



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ODIHAM PARISH COUNCIL'S  
AMENITIES AREAS COMMITTEE HELD AT  
THE OLD SCHOOL, 37 LONDON ROAD, ODIHAM, RG29 1AJ  
TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023 at 9.10pm**

Present: Cllrs D Sanger (Chair), S Bell, C Seabrook and P Verdon.

In attendance: Andrea Mann (Parish Clerk) and Bridie Tate (Deputy Clerk).

**AA01/23 To receive apologies for absence**

Received and accepted from Cllrs Griffith and McFarlane.

**AA02/23 To receive declarations of interests and requests for dispensation relating to any item on the agenda**

None.

**AA03/23 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Amenities Areas Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 (AA48/22–AA59/22) were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chair.

**AA04/23 Chairs Announcements**

None.

**AA05/23 Public Session**

There were no members of the public present.

**AA06/23 Meeting Action Points**

The progress on the meeting actions points were noted, as presented with the agenda.

**AA07/23 Progress on 2020 bench audit and next actions**

Members noted the progress of works identified in the 2020 bench audit. The Clerk reported that three benches were due to be re-painted the same week. Further to discussion it was

**RESOLVED**

- i) To defer a decision on the replacing the wood on bench 18, opposite North Warnborough Village Hall until Cllr Bell had looked at the bench to see whether another solution was available.
- ii) The office would next look at the benches in Palace Gate.

**AA08/23 Access through allotments**

Members considered a request from a neighbour to create a temporary access to the rear of their property via the allotment site, as explained in the Clerk's agenda report. Following debate, it was

**RESOLVED**

That whilst OPC is sympathetic to the situation, OPC has considered the risks, including public liability, insurance and inconvenience to allotment tenants during the main growing season and feels unable to support the request at the current time. (Proposed by Cllr Sanger, seconded by Cllr Verdon, all in favour).



**AA09/23**

**Cemetery bin contract**

**RESOLVED**

To increase the cemetery bin contract with Larkstel Ltd to 4 bins, creating additional expenditure of £12 per week, £624 per year.

(Proposed by Cllr Sanger, seconded by Cllr Verdon, all in favour).

**AA10/23**

**Improvements to Cemetery landscaping**

**RESOLVED**

To defer decision on Larkstel Ltd's fee proposal to carry out improvement works in zone 1 until the next meeting. Councillors would assess the proposed works during a Councillor's amenities tour on 12<sup>th</sup> July.

**AA11/23**

**Storage of the new picnic benches**

**RESOLVED**

- i) Not to move the new picnic benches into storage over the Winter months to continue offering this amenity all year round.
- ii) The office would research whether the benches would benefit from wood treatment in the Autumn.

**AA12/23**

**Parish Lengthsman**

The updated Parish Lengthsman's work list was reviewed, as presented with the agenda. The Clerk reported that the recent work day on 15<sup>th</sup> June had been used to clear the route between South Ridge and the Cemetery driveway and the entrances to OPC land at the Firs.

Cllr Bell was asked for his input and clarified that the Countryside Conservation Volunteers work group was focussed on accessibility of the public rights of way. There were other tasks listed on the Lengthsman's work list outside of this remit which should be undertaken.

Members noted that local social media had raised other areas of concern in the Parish and the Clerk confirmed that more enquiries were being made to the Parish Office.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bell would arrange to meet the Clerk to agree the next work priorities for 12<sup>th</sup> August.

**AA13/23**

**Metal detecting on OPC owned land**

In response to a recent enquiry to the Parish Office, members considered whether OPC should have a policy for metal detecting on OPC owned land.

**RESOLVED**

OPC does not allow metal detecting on OPC land.

**AA14/23**

**Chapel Cottage**

- i) Repointing and redecorating of an internal wall.

**RESOLVED**

To award contract to MSF Historical Restoration Ltd to re-point a wall and complete internal repairs and redecoration in the value of £1,850. Members noted part of this spend would come from general reserves.



- ii) Further repairs to the chimney.  
Three options and quotes were considered. Further to debate it was

RESOLVED

To defer this matter to a future meeting.

**AA15/23**

**Biodiversity Action Plan**

RESOLVED

To hold a meeting to review the Biodiversity Action Plan adopted August 2022 and to draw up a list of recommendation for the next meeting. Cllrs McFarlane, Verdon and Sanger would join the meeting with staff.

**AA16/23**

**Dates of the next meeting**

12<sup>th</sup> July – tour of Amenities sites for all Councillors.

15<sup>th</sup> August.

Being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed..... Date.....