

# MINUTES OF TROWSE WITH NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL OPEN SPACES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at The Manor Rooms, The Street, Trowse on: 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.15pm

Present: Cllr Owen (chair), Cllr Haynes, Cllr Price, and Cllr Bowers  
Clerk: Kate Leggett.

## 089 (001) APOLOGIES

Cllrs Long, Greenizan and Barnes

## 090 (002) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DIPENSATION

Councillors who have allotment plots.

## 091 (003) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes for the meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 were **agreed and signed**.

## 092 (004) MATTERS ARISING

None for this meeting.

## 093 (005) PUBLIC FORUM

A member of the Biodiversity working group asked about the ordering of the hedging plants for the Cemetery works. The Clerk informed her that the plants have been ordered and that she had checked their suitability for chalky soil.

Following on from this discussion it was asked if the trees that overhang the cemetery boundary fence could be trimmed to make sure that the new hedge gets enough light and the best possible conditions for growing. **Clerk to investigate with Crown Point Estates if this can be done.**

A resident asked about the possibility of having some moveable small goal posts. As the common is still very wet the football area is too muddy to use. The procurement of some moveable nets would provide a small pitch closer to the play area. **Clerk to investigate costs.**

Chris Bowers stated that the village sign project is now complete. He and Peter Schindler will give the sign a few months to settle and then reinspect to see if anything needs touching up or maintaining. Inspections will be done annually to stop it falling into disrepair again. Chris offered his thanks to all involved in the renovation of the sign stating that it was a real "team effort", and that alongside Peter Schindler and the Ewing brothers, Tony Brooks and Lee Barrell had also played a role in its repair.

## 094 (006) ALLOTMENTS

6.1 - The clerk gave those present an update on the allotment waiting lists. We currently have vacant plots. **Clerk to advertise in the Newsletter if space allows.**

6.2 – The discuss the reopening of the gap from the Dell to Mustard Way to allow for pedestrian traffic. This item was discussed, and it was agreed that the fence should not be reopened to allow for pedestrian access. This is due to the hedge being replanted and the need to maintain a wildlife corridor down the boundary of the allotments. It was also thought that once the phase two section of the Mustard Way development was completed there would be a viable access point via Sparkes Wood.

6.3 – Plot inspections. The Clerk gave an update to members on the recent allotment inspections. It was noted that plots are generally in good condition and only a few amber notices had been sent out to tenants and two Stage One Advisory Notices.

Sign;

Date:

## **095 (007) CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD**

7.1 – Cemetery compost bin. The Clerk advised that a new compost bin is to be placed near the gate, next to the general waste bin, to try to encourage composting. **Groundsman to action.**

7.2 – Memorial repairs. The Clerk advised on the current situation regarding repair to memorials. Two of the 7 letters that have been sent out have been replied to and the families are undertaking their own repairs.

## **096 (008) COMMON**

It was noted that the flood levels on the common had dropped significantly but that the ground is still very waterlogged.

## **097 (009) HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES**

9.1 – Update on the Biodiversity Plan. The Clerk gave an update on the progress in the Cemetery. The working group has had another meeting to discuss what to do next and this will involve the planting of the hedge. It is hoped that activities can take place at the weekend so as many people as possible get the chance to be involved. One of the working group members will also speak to the school about if they would like to be involved.

9.2 – The Clerk gave an update on the new bin for Kirby Road. It has been delivered and should be in situ within the next couple of weeks. **Groundsman to action.**

9.3 – Streetlight repair on Whitlingham Lane. The Clerk advised the members of the quote received from our maintenance contractor. **Clerk to seek further quote for comparison.**

9.4 – Hedges on Devon Way. The Clerk had received an enquiry from a resident about who is responsible for these. However, just before the meeting SNDC came and maintained the hedges.

## **098 (010) EVENTS**

10.1 – Cllr Haynes and Cllr Long updated members on the progress of the summer event. The working group for this has meeting planned for 17<sup>th</sup> March when specifics will be decided for games available on the day. Another resident, Peter Haywood has joined the group, and he has expertise in organising events. At the beginning of June, a sign-up sheet will be sent out to residents to allow people to sign up for specific events.

It was asked if the Common could be rolled flat for the event. **Clerk to speak to Crown Point Estates about borrowing some farm equipment to do this.**

## **099 (011) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

None for this meeting.

## **100 (012) GROUNDSMAN'S TASK LIST**

12.1 – Clerk to liaise with groundsman over this month's tasks.

12.2 – To reconsidered resolution to hire a ride on mower for this season's grass cutting. The Clerk and the Groundsman spoke about this matter, and it was discussed by members. It was proposed by Cllr Haynes and Seconded by Cllr Owen to purchase a Toro TurfMaster for the purpose of mowing the common and other PC managed open spaces. Funds for this are to come from the EMR for grounds equipment. **Clerk and Groundsman to action.**

## **101 (012) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Sign;

Date:

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 @ 7.15pm.

**Meeting closed at 8.45pm**

<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Actions</b>
Tree trimming on Cemetery	Clerk
Kirby Road bin	Groundsman
Streetlight repair	Clerk
Rolling of Common	Clerk
Purchase of mower	Clerk and Groundsman
Compost bin	Groundsman

Sign;

Date: