

SOUTH BRENT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on 3 June 2013, at 7.30 pm in The Old School Centre, Totnes Road, South Brent.

Open Forum for discussion with members of the public

Nothing was raised.

OS 1-6-13 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Cllr Peter Kelly was nominated Chairman by Cllr Mark Copleston, seconded by Cllr Donna Warne and elected by the Committee.

Cllr Donna Warne was nominated Vice Chairman by Cllr Mark Copleston, seconded by Cllr Greg Wall and elected.

OS 2-6-13 Record of members present

Cllr Peter Kelly in the Chair, Cllrs Linda Austin, Mark Copleston, Greg Wall and Donna Warne were present; Mr M Goss and Julia Willoughby clerk to the Council were in attendance

OS 3-6-13 Apologies for absence

None.

OS 4-6-13 Declarations of a pecuniary interest (and nature) with regard to items on the agenda

None declared.

OS 5-6-13 Consider the granting of dispensations

None.

OS 6-6-13 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Nothing was raised.

OS 7-6-13 Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting and report any matters arising – for information only

Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed.

A sign for the play area (stating 'No ball games') is to be provided by SHDC, the clerk will check when it can be expected.

OS 8-6-13 Review the Committee terms of reference

No changes are required to the terms of reference.

OS 9-6-13 Vicarage Road Allotment Association: update including new licence agreement

VRAA has requested an annual Licence agreement with the Council, rather than the formal leases. Mr Goss has received advice from the national allotment body, and following discussion **the following amendments are recommended to the draft licence, and advice will be sought from Windeatts:**

2. VRAA will indemnify South Brent Parish Council against any claims for public liabilities of whatsoever nature arising from the management and occupation of Vicarage Road Allotment Field.

4. All tenants sign a tenancy agreement with South Brent Parish Council. This process will be delegated to VRAA which will keep (and) copies of the signed agreements (are to be kept by VRAA). Recommendations for changes to this agreement may be made by either VRAA or the Parish Council, but must be ratified by the full Parish Council.

7. VRAA is self-financing, collecting and retaining the allotment rents and paying for any costs that arise. These costs are paid by the VRAA Treasurer out of the Association's account. When tree works are required an application should be made to the Parish Council, in consultation with the Parish Tree Warden and the DNPA Trees Officer.

A copy will be sent to Mr Goss.

OS 10-6-13 Jubilee Crossing: a site visit could be arranged regarding vehicles on the paved area next to the Post Office and a delineated road surface

The clerk explained that following discussions with the owner of the Post Office, she has contacted Ian James, DCC who designed the crossing and he suggests a site visit; Cllrs Peter Kelly and Greg Wall would hope to be available for this.

OS 11-6-13 Grounds maintenance update: will the Parish Council continue to co-ordinate all areas including DCC verges

The Parish Council contractor has started cutting the grass. Since 1 April 2013, SHDC is no longer cutting DCC areas. The clerk has been in contact with DCC to find out whether the Parish Council can continue to co-ordinate all grass cutting in the parish, as DCC only cut verges 4 times in the growing season (£1530 for 4 cuts). The Committee recommends that **the Parish Council co-ordinates all grass cutting in the parish including DCC areas as long as reimbursement can be made** (our contractor has a 3 year contract).

OS 12-6-13 Youth shelter at the recreation field

PC Hopper has stated that young people would like a shelter to 'hang out', but the shelter at the recreation field is broken and not used – although this was the design permitted by DNPA. PC Hopper will be contacted again, as locking the play area has helped the problems there, it is possible there is a simple solution. The Parish Council can be contacted by anyone with their ideas.

OS 13-6-13 Railway Wood: report dates of inspections carried out, and plan future inspections

Inspection of Railway Wood all fine.

Future inspections: June –DWa & JR; Jul - DWa; Aug - PK; Sept. – GW & LA, Oct - MC.

OS 14-6-13 Play area at Sanderspool Cross: update

SHDC will be contacted about the new sign (see 7-6-13 above), further enquiries will also be made about some fire damage to the safety surface.

The toilet paper dispenser (individual sheets) has not been provided yet by SHDC and the see-saw creaks loudly.

OS 15-6-13 Use of / changes to the stone litter bin at Sanderspool Cross

The 'bin' now has a fixed steel cover; no further action required.

OS 16-6-13 Consider any works required on the bus shelters and the possible use of anti-vandal paint

Mr Illman has been re-painting the shelters as required.

He has advised that anti-graffiti treatment for one shelter (or possibly two) would cost £300, then any graffiti painted on could be cleaned off with a power wash. The clerk will ask other Councils about this issue, and check how much re-painting has cost in the last year.

OS 17-6-13 Annual inspection of seats and benches and should the seat removed from the play area be replaced

The Committee recommends that **the seat removed from the play area should be replaced with a picnic table.**

Each Councillor will check seats or benches as agreed at the meeting, if works are required the clerk is to be advised. 3 village maps, the 'Welcome to South Brent' sign on the roundabout and the two 'South Brent' signs in Exeter Road will be added to the list.

OS 18-6-13 Items for the next agenda, and the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is 7 October 2013.

The meeting closed at 8.43 p.m.