

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on
7th 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 5th 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 17th 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

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