

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on  
**5<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 19:30 hrs, in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,  
North Street Ilminster, TA19 0DG**

**Chair:** Cllr M Gunn

**Committee:** Cllr L Taylor, Cllr L Wilcock, Cllr H Lancaster, Cllr B Hamilton

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

**In attendance:** Cllr P Burton, Cllr B Jenner-Hurford, Cllr A Shearman, J Taylor (Countryside Manager). No members of the public were present

**22-0001-OS Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

**22-0002-OS Apologies for absence**

Cllr Swann – Personal reasons  
Cllr White – Personal reasons  
Cllr Shepherd – Personal reasons

**22-0003-OS Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**22-0004-OS Dispensations**

There were no dispensations requested or granted.

**22-0005-OS Minutes**

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 as a correct record.

**Proposer** Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

**22-0006-OS Financial Monitoring Report**

Members **NOTED** the Financial Monitoring Report  
Members discussed the Financial Monitoring Report and how encouraged they were that we have had to spend comparatively little on vandalism. They also discussed the gas and electric price rises and the benefits of being on a fixed rate tariff.

## **22-0007-OS Open Spaces Team Report**

Members **NOTED** the Open Spaces Team Report  
Members commented on the improvement of the Canal Way area and thanked the Open Spaces team for all their hard work improving the area. Members discussed the metal kissing gate at the entrance to Herne Hill and the possibility of an added accessible gate next to it.

## **22-0008-OS Burial Space Request**

Members discussed a resident's request for Ilminster Town Council to buy back a burial space which is no longer required.  
Discussions included there should be no profit made when buying back a burial space and whether an administration fee is applicable

Members **RECOMMENDED** unanimously to Full Council to approve the purchase back of the burial space at £197.40, the original purchase price.

**Proposer** Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

## **22-0009-OS Memorial Benches**

Members discussed requests for 2 memorial benches at Herne Hill and 1 in the area of West Crescent.  
Discussions included the type of bench, and maintenance agreements. The Countryside Manager advised members the top slat on the new benches we have recently ordered can be removed and a slat with a plaque can be inserted.

Members **RECOMMENDED** unanimously to Full Council that authority is delegated to officers to agree the location and siting of 3 memorial benches, two at Herne Hill and another one in the area of West Crescent on a cost plus 10% basis.

**Proposer** Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Lancaster

## **22-0010-OS Exempt Business**

There was no exempt business.

Meeting ended at 20.46