

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES MEETING OF ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
VIRTUALLY ON TUESDAY 23 JULY 2024**

**PRESENT** Councillor Wheelhouse (Chairman)

Councillors: Archer, Clegg, Dye, J Kenyon, Landall, Musson and Renwick

Others – E Smith (Clerk) and R Hill (Civic and Cemetery Manager)

No members of the public

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**545/24 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED** appointed Cllr Wheelhouse

**546/24 ELECTION OF VICE - CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED** appointed Cllr J Kenyon

**547/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Boyce

**548/24 VARIATION IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No variations

**549/24 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest

**550/24 PUBLIC SPEAKING**

No members of the public attended the meeting.

**551/24 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

No confidential matters

**552/24 MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES MEETING**

**RESOLVED** received and approved as a true record Minutes 511/24 – 544/24 of the Open Spaces Meeting held on 16 April 2024.

**553/24 CHARGE FOR PLAQUE ON PARISH OWNED BENCHES**

**RECOMMEND** a charge of £60.00 per plaque, Parish Council will supply and fit the plaques. Licence of the plaque will be for 10 years. Agree 10 plaques to be allocated per each of the four benches purchased.

**554/24 NEW TREES WITHIN THE CEMETERY**

**RESOLVED** Deferred to the next meeting. Clerk, Cemetery Manager and Cllr Renwick to meet the officer on site. Cemetery Manager to arrange the meeting.

**555/24 MEMORIAL GARDEN/WALL**

**RESOLVED** deferred to the next meeting.

**556/24 CEMETERY COMPOUND AREA**

Cllr Wheelhouse and Clerk to look at solutions for housing the top soil. Suggested ideas are: Lego Blocks/Stone Gabions.

**RESOLVED** deferred to the next meeting.

**557/24 CEMETERY SIGNAGE AT THE ENTERANCE**

Cemetery Manager stated the entrance sign needs renewing.

**RESOLVED** Cemetery Manager to look into a magnetic sign and the price of wrapping over the current signage.

**558/24 FRONT OF CIVIC CENTRE PLANTING**

Flower contractor has added more plants to the Civic Centre beds, weeded, cut the

hedges and watered the area.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **559/24 IDAS PLAYING FIELD – LEARNERS TRUST AGREEMENT**

Clerk notified the Council that the agreement had now been signed and the first cut had been made due to the festival utilising the space for parking.

**RESOLVED** noted.

**RECOMMEND** to agree to cut the grass on a regular basis and review the plan when the Stead Street project is completed.

#### **560/24 RIDGEWAY PLAYAREA FENCING**

Fencing that required replacing has now been completed.

**RESOLVED** noted. Handymen to add wood preserve to the new fencing to ensure it lasts.

#### **561/24 WARREN CRESCENT PLAY AREA SURFACING**

£500 agreed budget for the area. Works still to be completed. Cllr Dye will pursue this with volunteers.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **562/24 SIGNAGE FOR PLAY AREAS**

Play area signage has been installed by the handymen. The signs have been erected on already installed posts near the entrance to the play areas.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **563/24 LANSBURY PLAY AREA DEVELOPMENT – BIKE TRACK**

**RECOMMEND** to approve the quotation received from bike track.

#### **564/24 DISABLED ACCESS TO PUBLIC AREAS – LANSBURY ROAD**

Resident sent in a request for the Council to look at accessibility issues getting onto and off Lansbury playing field. Clerk circulated information received from DCC regarding this matter.

**RESOLVED** deferred to the sub-working group to discuss options.

#### **565/24 FOOTPATH AT THE RENISHAW PLAY AREA**

NEDDC have written to the Council regarding the surfacing at the Renishaw play area. It was stated this was close to the tolerance for repair.

**RESOLVED** Cllr Wheelhouse will investigate. Clerk to check ownership of the footpath.

#### **566/24 DOG MANAGEMENT PSPO IN PLAY AREAS**

Clerk circulated information on the PSPO scheme.

**RESOLVED** not to pursue PSPO status for any play areas. Clerk to look into fencing options for the Golden Ball play area. Clerk to enquire with CCTV contractor regarding CCTV from the Renishaw and Spinkhill Community Hall to the play area.

#### **567/24 ASB INSTANCES AT THE PLAY AREAS**

Clerk reported that the following incidents happened on the same weekend – Friday 28 June 2024 and all were reported to the Police:

- Lansbury play area – MUGA scorched the surfacing as a fire was set but luckily did not get put of control. Police reported this to the Clerk over the weekend.
- Golden Ball – swing seat chewed again by a dog, not replaced as yet but if more

damage is sustained this will need removing.

- Ash Crescent – Litter scattered over the play area and attempts had been made to burn the paper on the play area.

Incident occurred on the weekend – Friday 21 June 2024

- Idas Park – Damage to the surfacing large chunks of the surfacing had been removed.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **568/24 MARSH LANE PLAYING FIELD PERIMETER FENCE**

Handymen have this on their list to complete.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **569/24 STEAD STREET PROJECT**

Contractor has started on site. Detailed design still to be agreed. Budget is slightly over £1,182,388 budget so working to reduce this. Working Party are value engineering the project.

**RESOLVED** to call an extra ordinary meeting to agree the loan of £700,000.00 required to complete the project.

#### **570/24 ALLOTMENT REPORT**

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **571/24 DUCKSETT LANE ALLOTMENT – WATER SUPPLY EXTENSION**

Handymen have completed the water extension works.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **572/24 MARSH LANE WATER METER ISSUES**

Clerk stated that Severn Trent Water engineer had been to site and stated the water meter previously billed to the Council is not for the allotment supply. The engineer will issue a full report the Waterplus on the matter. No water meter can be found on the allotment site.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **573/24 ALLOTMENT TENANTS MEETING**

Allotment manager will arrange a meeting in September 2024.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **574/24 MARSH LANE WAR MEMORIAL GRANT**

Clerk met with a walling contractor to obtain a quotation for the repair works.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **575/24 BENCH SEATING AT QUARRY HILL, MARSH LANE**

Clerk notified Council that the bench had been sited.

**RESOLVED** noted.

#### **576/24 HANGING BASKETS 2024**

Clerk reported that all the hanging baskets have now been installed.

**RESOLVED** noted. Clerk to email County Councillors Renwick regarding the lamp post testing to enquire if this could be increased from yearly to every 3 years.

**577/24 FUTURE PROJECTS**

No further projects

**578/24 OPEN SPACES ACTION LOG**

**RESOLVED** noted.

The Meeting closed at 8.06pm

Signed .....  
Chairman                      Date