

Iminster Town Council

To: All members of Iminster Town Council

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the **OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

To be held on **Tuesday 12 June 2012** at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, North Street, Iminster to transact the business outlined below.

Julia Thorne
Town Clerk

Date

Public Question Time

Members of the public are invited to ask questions or raise issues relevant to the work of the Committee. The overall time available for this session is restricted to 15 minutes unless the Chair decides otherwise. Individual speakers are restricted to 3 minutes and are asked not to repeat points that have been made previously. It is helpful if potential contributors can make themselves known to the Clerk before the meeting so that the session can be programmed effectively. This section is not part of the formal meeting of the Council and minutes will not be produced.

Prior to the meeting there will be a presentation by Zoe Harris on Market Town Markets. This will begin at 7pm

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. Appointment of Vice Chair**
- 4. Minutes of the Previous Open Spaces Committee Meeting**
- 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes**
- 6. Wardens Report**
- 7. Skate Park**
- 8. Cemetery**
- 9. Market House**
- 10. Herne Hill Walkabout**
- 11. Summer Competitions**
- 12. Lions Trees**
- 13. Town Clerk's Report and Correspondence**
- 14. In Camera
Personnel**

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Appointment of Vice Chair
4. Minutes of the Previous Open Spaces Committee Meeting
To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 March 2012
5. Matters Arising from the Minutes
6. Wardens Report

14.05.12

Open Spaces Wardens Report

Since the last meeting on the 27th March 2012, we have continued to cut grass everywhere (weather permitting). We had two weeks of rain so have been playing catch up ever since, we have used our new flail to help get on top of the long grass and seed heads and this has worked very well and enabled us to use the gangs again. We have also used the flail to cut most of the pathways around the hill and again this has made a very good job as you will see if you venture up there. Because we have been playing catch up on all the grass cutting I would like to thank Councillor Palister for his help in cutting the cricket outfield on several occasions allowing us to get on with other areas.

The Zip wire safety surface had been completed, but we had to recall them back to redo it as it was not up to standard, this is now complete and we have re-seeded this along with other patches around the play area. The chain on the seat part of the zip wire also had to be replaced due to wear in the links.

Due to health & safety reasons we have taken down part of the BMX track fence, as recommended by the District Play Officer, (the pig wire had been stretched and broken in several places and could have caused serious harm, because of the number of broken rails & posts, the option to remove was a lot easier then replacing the entire fence.) The fair side will need to be repaired or removed soon as several posts are broken off at ground level.

We have had a few benches vandalised some we have been able to repair and repaint/stain, but one bench on Britten's Field was beyond repair so we have removed it completely. We have also continued repainting/staining others around the area.

We have replaced all the steps at the top of Cleves Close (using the old BMX post) and also the ones at the scout plantation and trig point.

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At the Cemetery we have had the tree climber in to look at and remove the rotten tree and we have cleared away from the surrounding graves all the branches and wood.

We have also had the Contractor come to start work on the removal of the soil; so far he has dug the tree stumps out and removed the soil that had built up on top of the ground. Then rain had stopped play, he has been able to return and finish digging out the trench along the wall revealing several roots from the neighbour's trees and a considerable amount of damage to the wall we are now awaiting a decision on what to do next.

During the walkabout of the hill & Open Spaces I showed the Councillors the bank of the Incline that the Lions Club would like to have permission to plant with trees, they have since contacted myself and the office to seek approval for this scheme and the number of tree whips and types required, to enable them to seek funding for the above for the autumn. If they cannot raise enough this year they would like to plant more the following year and thus create the lion's copse.

We also had tried to highlight some of the problems we have had with the Football and the Cricket Clubs regarding responsibility for maintenance and repair to grounds and equipment. And are awaiting the outcome from the new licences and agreements

We have been having problems with the mule it has not been running properly and it has been back to Loxston's several times to try to sort the problem out. The outcome was a broken circlip that damaged a seal in the gear box's that then caused oil to leak on the drive belt , this was only found out on the last visit due to the circlip breaking more ,this was holding the drive pulley and so caused it to randomly grab the drive belt. All sorted now and running well.

Due to the bad weather the Canal flooded and we had to clear the outlet pipe 3 times. I suggest we look into another system to stop debris blocking the pipe?

Talking of the Canal we have had both life buoys damaged, and one of the posts broken. (Been repaired and new buoys replaced)

We have now taken down all the Football Goal Posts and removed all the winter bedding from all the planters, and replanted with the spring/summer plants in time for the Olympic torch and the Jubilee celebration (also hung the hanging baskets and the bunting around the market square).

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Finally we have had Daniel Knight make up and spray the new gates for the toilet block that we helped fit in time for the jubilee weekend (he also removed the old jail like railings from around it). Andrew has also been fairly busy preparing for the lighting of the beacon getting wood and supplies ready for the event.

- 7. Skate Park**
- 8. Cemetery**
Presentation
- 9. Market House**
- 10. Herne Hill Walkabout**
Report
- 11. Summer Competitions**
 - (a) Scarecrow Competition – report
 - (b) Floral Competition – to agree date and judges
- 12. Lions Trees**
- 13. Town Clerk's Report and Correspondence**
 - (a) Highway Improvement Works A358
 - (b) National Playing Fields Association, notice of AGM 22 June 2012
 - (c) Ilminster Patients Group, bus stop request
- 14. In Camera**
Personnel