

Chilbolton Parish Council
Chilbolton Open Spaces Committee

DRAFT Minutes of Meeting held on 10th March 2022 at 18:30 at Chilbolton Village Hall.

Present

David Griffiths (DG) – Chairman; Moya Grove (MG), Trish Heaton (TH)

Apologies

Glynne Evans (GE), Terry Gilmour (TG), Nick Horne (NH), Emma Noble (EN), Edward Painter (EP)

Members of the public present

None

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 10th February 2022 ([Minutes](#)) were amended to correct 'Roberts' to 'Robertson'. They were then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

Matters arising are covered under the main headings below.

Finance

A finance report was provided by the Parish Clerk ([Report](#)) and noted.

Allotments

DG reported that two allotments were vacant. They would be advertised in the Parish magazine for Chilbolton residents in the first instance.

Common

Report provided by MG ([Report](#))

Further updates as follows:

Storm Eunice. The trees that had been cleared after the storm needed tidying up but would be left on the Common to rot down naturally.

Wessex River Trust. The village webmaster had agreed to send out details of the correct date for the public meeting - 26th March.

Bank Restoration.

Sparsholt was doing good work but needed a third afternoon in order to complete the task (11th March).

The misunderstanding with one user of the Common who requires vehicular access via the ford had been sorted out.

The permit waiver from the Planning Inspectorate would be fixed to the fence after work was complete. Temporary information notices explaining the work had been placed at the entrances to the Common.

Three pruning knives (£53.97) and two wheelbarrow wheels (£80.27) would be given to Sparsholt. Other costs: fencing - £274.90 + £54.98 VAT; twine - £56.52; wire - £2.40. The overall cost of the work had come in below the budget of £500+VAT. All spend is authorised.

Fishing rights and fencing. Stratton Parker are acting as agents on behalf of the Church Commissioners. Should the rights on the Purleygig stream be passed to another lessee, COSC would need to be informed. Councillor Ewer is leading on these matters.

Signage. Natural England were reviewing the text on the ladder boards and the information boards, and also the use of the gravel area. DG had sent a hastening email to Alison Graham-Smith on behalf of CPC.

Cattle grazing sign. CPC had asked COSC to recommend wording for signs about cattle grazing on the Common. DG agreed to draft some text and COSC members were invited to contribute.

Educational Access.

MG would be sending letters to schools about visits for this year.

MG was contemplating offering weekend walks to villagers.

Machinery Maintenance

Cutting blades on 'the beast' had been damaged by a metal spike on West Down. New blades (to be attached by Ed Treadwell) plus a spare had been purchased.

The chainsaw had been sent for repair following oil being placed in the fuel tank.

Parish Paths

Report provided by DG ([Report](#))

EP had agreed to deal with the tree/ivy brought down on Cart Lane footpath following Storm Eunice. EP was also planning to deal with other trees adjacent to the footpath.

Perhaps COSC should consider removing ivy from trees where the weight of the ivy puts the tree in danger of falling?

Peter Dodsworth had agreed to clear the tree blocking the footpath near the West Down car park.

Village Greens

The path at the entrance to the concrete road at West Down was now complete.

War Memorial Playing Fields

TH advised that there was no news on the delivery date for the table tennis table. NH intended to check with the company next week and also see when EP is able to move the log seats.

Further information had been provided to Jenny Brain for our bid from TVBC Community Asset Fund (CAF) towards the table tennis table. A decision was awaited. DG agreed to ask CPC if they have any projects that they would like to include in the 2022/2023 bid to the CAF.

CWMPF group had received 3 quotes for an adventure tower and awaited a fourth. When these are available the group will review proposals and seek more information from the companies as necessary.

DG commented that more mole hills had appeared on the playing field and he had asked the mole catcher to visit again.

MG advised that the latest delivery of scalplings - used on the playing field - included quartz which was acidic. We need to be careful that this does not get onto the Common.

West Down

GE had agreed to provide advice to COSC via email on the quotes received for the tree survey.

Work on West Down had been interrupted by the damage to 'the beast' and Storm Eunice but good progress had been made overall this season.

CPC had requested COSC to propose an alternative walking route from the car park across West Down to the Common.

Safeguarding

MG was thanked for agreeing to continue to lead with educational access visits. MG would ask NH if he was willing to help with educational access as deputy and be DBS checked.

Correspondence. All noted

Any other Business

DG commented that he now understood that only one member of CPC is required to be a member of COSC.

DG agreed to canvass COSC members about the location of the next meeting.

Items for the next Agenda

None

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 14th April 2022; location TBD