



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL'S
AMENITY AREAS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE LIBRARY ROOM, THE BRIDEWELL,
THE BURY, ODIHAM, RG29 1NB ON 15th FEBRUARY AT 9.15PM**

Present: Cllrs D Stewart (Chair), K Ball, L Cornall, A McFarlane and P Verdon.

In attendance: Andrea Mann, Parish Clerk and Sara Jones, Deputy Clerk.

AA37/21 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Brown and Coleman.

AA38/21 To receive declarations of interests and requests for dispensation relating to any item on the agenda

None.

AA39/21 Approval of minutes

It was not possible to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th November (AA17/21–AA36/21) due to insufficient members present. This was deferred until the next meeting.

AA40/21 Chairs Announcements

None.

AA41/21 Public Session

There were no members of the public present.

AA42/21 Meeting Action Points

The meeting action notes presented with the agenda was noted. No further questions were raised.

AA43/21 Forest School – land at The Firs

As agreed at the previous meeting, Officers had followed up the agreed actions and carried out a site visit of the three proposed sites. The Forest School had subsequently expressed interest in land at Colt Hill as their preferred site. Following discussion Councillors

RESOLVED

To agree in principle to granting a licence to The Forest School for use of land at Colt Hill for Forest School's activities, noting that this would not grant sole occupancy of this land. The Clerk was asked to make further enquiries before referring a draft agreement back to a future meeting for decision. Terms and conditions should include H&S, other policies and charging policy. A tree survey would be considered under the next agenda item



AA44/21

Tree Survey

RESOLVED

Alderwood Consulting Ltd was appointed to carry out a re-assessment of trees on OPC sites following their full assessment in 2016, in the value of £595 funded from the Tree Works budget. The Clerk was asked to ensure Peace Garden was included and it was suggested the Amenity Officer should accompany the tree surveyor during the inspections.

(Proposed by Cllr Stewart, seconded by Cllr McFarlane, all in favour).

AA45/21

Burial plots at Odiham Cemetery

The previous meeting had agreed 2022-23 budget allocation for clearing land behind the main burial lawn to create additional burial space. The Clerk had requested delegated authority to instruct works as soon as funds were available at the start of the financial year which was the optimum time of year because the works included seeding. One quote had been received further quotes requested.

RESOLVED

To delegate authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Committee Chair, to select and instruct a contractor to clear land at the rear of the main burial lawn, authorising expenditure up to £1,800 from the allocated budget.

(Proposed by Cllr Stewart, seconded by Cllr McFarlane, all in favour).

AA46/21

Benches in the Cemetery

Members considered two requests for installing benches in Odiham Cemetery.

i) RESOLVED

Permission was granted to an exclusive rights holder for the installation of one memorial bench next to the main burial lawn. This was agreed on the assumption that OPC would not undertake maintenance and reserves the right to remove the bench if it falls into a state of disrepair.

ii) Councillors considered whether to accept one memorial bench donated by The Rotary and Odiham Society. This proposed siting the bench in the Community Orchard to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Installation costs were estimated to be up to £950 and Councillors were also asked to consider whether OPC should make a contribution towards this cost.

RESOLVED

Councillors concluded the proposed design was not in keeping with the orchard setting and asked the Rotary and Odiham Society to consider an alternative rustic design which was considered to enhance the orchard and less likely to require proper fixings.

(Proposed by Cllr Stewart, seconded by Cllr McFarlane, all in favour).



AA47/21

Shrub Clearance work at Bufton Field Play Area

RESOLVED

One off expenditure totalling £1,250 was approved from the Bufton Field earmarked reserved for clearing the overgrown surrounds of the play area by thinning out by at least 60% and litter picking.

(Proposed by Cllr Stewart, seconded by Cllr McFarlane, all in favour).

AA48/21

Amenity Area Committee Strategic Projects

It was agreed to defer this item to a future meeting.

AA49/21

To note the date of the next meeting

17th May 2022.

AA50/21

To pass a resolution in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press to consider confidential contractual matters which meet the criteria of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 Part 1.

This agenda item was not required.

AA51/21

Cemetery Maintenance Grounds Contract (01.04.22-31.03.25)

This agenda item was not required as a full review had taken place by the full council meeting prior to this meeting.

AA52/21

Damage to Headstone

RESOLVED

A donation was agreed as a gesture of goodwill.

(Proposed by Cllr Stewart, seconded by Cllr Ball, all in favour).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.05pm.

Signed.....

Date.....