

## HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

### **MINUTES of the MEETING of the RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES (ROS) COMMITTEE held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 in the Parish Room, at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** D Mitchell Chair, D Pedley Vice-Chair, I Blackamore, C Page,  
P Rushbrook

**IN ATTENDANCE:** L Johnson Parish Clerk

SDFC Utd: L Tow Allotments: D Hawkins plus 1

The meeting began at 7.30pm

#### **134 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None received

#### **135 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

#### **136 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved and signed as a true record.

#### **137 MATTERS ARISING**

##### **Appendix 1.**

All other matters were completed or appear as an agenda item.

#### **138 QUESTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC**

H Rohard emailed to ask, on behalf of neighbours, when the chain link fence in the Top Paddock on the East Hill side as this was the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Councillors discussed at length and agreed that a chain link fence should be reinstalled, using concrete posts already in place if still viable.

**Action:** Clerk to contact H Rohard and research land registry record.

#### **139 ALLOTMENTS**

Allotment representative D Hawkins introduced the Copper Beech Allotment Society's treasurer to the Committee. Councillors had received a draft application to Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) for funding to create a communal area for members and visitors from D Hawkins, prior to the meeting. The Allotment Society required approval from the Committee prior to submitting the application. It was established that the society would need their own public liability insurance if they hosted open days as this was not covered by Parish Council insurance.

During a Q & A session, councillors voiced their concerns regarding open days and parking facilities especially when the halls were booked with private functions plus having a permanent seating and covered area. After further consideration, Cllr Mitchell proposed, Cllr Rushbrook seconded and all were in favour;

**Resolved:** The ROS Committee would support Copper Beech Society's application to SDC for funding to include non-permanent seating or structures.

#### **140 FOOTBALL**

SDFC representative Lyndon Tow reported back that they would endeavour to get the leak in the brickstore repaired in order for the public toilets to be opened at the weekends and that the men's w.c. door key was secured in the brickstore.

**Action:** SDFC to inform Clerk as soon as the leak was repaired so that the water could be turned on at the weekend for the public to use the facility.

A request was made to have a wheelie bin for football rubbish which would be stored in the men's toilet to which the Committee Agreed.

The Committee were advised that the away changing room in the Pavilion, Westminster field, had been left in an unacceptable state to which Lyndon had already apologised to the caretaker for.

Lynden requested for the pole in the overflow car park be removed for the following weekend.

**Action:** Clerk to inform caretakers

Councillors confirmed that the gate at the Bowls Club end of the Heathside had a fault on the lock and repairs to correct this had been undertaken.

## **141 MAINTENANCE**

### **Appendix 2.**

## **142 ANNUAL TREE SURVEY**

Further to the Bowls Club request to look into the trees bordering the Village Hall car park and the bowling green, Tree Style Ltd had quoted the following:

T1 Birch, reduce overall by approx. 25% £100

T2 Lime, reduce overall by approx. 25% £180

T3 Birch, , reduce overall by approx. 25% £220

T4 Maple, reduce overall by approx. 25% £280

Cllr Blackmore told the Committee that the tree surgeon cautioned the potential harmful effect on reducing the height of Birch trees.

Councillors considered that this was for aesthetic purposes only and did not comply with the Parish Council's Environmental policy. It was agreed to put the following proposal to the Bowls club:

**Action:** Clerk to write to the Bowls club and advise that they would allow permission for the Bowls Club to reduce the height of the Lime and Maple trees only, using Parish Council's tree surgeon at their cost.

## **143 PLAYGROUNDS**

The updated quote from Fawns was received to replace specific items from the wooden trim trail in the Heathside as per the Annual Play Inspection of playgrounds carried out earlier in the year.

The quote was £6673.85 for the Jungle Swing Trail plus Tyre Step, £3012.10 Installation, £535.00 delivery, Site Security £250. It was decided that environmental waste disposal was not required. Cllr Rushbrook proposed, Cllr Mitchell seconded and all were in favour to

**Resolved :** to purchase the Jungle Swing Trail for a total of £10,470.95. funds to be taken from Playground reserves. The Committee did not accept the quote of £2,000 to remove the old Trim Trail. The grounds maintenance contractor will remove and dispose of packaging.

## **144 PLANNING**

### **23/01164/FUL**

Storage Unit Adjacent Workshop A1

Orchard Farm

Fawkham Road

Fawkham Kent

DA3 7BJ

Action: No further comments

The demolition of the existing buildings and the construction of 8 new homes and associated landscaping, access, car and cycle parking and refuse and recycling provision. Additional ecological information received.

**Action:** No further comments

### **23/02903/HOUSE**

53 School Lane

Horton Kirby

Kent DA4 9DQ

Two storey rear extension with decking

**Action:** No Objection

**23/02812/LDCEX**

43A Esparto Way

South Darenth

Kent DA4 9LN

Lawful certificate is sought for existing use of the ground floor as residential accommodation.

**Action:** Objection as previous

**145      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Meeting finished at 8.50pm

Chair:

Date:

DRAFT