditch are also popular and heavily subscribed. It was agreed this was encouraging.</p> <p>There was agreement that more information was needed also on what the creation and management of an allotment site involved and the risks / benefits of making one or more sites available in Bothenhampton.</p> <p>Cllr JB suggested that Ian Bark be approached to see if he would undertake to write a short article for the Bridge (IB is an allotment holder). Cllrs JB and GS agreed to contact IB and Robin Carter respectively (RC is understood to be setting up an allotment site in Loders).</p>	<p>Cllr GS</p> <p>Cllr JB Cllrs JB and GS</p>

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
7	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>The Terms of Reference were agreed subject to a small change of 'date of next meeting'. This will now be 31st August and not the 30th given that it is a bank holiday.</p> <p>The Clerk outlined a problem involving grasscutting, in particular with a hedge located at Valley View in Walditch. She said that Derek Smith had advised her that he is unable to strim beneath the hedge as it is too dense. Cllr JB suggested that DS speak to the householder and ask whether he (the house owner) is able to cut it after the bird nesting season. The Clerk to advise DS of this.</p> <p>There was general discussion around the flytipping incident last month on AONB land, for which the landowner, Mr Norman, had admitted responsibility. It was agreed to await advice from Dorset Council's environmental health department.</p>	Clerk
	The meeting ended at 3pm. Date of next meeting 24 th August 2021 at 2pm at Ivy House / Groves	

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 5th July 2021

Action	Owner	Page
Regarding Nature Reserves – telephone Wessex Water to advise about broken gate and padlock.	Cllr JB / Clerk	2
Regarding Nature Reserves – remind VFO that he may clear areas of Bothenhampton Nature Reserve.	Cllr GS	2
Regarding Nature Reserves – contact DIGS.	Cllr JB	2
Regarding Lower Walditch Play Area – send letter regarding request for further equipment and access to S106 monies to councillors	Clerk	3
Regarding Allotments – seek introduction to landowner	Cllr GS	3
Regarding Allotments – contact Ian Bark (article for Bridge on owning an allotment) and Robin Carter (experience of setting up an allotment site in Loders).	Cllrs JB & GS	3
Regarding Hedge at Valley View – contact contractor and advise that he should call in on the homeowner and discuss problem.	Clerk	4

SUMMARY OF ROLLED OVER ITEMS – 5th July 2021

Item	Page
None	

RECOMMENDATIONS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE – 13th September 2021

Item	Page
None.	

RECOMMENDATION REFERRED TO F&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 27th August 2021

Item	Page
None.	

RECOMMENDATION REFERRED TO TT&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 27th August 2021

Item	Page
None.	