

# HILDENBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

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**Meeting of the Open Spaces Committee to be held on Wednesday 1 September 2021 at  
7.00 pm at West Wood**

## MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Haugh (chair) Cllr A McNeil Cllr G Paterson  
Cllr E Simons

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mrs P Gow (clerk)

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr W Allingham Cllr I Sklavenitis Mrs L Flower (Hildenborough  
Conservation Group)

### **1. Minutes of Meeting held on 7 July 2021**

These were agreed as a true record.

### **2. Matters Arising**

There were none.

### **3. Maintenance Contract Progress Report**

Routine work had been undertaken including weekly risk assessments, mowing War Memorial borders, cycle track and footpath strimming, cleaning the Pavilion as well as painting benches in West Wood and Recreation Ground barriers and cutting the hedge at the car park entrance.

Items outstanding included rehanging the swings, work from play inspection report, weed control in play areas and footways, completion of work on barriers.

A cleaning company had now been appointed to clean the Pavilion who had started last week. This would release the contractor to undertake more maintenance work.

### **4. Recreation Ground**

#### **4.1 Update on Storage building**

This had been delivered and was to be constructed later this week.

#### **4.2 Update Play area accident**

A report from HAGS reiterated that a security bar is not fixed to the platform of the zip wire as this encourages users to launch the ride from the top of the safety bar resulting in a faster run with the danger of flying back beyond the platform. It conforms to the relevant BS standard.

#### **4.3 Update Ball Court**

Three companies had been contacted but none were able to undertake the work.

#### **4.4 Consideration of Football proposals**

It is recommended to the Parish Council to offer:

- a 3 year contact with a 1 year break
- use of storage for equipment
- offer 3 sets of keys (2 at their cost) rather than a key box which would be difficult to site
- Make a charge of £250 as the season is longer than cricket/stoolball
- They would pay and organise pitch maintenance and marking.
- They would be able to have 2 7-aside pitches and 1 9-aside pitch

## **5. Village Green**

### **5.1. Report on Flood management meeting**

Notes on this meeting had been distributed to all members.

## **6. Highways Issues**

### **6.1 Consideration of areas to be included as Quiet Lanes**

Suggestions received to date suggested that Nizels, Coldharbour, Mill, Vines and Riding Lanes should be included also Noble Tree Road. Cllr Sklavenitis to progress this.

### **6.2 Action to date on Parking along B245**

It was reported that Police Inspector Jones has detailed PCSO James Billson to monitor the situation and suggested that bollards would be a good idea.

It is recommended to the Parish Council that they should pursue this issue with KCC to undertake an investigation into the feasibility of the bollards as detailed in the current Highways Improvement Plan.

## **7. General Issues**

### **7.1 Booking Annual Play Inspection**

It is recommended to the Parish Council that the same company should once again be booked for July 2022.

### **7.2 Review of Tree Strategy**

The Tree Strategy is recommended to the Parish Council for adoption.

### **7.3 Proposal for Cycle Track**

Members were in favour of the proposal for a cycle track between the service road and the B245 on a suitable site but felt this should be debated in full Council since this area had already been allocated for a dog exercise area. There were other proposals for a privately run dog exercise areas in the vicinity which may be more appropriate.

## **8. Members' Items notified prior to the meeting**

Tonbridge Athletic Club had requested using the Pavilion and Recreation Ground between 21 September and 31 March for their younger members. It is recommended to the Parish Council this should be agreed but subject to a payment of £100 for the use of the Pavilion facilities.