

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on  
**7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 20:11 hrs in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,  
North Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DG**

**Chair:** Cllr M Gunn

**Committee:** Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr S Osborne, Cllr D Paul, Cllr S Shepherd,  
Cllr L Wilcock

**Officers:** M Tredwin (Town Clerk) J Earp (Deputy Town Clerk and RFO)  
V Freeman (Administration Officer) J Taylor (Countryside  
Manager)

**In attendance:** Cllr A Shearman, no members of the public were present.

**22-0011-OS**      **To elect a Chair**  
Nominations were invited for the office of Chair of the Open  
Spaces Committee.  
Cllr Gunn received a nomination from Cllr Shepherd and  
Seconded by Cllr Hamilton  
There were no other nominations.  
Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to elect Cllr Gunn as Chair  
of the Open Spaces committee.

**22-0012-OS**      **To elect a Vice chair**  
Nominations were invited for the office of Vice Chair of the Open  
Spaces Committee.  
Cllr Jenner-Hurford received a nomination from Cllr Gunn and  
Seconded by Cllr Paul  
There were no other nominations.  
Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to elect Cllr Jenner-Hurford  
as Vice Chair of the Open Spaces committee.

**22-0013-OS**      **Public Forum**  
There were no members of the public present.

**22-0014-OS**      **Apologies for Absence**  
Cllr B Jenner-Hurford – Personal Reasons  
Cllr L Taylor – Personal Reasons  
Cllr Keitch also sent her apologies.

**22-0015-OS**      **Declarations of Interest**  
There were no declarations of interest made.

**22-0016-OS**      **Dispensations**  
There were no dispensations requested of granted.

- 22-0017-OS**                    **Minutes**  
Members **RESOLVED** by 4 votes for and 2 abstentions that the Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022 as a correct record.  
**Proposer** Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd
- 22-0018-OS**                    **Open Spaces Team report**  
Members **NOTED** the Open Spaces report.  
The Countryside Manager updated members on the recent graffiti at the recreation ground, it was difficult to remove but they have managed to remove most of it apart from an amount on the skatepark that is proving more difficult, they are trying various different options. The local PCSO's are assisting in helping to find the person/persons responsible.  
The Countryside team, being one team member down, are very busy at the moment emptying bins, cutting grass and watering plants, they are working very hard to get around to all the other general maintenance tasks but they may take a little longer than usual. Any issues that could be a risk to health and safety will always be prioritised.  
Members thanked the Countryside Manager and his team for all their hard work.  
In respect of exit points from the recreation ground onto the pavement on Canal Way, the Countryside Manager explained to members the process of cutting back the hedge along Canal Way and why it is a 3 year process.  
Members were updated that the Kickstart Scheme is now closed to new applications and officers are unaware of any similar schemes running at this time.
- 22-0019-OS**                    **Financial Monitoring Report**  
Members **NOTED** the Financial Monitoring report.
- 22-0020-OS**                    **Terms of Reference**  
Members **NOTED** the Terms of Reference provided by Full Council on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022.
- 22-0021-OS**                    **Memorial Bench Policy**  
Members discussed the Memorial bench policy.  
Discussions included how many years a plaque remains on a bench, would there be an allocated number of beaches, would there be more than one plaque on each bench.  
Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to **recommend** to Full Council that the proposed Memorial Bench policy be adopted and that officers be delegated authority to manage and authorise applications.  
**Proposer** Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd.
- 22-0022-OS**                    **Recreation Ground Mound**  
Members discussed the mound at the recreation ground.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to **recommend** to Full Council to delegate authority to officers to establish and implement a solution to the bare ground on the mound.  
**Proposer** Cllr Shepherd **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

**22-0023-OS**

**Recreation Ground Tennis Court Refurbishment**

Cllr Hamilton declared an interest as he knows the local Lawn Tennis Association representative.

Members **NOTED** the Lawn Tennis Refurbishment report.  
Members discussed the Lawn Tennis Association plans and what it would mean for the town.

Meeting ended at 21.23

DRAFT