

Minutes of the Chineham Parish Council Recreation Committee

Date: Thursday 6th June 2024

Time: 7.30pm

Place: The meeting was held remotely via Zoom

Present: Cllr. Sue Fuller

Sandra Wilson (CAT)

Cllr. Tom Brine

Phil Walker (Rapid Response Warden)

Ellen Harmon (Assistant Clerk)

1. To agree and appoint a Chair for the Recreation Committee.

Cllr. Sue Fuller declared her interest in continuing her position as Chair for the Recreation Committee. Cllr. Brine also agreed this was a suitable decision and seconded the nomination.

2. To agree and appoint a Vice Chair for the Recreation Committee.

Cllr. Sue Fuller nominated Cllr. Oratokhai in his absence. Cllr. Brine seconded the nomination and the decision was carried to appoint Cllr. Oratokhai as Vice Chair of the Recreation Committee in his absence, largely due to the active role he already plays within the community making him the ideal candidate for the role.

3. To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Cllr. Sompura and Cllr. Oratokhai were not in attendance.

4. To review CAT meeting minutes and discuss actions that have/need to be taken.

- The Assistant Clerk asked the Chineham Allotment Team Representative Sandra Wilson to take the lead on this agenda item. Sandra began by discussing the minutes of the last Allotment inspection of 2023, which were held in November. A number of plots had been placed on the watch list and some plots were recommended for eviction due to persistent lack of activity on the plot, in line with allotment rules. The Assistant Clerk did not action this as she thought they would have been allowed a little more time into the growing season to bring things up to standard – this was a misinterpretation on the Assistant Clerks behalf. The relevant plots had been contacted in the meantime to request they action the work that needs to be done on their plots and this will be reviewed at the next inspection in June – with recommendations to evict if still no improvement is seen. AC
- Sandra went on to mention that she hopes to put on a coffee morning for plot holders in the near future and requested an updated contact list for plot holders. As there had been no evictions or plots handed back since the last list was generated, no action was required here.
- The works on the allotment path were completed at the end of May, but during the inspection the Chineham Allotment Team noted that the path could do with being more compact due to larger/loose stones on the surface. It was discussed and decided that due to the allotments being so open to the elements, heavy down pour of rain could cause the larger stones to wash out. Assistant Clerk is to contact the Parish Lengsthman and arrange for these works to be completed to finish off the path. AC

AC

Signed.....

- CAT have requested new number plaques for the allotments due to wear and tear to old ones and lack of visibility in their current positioning. Plaques with stakes that stick into the ground were requested over ones that will attach to the fence line, as encroaching shrubbery can obscure them from view. Assistant Clerk to look into this and establish costings to take to Full Council for agreement. It was agreed some sort of recycled plastic signs would be more eco friendly and hard-wearing.

AC

5. To discuss current drainage issue at the bottom end of the Chineham Allotments.

The Assistant Clerk wanting to raise this topic just to see if there may be anything plot holders on the lower end of the allotment site can do in order to mitigate the issue of 'bogginess' in the Winter months – the outcome of the discussion is that ultimately there is not much that can be done and the upkeep of the plot still falls onto the plot holder.

Raised beds and drainage ditches are the best way to avoid the plot becoming unmanageable in the wetter seasons and just making sure you are keeping up with your plot maintenance so you don't fall behind around this time of year.

6. To review the progress of current projects:-

- **RRW bench report**

- **To look at work already undergone and discuss next steps.**

Work on the first 3 benches has been completed by Saul Hillier, who has done an exceptional job considering the weather has been against him.

In previous meetings Phil (RRW) has mentioned a lot of the benches in need of work are not owned by the Parish Council, these benches were reported to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council by the Assistant Clerk at the time as a lot of them pose a hazard due to considerable corrosion. At the time the Borough Council did not take ownership of the benches and no work has been actioned on them. Cllr. Fuller suggested we request just the straight removal of the benches by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council if they aren't willing to pay to replace or refurbish them. Assistant Clerk is to contact B&DBC to put this idea forward. It was also discussed that the bins in the same area as the benches in question need removal as well, due to corrosion. Assistant Clerk sent pictures to B&DBC at the time of the initial discussion and these were forwarded on to the Waste and Disposal department.

AC

It was decided that if the Borough Council did not want to take on the responsibility of organising removal/repair of these benches and bins, the Assistant Clerk would obtain quotes for both and take the quotes to the Council in hopes they would agree to foot the bill if we organise for the work to be done. If they decline this offer, we agreed we could then suggest paying 50% of the fee for removal as the benches pose a serious hazard due to sharp and rusty metal edges.

AC

Phil is going to take a look over the bench report in due course and send over the potential next three benches for repair.

AC

Assistant Clerk to look at bulk plaques for all Chineham Parish Council owned benches to be installed as when benches are repaired.

AC

- **Update on the allotment path works**

Allotment path works were completed with potential additional works needed,

- **To discuss ongoing Lengthsman maintenance contract including estimated dates throughout the year.**

Cllr. Fuller to discuss dates with CAT at next inspection.

Signed.....

- **Chineham Community Orchard**
 - **Grass cutting** – Grass has been cut
 - **Maintenance** – Assistant Clerk to order mulch and stakes to support the trees. Cllr. Fuller happy to continue watering as and when needed if we have a particularly dry summer. AC
- **Skate park – maintenance?**

It was established that Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council are in charge of ongoing maintenance of the skate park. Assistant Clerk to check in with them and ensure it is subject to the same park maintenance as other play areas throughout Chineham. If it has not been routinely checked recently, Assistant Clerk to request they send someone to go and take a look and ensure everything is safe and fit for purpose. AC
- **Discuss replacement plaques for CPC owned benches.**

Discussed above.

7. **Chineham Landscaping**

Nothing to discuss.

6. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Thursday 5th September 2024 at 7.30pm (TBC) by Microsoft Teams**

Meeting closed 20:37

DRAFT

Signed.....

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Signed.....