



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL'S  
AMENITIES AREAS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE LIBRARY ROOM, THE BRIDEWELL,  
THE BURY, ODIHAM, RG29 1NB ON 31<sup>st</sup> MAY AT 8.35PM**

Present: Cllrs R Coleman (Chair), L Cornall and P Verdon.

In attendance: Andrea Mann (Parish Clerk).

**AA01/22 To receive and accept apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Ball, McFarlane and Sanger.

**AA02/22 To receive declarations of interests and requests for dispensation relating to any item on the agenda**

None.

**AA03/22 Approval of minutes**

It was not possible to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February due to insufficient members present.

**AA04/22 Chairs Announcements**

None.

**AA05/22 Public Session**

There were no members of the public present.

**AA06/22 Meeting Action Points**

The meeting action notes presented with the agenda were noted, with one correction. No further questions were raised.

**AA07/22 Amenities Areas Committee Strategic Projects**

Members reviewed the latest update of the Strategic Plan and agreed to recommend the following priorities to the Strategy Working Group 07.06.22:

- i) Continue progressing repairs and maintenance of benches in line with the 2021 condition survey.
- ii) Play area replacement. Councillors asked whether Cllr Sanger would be happy to undertake a review of all sites and identify the highest priorities.

The Clerk was asked to also review grass cutting and fencing at Chamberlain Gardens.

**AA08/22 Grass cutting**

i) Grass cutting specification

Councillors considered a request from a resident asking OPC to review its grass cutting regime. It was agreed to defer this item until receipt of the ecology survey report due within a few weeks.



ii) Cemetery Grass Cutting

RESOLVED

A one year trial was agreed for reducing grass areas A & B and increasing in areas D & L. This would be reviewed in 2023.

iii) Allotments

Councillors suggested referring to past records and the Allotment Tenancy Agreement before clarifying which areas around each plot would be cut by OPC's contractors. It was agreed to defer this to full Council should the Allotment Tenancy Agreement need revision.

**AA09/22**

**Jubilee Bench**

Councillors received the Deputy Clerk's progress report on the latest discussions following offers from local organisations to install a Jubilee bench. Further to debate it was

RESOLVED

To accept two £700 donations; from The Odiham Society and Rotary Club as contributions towards two memorial benches in the following design or similar: [Engraved Heavy Duty Teak Bench | Earth-Anchors](#)

The Clerk would respond to both organisations, obtain full installation costs and consult with committee members by email before placing an order.

**AA10/22**

**Request to use the Recreation Ground for a community event**

Councillors considered a request from All Saints Church to hold a community event on the Recreation Ground on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

RESOLVED

Councillors raised no objection in principle but asked the Clerk to source further details of the activities before making a decision. The applicant was asked to demonstrate the event would not damage the ground or cause nuisance to nearby properties.

**AA11/22**

**Trees in Peace Garden**

Councillors were asked whether 5 dead trees recently removed from the Peace Garden should be replaced.

RESOLVED

Councillors were happy to agree some replanting subject to professional advice which included a proper maintenance schedule.

**AA12/22**

**Policy for event parking on OPC's grassed, open spaces**

OPC had received several requests to use OPC's grassed open spaces for event parking. Councillors considered these requests and

RESOLVED

- i) OPC should have a clear policy on hiring and usage of all OPC open spaces and facilities. Councillors agreed to draft this and refer to a future meeting.



- ii) All requests for event parking on grassed open spaces should be refused due to potential damage, public liability, the loss of recreational space to other users and access constraints at some of the sites. (Proposed by Cllr Coleman, seconded by Cllr Verdon, all in favour).

**AA13/22 Parish Lengthsman’s 2022-23 work schedule**  
RESOLVED

The draft work schedule was reviewed and several revisions made. The revised list would be updated and circulated to Councillors by email.

**AA14/22 Date of next meeting**  
16<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

**AA15/22 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**  
RESOLVED

**AA16/22 Flatbed swing unit at Chamberlain Gardens Play Area**  
Councillors were informed that a contractor had replaced the swing legs on the toddler swing unit instead of the junior, flatbed unit without first seeking clarification from the Parish Office. Since placing the original order, an independent inspection had also identified work was necessary on the toddler unit but this was a lower priority than the junior unit. In response, the contractor had offered a discount to repair the toddler unit and offered to progress this order as a fast as possible.

RESOLVED  
A quote from Playdale Ltd to replace swing legs on the junior unit in the value of £2,446.42 was approved, on the proviso that the contractors contact the Parish Office before commencing works.

Being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm.

Signed.....

Date.....