

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES MEETING OF ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD
VIRTUALLY ON TUESDAY 16 APRIL 2024**

PRESENT Councillor Wheelhouse (Chairman)
Councillors: Archer, Boyce, Clegg, Dye, Musson and Renwick
Others – E Smith (Clerk) and R Hill (Civic and Cemetery Manager)
No members of the public

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511/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Kenyon
Cllr Landall

512/24 VARIATION IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

No variations

513/24 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

No declarations of interest

514/24 PUBLIC SPEAKING

No members of the public attended the meeting.

515/24 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

No confidential matters

516/24 MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES MEETING

RESOLVED received and approved as a true record Minutes 488/24 – 510/24 of the Open Spaces Meeting held on 16 January 2024.

517/24 BENCH DESIGN AND BENCH SCHEME

RECOMMEND to approve circulated bench design. Delegate to Cemetery Manager to allocate requests based on the plan circulated. Cost of bench and plaque to remain at £500.00.

RECOMMEND Council purchases 4 benches, 1 for each section of the Cemetery for a number plaques to be added.

RESOLVED to consider at the next meeting the charge for placing a plaque on a Parish Council purchased bench within the Cemetery.

518/24 NEW TREES WITHIN THE CEMETERY

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

519/24 MEMORIAL GARDEN/WALL

RESOLVED deferred to the next meeting.

520/24 CEMETERY COMPOUND AREA

Council have approved softening the area with hedging.

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

521/24 CEMETERY PUBLIC TOILET

Clerk circulated photos of the works completed within the public toilet to Councillors.

RESOLVED noted.

522/24 FRONT OF CIVIC CENTRE PLANTING

RESOLVED agreed to wait and see what happens with the current planting scheme and add some summer planting to the beds in due course.

523/24 IDAS PLAYING FIELD – LEARNERS TRUST PLANS

Clerk and Cllr J Kenyon met with the Learners Trust Business Manager to discuss the Councils agreed plans.

RESOLVED Clerk to chase Learners Trust on a response from the request to lease the land.

524/24 RIDGEWAY PLAYAREA FENCING

Handymen have purchased the necessary materials to carry out the works. This has been booked in to start within the next couple of weeks.

RESOLVED noted.

525/24 WARREN CRESCENT PLAY AREA SURFACING

RECOMMEND a budget of £500.00 for the project to add some top soil and grass seed to the site. This will be done in small stages to see how the grass takes.

526/24 SIGNAGE FOR PLAY AREAS

Play area signage has arrived and will be installed by the handymen shortly. The signs will be erected on already installed posts near the entrance to the play areas.

RESOLVED noted.

527/24 LANSBURY PLAY AREA DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMEND to establish a sub-working group to discuss options. Cllr Archer, J Kenyon, Musson, Pickering and Renwick to be included on the group.

528/24 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.

RESOLVED deferred to the sub-working group to discuss options. Clerk to email DCC Officer regarding the options available.

529/24 ALLOTMENT REPORT

RESOLVED noted.

530/24 COMPLAINT RECEIVED FROM NEIGHBOUR OF ALLOTMENT SITE

Clerk circulated the complaint received from a resident of School Street allotment site.

RESOLVED noted.

531/24 FIRES ON ALLOTMENT SITES

RECOMMEND that no fires are permitted on allotment sites.

532/24 LANSBURY ROAD EXCESS WATER ON ALLOTMENT PLOTS

Deputy Clerk reported that the Sitwell Estates Management company have cured the leak on the site.

RESOLVED noted.

533/24 DUCKSETT LANE ALLOTMENT - DAMAGED DRAIN

Cllr Renwick is organising a site visit with Parish, District, County Council, Sitwell's Management Company to look at the culverts.

RESOLVED noted.

534/24 DUCKSETT LANE ALLOTMENT – WATER SUPPLY EXTENSION

Allotment holders would like the water supply extending to the lower side of the site.
RECOMMEND approving the works. Materials to do the work are held at the Cemetery.

535/24 ISSUES WITH WATER TAPS ON ALLOTMENTS

Allotment holders would like coded padlocks for the sites.
RECOMMEND to add a 15mm service valve to the taps.

536/24 ECKINGTON PARISH ALLOTMENT FACEBOOK

Allotment Facebook page has been established.
RESOLVED Social Media and Marketing Officer to join the group and circulate information from the Parish Council regarding allotments on the page.

537/24 INSTALLATION OF NOTICEBOARDS ON ALLOTMENT SITES

Noticeboards have been installed at all allotments sites.
RESOLVED noted.

538/24 NEXT ALLOTMENT TENANTS MEETING TO BE HELD IN MAY 2024

Deputy Clerk to arrange meeting.
RESOLVED noted.

539/24 HEDGEHOG HIGHWAY PROJECT

Clerk circulated an email regarding the hedgehog highway project.
RESOLVED noted. Deputy Clerk to send information to allotment holders.

540/24 MARSH LANE PLAYING FIELD PERIMETER FENCING

RECOMMEND fencing is installed along the side of the marsh lane playing fields. Clerk to circulate material cost at next Full Council meeting.

541/24 QUARRY HILL, MARSH LANE BENCH LICENCE OBTAINED

Clerk reported that the licence to site the bench at Quarry Hill has now been obtained from the County Council. The handymen will install the bench as soon as possible.
RESOLVED noted.

542/24 HANGING BASKETS 2024

Clerk reported that only 1 lamppost had failed the test – 67028 Ford Road, Marsh Lane. Hanging basket bracket to be removed and used at another new location. Hanging basket contractor to start installation at the end of May beginning of June. They have all the equipment required to achieve this.
RESOLVED noted.

543/24 FUTURE PROJECTS

No further projects

544/24 OPEN SPACES ACTION LOG

RESOLVED noted.

The Meeting closed at 7.42pm

Signed
Chairman Date