

AGENDA ITEM 8

Minutes of the **Open Spaces Committee** held on **3rd October 2023** at **20.10 hrs** held in the **Council Chamber, Council Offices, North Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DG**

Chair: Cllr M Gunn

Committee: Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr B Jenner-Hurford, Cllr S Osborne, Cllr D Paul, Cllr S Shepherd, Cllr L Taylor

Officers: M Tredwin (Town Clerk), V Freeman (Administration Officer),
J Taylor (Countryside Manager)

In attendance: Cllr A Sheaman

23-0042-OS Public Forum

Cllr Shearman addressed Members as a member of public regarding the Canal Way tennis courts. Cllr Shearman asked why the tennis courts are still not finished, could one of the courts that have been completed be opened, and if the Town Council have received an explanation for the delay.

The Town Clerk advised that the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) are embarrassed and frustrated by the delays. Other local Councils are experiencing the same issues. The Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk are in daily contact with a representative from the LTA. Officers have been advised that the painting of the courts should be completed shortly, and the gate technology installed in the coming days.

20.15 Cllr Shearman left the meeting.

23-0043-OS Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence received.

23-0044-OS Declarations of interest

Cllr Paul declared an interest in Agenda item 10 Hammerhead land management.

23-0045-OS Dispensations

There were no dispensations requested or granted.

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23-0046-OS

Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** by 6 votes for that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2023 as a correct record.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

23-0047-OS

Open Spaces Team report

Members **NOTED** the Open Spaces team report.

The Meeting Chair thank the Open Spaces team for all their fantastic work.

23-0048-OS

Financial Monitoring Report

Member **NOTED** the report.

23-0049-OS

Canal Management Plan

Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to accept the Canal Management Plan and to agree to the purchase of approximately 25 metres of pre-planted coir rolls in netting to start stabilising the canal bank.

Proposer Cllr Paul **Seconded** Cllr Shepherd

23-0050-OS

Recycling of public waste

Members **NOTED** the report.

23-0051-OS

Hammerhead land management

Members discussed adding an Agenda item to a future meeting regarding adopting an A-board/advertising policy.

a) Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that £4,000 be transferred from General Reserves to cover the cost of the installation of knee-high fencing and that officers be delegated authority to complete the project.

Proposer Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Hamilton

b) Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to delegate authority to officers to remove and redistribute the earth at a point when the digger is brought in for ditch clearing work in the financial year 2024-25.

Proposer Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

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Meeting ended at 20.54

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