

**CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 May '23; 18:30, Poplar Dene, Chilbolton

PRESENT: Cllrs David Griffiths (Chairman) (DG), Rick Franke (RF) and Julian Hudson (JH),
Non-Cllr members: Moya Grove (MG), Emma Noble (EN), Abby Purver (AP),

1. Apologies: Nick Horne (NH), Terry Gilmore (TG), Trish Heaton (TH)

1. Declaration of Interests: None

2. Approval of minutes – Thursday 9 March '23 – these were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising:

To take questions and/or discuss and decide on any proposals within the monthly reports as follows:

A. Finance Report: Prior to the meeting the Clerk circulated the attached report ([41323 2](#) and [11523 1](#))
Nothing to add

B. Allotments: Nothing to add

C. Common: Prior to the meeting MG circulated the attached report ([41323 1](#)) and included the attached extract from the CPC DRAFT minutes of the meeting held on 4/3/23 ([41323 1a](#)). MG reported:

- i. Update on Common Signage: The information boards have been installed. Andy Bond installed them as he was able to go through the river ford in his vehicle. The three ladder boards are also in place. Thanks to DG for overseeing.
- ii. Bylaws: The enforcing of bylaws was briefly discussed and it was decided against.
- iii. Educational Visits: As per MG's report, Hazel Munt of Sparsholt College is coming with two groups in May and another may be in the pipeline.
- iv. Gravel Area Redesign: The work to reduce the parking in the gravel area is complete and this was done at a reduced cost using the gravel board left over from work on the river. We received a thank you from Harriet who lives at Old Cottage.
- v. Abbotts Stream Clearance: No word from Alison Graham-Smith from Natural England on the use of machinery to clear the Abbott's Stream. HCV are pencilled in for October for stream clearance and Sparsholt are also possibly going to help, but they haven't got their schedule for September yet. If they can make it part of their Countryside Fresh Water Management Course they will.
- vi. HCC Repairs: The Purleygig Bridge has been repaired and COSC agree that it now looks very smart.
- vii. Wessex River Trust (WRT): This has not been progressed as yet, but MG plans to contact them. They are going to produce two information boards for the work they did on the river and confirmation required on when and where to put them. MG also plans to ask when the posts on the berms are due to be cut down. This may have been the job of the waterman at Freelands, but he has now left.

Agreed and Signed (Chairman)

**CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 May '23; 18:30, Poplar Dene, Chilbolton

Lastly, MG will ask their advice on the new stony bank, which is wearing away down to the substrate underneath.

- viii. Update on Fishing Rights: There was due to be a meeting to discuss this, but it did not take place due to illness. MG would like to re-instate the term 'on each and every occasion' when referring to vehicular access to the Common, to ensure that it is clear that because permission has been given once, it does not mean they have ongoing permission. MG would also like the term 'up to the stock fence only' added where it refers to mowing. Currently the agreement allows for Freelands to mow four meters from the river bank, which is much too wide, would damage marginal plants and would take them within the area of the stock fence. There are some further points in MG's report which will be raised in discussions about fishing rights.
- ix. Cattle: Adam Coutts the grazier was going to put the cows out on the Common a fortnight ago, but did not for various reasons. He is hoping to take them down tomorrow. EN will install a post behind the horse gate at the Long Bridge to ensure the gate automatically closes and will also put the cow signs up provided by the Parish Clerk.
- x. Equestrian Access: AP confirmed that the horse gate by the Long Bridge has been held up due to illness, but HCC have got all parts of the gate and installation is the next stage.
- xi. Thistle Cut: MG confirmed we are trying to get together a group for the thistle cut. DG has contacted Corinne Davis-Cooke at HCC to see if she has any volunteers. The date agreed is 24th / 25th June.

D. Machinery Maintenance:

The beast has been serviced. Thanks to Ed Treadwell.

E. Parish Paths:

JH raised the issue of a low hanging tree on the bridleway off the concrete road up West Down. DG to investigate.

F. Village Greens:

The Queens Golden Canopy: All trees have been planted and the invoice has been received. We should be well within budget for the tree planting.

DG received a call from Jean Ward of the Old Rectory. She informed DG that she had asked Ian Daubney to stop mowing Stocks Green until the buttercups had gone over.

CPC have agreed to the installation of bollards in front of Poplar Dene and at the bottom of the bank opposite the bottle bank. DG has obtained quotes from Andy Bond.

G. War Memorial Playing Fields (WMPF): Prior to the meeting NH circulated the attached report ([41123_3](#)).

- i. Update on WMPF Development Group and Adventure Tower proposal update: EN confirmed that we are still waiting on a decision from Jenny Brain at TVBC about the approval of the grant before any more work can take place. DG will ask Councillor Drew if he can chase her up. AP will also see if she has any contacts within the council who can help move things along.

Agreed and Signed (Chairman)

**CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 May '23; 18:30, Poplar Dene, Chilbolton

- ii. DG plans to make the markers installed by the surveying company which indicates the boundary of CWMPF more obvious. As per NH's report, EN requested that CPC provide COSC with a copy of the survey report.
- iii. COSC agreed that there were no objections to installing CCTV to try to avoid vandalism of the basketball hoops in future. Work to rectify the hoops is ongoing by NH.
- iv. EN confirmed she filled the holes at the back of CWMPF which had been identified by a member of the public.
- v. EN raised the issue of the Terms of Reference for the Development Group (CWMPFDG) as it is now significantly out of date and there are difficulties in proceeding as there will be no funds available after the installation of the adventure tower and bike track. DG advised amending the terms as the CWMPFDG see fit (striking through anything out of date and indicating updates in red). CPC will likely approve the changes. There could be a clause to say that work will be suspended if no funds are available to continue.

H. West Down:

- i. DG confirmed that there are now four cows out on West Down. DG will liaise with the grazier Mike Thompson to see if any upgrades to fencing are required.
- ii. DG received a call from Gwyn Picco regarding people parking at bottom of West Down on the grassy bank next to the concrete road. No action at this time.
- iii. DG confirmed that a ragwort pull is scheduled for 8th July and volunteers can be redirected to do work on the thistles on the Common if there is no ragwort.
- iv. EN & AP will go round West Down to identify where new bridleway markers should be placed and EN will then show DG.

4. Green Canopy project update: Prior to the meeting K Bradley circulated the attached report ([4323_19](#)).

5. To discuss ways to make Virgin Media and BT Junction boxes around the village more aesthetically pleasing: The Clerk reported no response as yet from Virgin Media and circulated a link to information re [BT boxes](#). COSC decided we would keep on hold until NH is back do discuss further.

6. Correspondence:

8/3/23 - HCC Test Valley Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) workshops ([3423_2](#))

9/3/23 - The Three Bees Project initiative ([3423_4](#)) – given parish magazine contact details

9/3/23 - HCC info re Chilbolton parish Rights of Way (RoW) ([3423_5](#))

20/3/23 - HCC RoW updates ([3423_10](#))

10/3/23 - Grass and Grounds 2023 price increase ([3423_6](#))

3/4/23 - Southern Water Pioneering solutions to reduce storm overflows will bring nature back to communities ([15523_1](#))

17/4/23 - SSEN community resilience funding ([15523_4](#))

Agreed and Signed (Chairman)

**CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 May '23; 18:30, Poplar Dene, Chilbolton

21/4/23 - Public Consultation from Test Valley Borough Council - Proposal to extend a Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Control (deadline for comments 19/5/23) ([155223_5](#)) [NB: CPC will discuss at meeting to be held on 15/5/23]

21/4/23 - Public Consultation from Test Valley Borough Council - Proposal to extend a Public Spaces Protection Order PSPO: Alcohol Related ASB. (Deadline for comments 19/5/23) ([15523_6](#)) [NB: CPC will discuss at meeting to be held on 15/5/23]

7. Questions from Public:
None

8. Any other business (for information only):
AP confirmed she will be standing down from COSC for at least the next 3 months. COSC thanked AP for her contributions.

9. Items for the next agenda

10. Date of the next scheduled meeting: Thursday 8 June 2023; 18:30, Poplar Dene, Village Street.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8pm.

Agreed and Signed (Chairman)