



## **HENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Meeting of the Recreation and Open Spaces Committee held on  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 9.30am in the Henfield Hall**

**Present:** Cllr G Perry (Chairman), A Donoghue, R Kendall, M Eastwood, D Grossmith, D Jemmett, M Morgan and A Sharp.

**In Attendance:** Mr J Willis (Tree Warden) and Mrs B Samrah (Parish Administrator (PA)) and three members of the public.

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

Cllr Jemmett declared an interest in Henfield Cricket Club which was discussed at item 8 on the agenda.

#### **2. APOLOGIES**

Were received from Cllr Simmonds.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

These were approved and signed and dated by the Chairman.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

- 1 Footpaths – It was confirmed that the footpath reports had been circulated to all.
- 2 Sandpit Access – It was confirmed that limited access was through Furners Lane only.
- 3 Letter to resident in response to Pendulous Sedge query sent.

*The Chairman adjourned the meeting.*

### **OPEN FORUM**

The three members of the public wanted to talk about the Padel Tennis scheme, two were from the Leisure Centre and one from the Tennis Club.

Cllr Eastwood joined the meeting at 9.40am

There was much discussion about the rise in popularity of Padel tennis and the desire of the Leisure Centre to build two courts just outside the Leisure Centre. It was hoped that a loan could be secured from the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) for the cost of the project and that there would be no costs to the Parish Council. All agreed that the Committee is fully supportive of this project and would be happy to be a part or broker a meeting between interested parties to discuss further. The member of the public from the tennis Club said that they were in support of the project and that HTC would like to be part of the discussion group.

**ACTION POINT** – Cllr Eastwood agreed to liaise with other groups who may be impacted by this project and attend a meeting to take the matter further.

*The Chairman reconvened the meeting.*

Cllrs Morgan and Donoghue left the meeting at 10.20am

#### **5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 1 Horsham District's Big Sow & Grow project – The Chairman confirmed that bulbs were planted.
- 2 Community Facilities (sports) - This was noted.
- 3 Volunteer Litter Pickers from SH2030 – The training is in hand.

#### **6. HENFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB**

There was nothing to report.

#### **7. HENFIELD LEISURE CENTRE**

- 1 To consider Padel Tennis proposal – This was covered in Open Forum.

## **8. HENFIELD CRICKET CLUB**

- 1 Car park repairs – to consider total of £240.38 (materials £187.24 & hire of compactor £53.14) and work to be carried out by Works Team.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Kendall, **SECONDED** by Cllr Grossmith and all except 1 abstention **AGREED** to pay for materials and equipment at a cost of £240.38 with the Works Team carrying out the repairs.

**ACTION POINT** – PA to liaise with Works team and confirm that the work can go ahead as soon as possible.

- 2 Nets – to consider request for access – It was agreed by all that wherever possible vehicles should use the shorter route from the car park to the area near the nets, but that access would be given where needed for larger vehicles from A281 Car park to the pitch and nets.

**ACTION POINT** – PA to confirm to Henfield Cricket Club about access.

## **9. PLAYING FIELDS**

- 1 Green Flag – Checklist prepared by Cllr Perry – The Chairman reminded all of the background to this project and it was agreed that a committee member from ROS as well as from Children and Young People's Committee would check each play area. The Chairman said she would liaise with PA over allocation and communication to CYP Committee. This is a long-term project to help the Committee monitor the recreation areas and other sections of the Green Flag assessment criteria may be considered in future

**ACTION POINT** – PA to liaise with CYP Committee about details and the Chairman and PA to allocate the five play Areas for a check.

## **10. PLAY AREAS**

- 1 Kings Field Playing Area
  - a. Mound and Tunnel – Unfortunately, this is still not completed but it is hoped that it will be finished very soon.
  - b. Replacement of backboards for Basket Ball – It was confirmed that the Sheddors are happy to make new back boards and will prepare a quote
  - c. Aerial Runway - It was confirmed that a temporary repair has been made and that when the bearings arrive they will be replaced.
  - d. Skate Park – It was confirmed that the committee is supportive of a refurbishment of the Skate Park with a likely cost of £20,000 to £40,000, it was agreed that the developers could be approached about using CIL money for this project.

It was **PROPOSED** by the Chairman, **SECONDED** by Cllr Eastwood and **AGREED** by all to support this project and use CIL money of up to £40,000 for repairs. Cllr Eastwood agreed to prepare a letter for the developers based on other successful applications.

**ACTION POINT** – Cllr Eastwood would prepare a letter for the developers and PA would liaise with CYP Committee about their support.

## **11. TRAILS**

- 1 Safe Routes – Cllr Eastwood confirmed that the Website was being worked on and that a bird watching element would be added. He also confirmed that he was hoping for more wildlife content and was also working with HDC on this.  
Cllr Eastwood also said that he hoped to resurrect the Safe Routes Working group in the new year and would visit the new Farm owner with Cllr Grossmith. Mr Willis said how impressed he was with the markers on walks but he had noticed some stiles were in a poor state of repair he was encouraged to report this to WSCC using What-Three-Words to pin point the location.

## **12. BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP**

- 1 Management Plan for the Sandpit Field – It was confirmed that a small group of councillors and tree wardens will use the ecological report to devise a management plan in the near future. The works team have scheduled in the clearing of brambles at the Community Orchard. Mr Willis confirmed that a Sequoia has been planted at the Orchard and also another one at a private house in Stonepit Lane.

### **13. TREE WORK**

- 1 To receive an update on WSCC Donate a Tree Scheme – It was confirmed that at least 14 had already been planted.
- 2 HDC Memorial Tree for St Peter’s School Mr Willis confirmed that he and another Tree Warden had planted the Alder tree the previous day. He also confirmed that the school would water the tree and had planted 2000 daffodils around its base.
- 3 To consider quote for removal of Cherry Tree in King’s Field play area.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Grossmith and **SECONDED** by Cllr Sharp and **AGREED** by all to go ahead with quote from Southern Beeches for the removal of the Cherry Tree at a cost of £200.00 plus VAT.

**ACTION POINT** – PA to liaise with Southern Beeches and confirm when the work will go ahead.

### **14. WORKS TEAM**

Cllr Eastwood confirmed that it was helpful to see the Works’ Team schedule. He also wanted to thank them for coming out at the weekend to grit the footpaths in the High Street.

Cllr Sharp asked if the Works Team could look at the height barrier nearest the Village and possibly cement the base more firmly as well as tighten the fixing on the barrier itself.

**ACTION POINT** – PA to liaise with works team over the maintenance to this barrier in line with repair previously carried out on the barrier at the other end of the footpath.

### **15. TO CONSIDER BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR 2023/24**

Cllr Eastwood stated that he hoped that the trees budget could be amalgamated and become the Trees and Commons Restoration Reserve, he confirmed that money from HDC (£4,000) would be used first and then HPC money from this reserve.

### **16. CLERKS REPORT**

- 1 Financial Update – It was confirmed that ROS expenditure is at 64.2% of budget and 66.7% of the year has elapsed. It was also confirmed that the annual invoice for grass cutting would be sent to the football club this month for their share.
- 2 Any Other matters - Update on Rothery Access - It was confirmed that all documents had now been signed.

### **17. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1 To consider the siting of a Memorial Bench on grass verge in Furners Mead – It was agreed by all to support the siting of a bench Furners Mead if WSCC agreed to it’s installation.

**ACTION POINT** – PA would liaise with the residents concerned and WSCC about the siting of the bench.

### **18. ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS TO BE RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

There were none.

### **19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 at 9.30am in Henfield Hall.

The Meeting closed at 11.11am

Full list of ROS meetings in 2023 :

1 <sup>st</sup> February	15 <sup>th</sup> March	26 <sup>th</sup> April	7 <sup>th</sup> June
19 <sup>th</sup> July	20 <sup>th</sup> September	8 <sup>th</sup> November	13 <sup>th</sup> December