

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on
5th April 2022 at 19:30 hrs, in the **Council Chamber, Council Offices,**
North Street Ilminster, TA19 0DG

Chair: Cllr M Gunn

Committee: Cllr L Taylor, Cllr L Wilcock, Cllr H Lancaster, Cllr B Hamilton

Officers: M Tredwin (Town Clerk), J Earp (Deputy Town Clerk and RFO), V Freeman (Administration Officer)

In attendance: Cllr P Burton, Cllr B Jenner-Hurford, Cllr A Shearman, J Taylor (Countryside Manager). No members of the public were present

22-0001-OS Public Forum

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

22-0002-OS Apologies for absence

Cllr Swann – Personal reasons
Cllr White – Personal reasons
Cllr Shepherd – Personal reasons

22-0003-OS Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

22-0004-OS Dispensations

There were no dispensations requested or granted.

22-0005-OS Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2021 as a correct record.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

22-0006-OS Financial Monitoring Report

Members **NOTED** the Financial Monitoring Report
Members discussed the Financial Monitoring Report and how encouraged they were that we have had to spend comparatively little on vandalism. They also discussed the gas and electric price rises and the benefits of being on a fixed rate tariff.

22-0007-OS Open Spaces Team Report

Members **NOTED** the Open Spaces Team Report
Members commented on the improvement of the Canal Way area and thanked the Open Spaces team for all their hard work improving the area. Members discussed the metal kissing gate at the entrance to Herne Hill and the possibility of an added accessible gate next to it.

22-0008-OS Burial Space Request

Members discussed a resident's request for Ilminster Town Council to buy back a burial space which is no longer required.
Discussions included there should be no profit made when buying back a burial space and whether an administration fee is applicable

Members **RECOMMENDED** unanimously to Full Council to approve the purchase back of the burial space at £197.40, the original purchase price.

Proposer Cllr Hamilton **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

22-0009-OS Memorial Benches

Members discussed requests for 2 memorial benches at Herne Hill and 1 in the area of West Crescent.
Discussions included the type of bench, and maintenance agreements. The Countryside Manager advised members the top slat on the new benches we have recently ordered can be removed and a slat with a plaque can be inserted.

Members **RECOMMENDED** unanimously to Full Council that authority is delegated to officers to agree the location and siting of 3 memorial benches, two at Herne Hill and another one in the area of West Crescent on a cost plus 10% basis.

Proposer Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Lancaster

22-0010-OS Exempt Business

There was no exempt business.

Meeting ended at 20.46

Chair Signature

