

Minutes of the **Open Spaces** held on **6<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at **20.17 hrs**  
held in the **Council Chamber, Council Offices, North Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DG**

**Chair:** Cllr M Gunn

**Committee:** Cllr B Jenner-Hurford, Cllr S Osborne, Cllr S Shepherd, and Cllr L Wilcock

**Officers:** J Earp (Deputy Town Clerk and RFO), V Freeman (Administration Officer), J Taylor (Countryside Manager)

**In attendance:** No members of the public.

**22-0051-OS            Public Forum**  
There were no members of the public present.

**22-0052-OS            Apologies for absence**  
Cllr L Taylor – Personal reasons  
Cllr D Paul – Business commitments  
Cllr B Hamilton – Personal reasons

**22-0053-OS            Declarations of interest**  
Cllr Shepherd declared an interest in Agenda item 11 - Recreation ground drainage report.

**22-0054-OS            Dispensations**  
There were no dispensations requested or granted.

**22-0055-OS            Minutes**  
Members resolved unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 as a correct record.  
**Proposer** Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

**22-0056-OS            Open Spaces Team report**  
Members **NOTED** the Open Spaces team report.  
The Countryside Manager advised members that the grounds team had started to lay the hedge along Canal Way.  
Members of the public like the new step into the Burma Star Garden which has improved access to the garden.  
A Member has been told by a local resident that Herne Hill is looking beautiful.  
The meeting Chair thanked the Countryside Manager and the team for all their hard work.

**22-0057-OS            Financial Monitoring Report**  
Members **NOTED** the financial monitoring report.

**22-0058-OS            Pesticide-Free Towns Pledge**  
**A** Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to adopt the pesticide policy as presented.  
**Proposer** Cllr Osborne **Seconded** Cllr Jenner-Hurford

- B** Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to commit going pesticide free as soon as reasonably practical  
**Proposer** Cllr Jenner-Hurford **Seconded** Cllr Wilcock

**22-0059-OS**

**Green Flag**

Members discussed the Green Flag award and the Herne Hill Users Group. Discussions included inviting regular volunteers to join the group as a pilot project, have Councillor representation on the group and only 1 representative per organisation.

Members **RESOLVED** unanimously to delegate authority to officers to engage with local stakeholders and set up a "Herne Hill Users Group". Terms of Reference to then be brought back to Open Spaces for their consideration.

**Proposer** Cllr Shepherd **Seconded** Cllr Osborne

**22-0060-OS**

**Recreation Ground Users Group**

Members **NOTED** the Minutes from the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Members discussed inviting students to attend the meetings to give their input/ideas.

Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to approve the Terms of Reference.

**Proposer** Cllr Shepherd **Seconded** Cllr Gunn

**22-0061-OS**

**Recreation ground drainage report**

Members **NOTED** the report on the information provided in respect of the drainage around the Wardens Building and Tony Rice Bar.

Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to delegate officers to research solutions to the drainage and sewerage problems on the recreation ground.

**Proposer** Cllr Wilcock **Seconded** Cllr Gunn

**22-0062-OS**

**Phase 1 Fitness Trail**

This item was moved to Exempt Business.

**Proposer** Cllr Osborne **Seconded** Cllr Gunn

**22-0063-OS**

**Exempt Business**

*That in the view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advised in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded while members consider this item in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.*

**Proposer** Cllr Osborne **Seconded** Cllr Gunn

**22-0064-OS**

**A**

**Phase 1 Fitness Trail**

Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to choose Conipave recycled rubber as the preferred surface for the Fitness Trail

**Proposer** Cllr Gunn **Seconded** Cllr Jenner-Hurford

- B** Members resolved unanimously to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council to agree the use of any spoil to level out the ground area around the tuck shop on the recreation ground.  
**Proposer** Cllr Gunn **Seconded** Cllr Jenner-Hurford

Meeting ended at 21.15



