

Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Spaces Committee
held on 19 September 2023 at 7:30pm
in the Council Chamber, Town Hall

Councillors present: Cllr Helen Harrison (Chair)
Cllr Chris Bloor
Cllr Fiona Deas
Cllr Danny Bonnett
Cllr John Reynolds
Cllr Chris Davies
Cllr James Murray (arrived before item 9)

Officers present: Wendy Sydenham (Deputy Clerk)

Three members of the public attended

Absent: Cllr Simon Johnson
Cllr Phil O'Rourke

OS2324.35 TO CONSIDER ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Phil O'Rourke.

OS2324.36 TO RECEIVE ANY MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared by members.

OS2324.37 TO RECEIVE ANY REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were members of the public present who spoke to the Committee in relation to items 6 and 8.

OS2324.38 TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25.07.23

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 25.07.23 and they were then signed by the Chair.

OS2324.39 TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO SEATING AROUND THE TOWN (NOT ON COUNCIL LAND)

- **To consider suggestions from Committee members regarding potential locations for new seating**
It was **RESOLVED** that further work would be carried out on the list of potential locations for seating around town and brought back to a future meeting for agreement.
- **To consider making a recommendation to the Finance and Policy Committee for funding for new seating, to come either from CIL or to be included as a new cost pressure in the 2024/2025 budget**
It was **RESOLVED** that a recommendation would be made to the Finance and General Purpose Committee for funding of up to £7,000 to cover the cost of additional seating

around town, to be taken either from CIL or as a new cost pressure in the 2024-2025 budget.

- **To agree that requests can be made to South Gloucestershire Council concerning permissions to site benches on their land**

It was **RESOLVED** that Officers be given delegated authority to make requests for licences to site benches on South Gloucestershire Council as needed, from those on the final list of potential locations for seating around town.

OS2324.40 TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO THE THORNBURY BIODIVERSITY RING PASSING THROUGH THE MUNDY PLAYING FIELDS

- **To consider recommendations from Officers on a suitable route for the Biodiversity Ring to pass through the Mundy Playing Fields**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Officer recommendations for the route for the Biodiversity Ring to pass through the Mundy Playing Fields

- **To delegate commitment of funding and purchase of trees and associated sundries to Officers**

It was **RESOLVED** to commit funding of up to £4,500 from the tree planting budget to purchase trees and associated sundries to implement the agreed Biodiversity Ring through the Mundy Playing Fields, and to delegate authorisation to Officers to make the purchases up to that amount.

OS2324.41 TO CONSIDER A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CLIMATE AND NATURE COMMITTEE TO CEASE THE USE OF GLYPHOSATES ON TOWN COUNCIL LAND

It was **RESOLVED** by majority vote to agree to the recommendation from the Climate and Nature Committee to cease the use of glyphosates on Town Council land and to trial the alternatives stated in the supporting paper.

OS2324.42 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO INSTALL BEEHIVES AT THORNBURY CEMETERY

It was **RESOLVED** to agree to the request to install beehives at Thornbury Cemetery in line with the details given in the supporting paper.

OS2324.43 TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO THE INSTALLATION OF FLOODLIGHTS ON COURTS 3 & 4 BY THE THORNBURY LAWN TENNIS CLUB

- **To receive an update on conditions attached to the granting of permission for the installation of the floodlights**

The Committee received an update on conditions attached to the granting of permission for the installation of floodlights by Thornbury Lawn Tennis Club on Courts 3 & 4.

- **To consider an addendum to the agreement with Thornbury Lawn Tennis Club for the use of Courts 3&4 to cover the ongoing maintenance of the floodlights**

It was **RESOLVED** to agree in principle to the draft addendum to the existing agreement with Thornbury Lawn Tennis Club covering the use of Courts 3 & 4, with the addendum covering the ongoing maintenance of the floodlights once installed, assuming Thornbury Lawn Tennis Club confirm their agreement to the conditions mentioned above.

OS2324.44 TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO A PROPOSAL FROM CLLR JAMES MURRAY TO INSTALL HARD SURFACING AROUND THE BASKETBALL HOOP IN THE CHANTRY ROAD PLAY AREA INCLUDING

- **To consider agreeing to the proposal**

It was **RESOLVED** to agree to install hard surfacing around the basketball hoop in the Chantry Road Play Area.

- **To consider delegating authorisation to officers to proceed with the purchase of the surfacing up to a specified amount (with the source of funding to be determined by the Finance & Policy Committee)**

It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authorisation to officers to purchase the surfacing up to the value of £5,000 (from source agreed by the Finance and General Purpose Committee – see item below).

- **To consider making a recommendation to the Finance and General Purpose Committee for funding of the hard surfacing to come either from CIL or to be included as a new cost pressure in the 2024/2025 budget**

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance and General Purpose Committee that funding be made available to cover the cost of the hard surfacing up to £5,000, to be taken either from CIL or as a new cost pressure in the 2024/2025 budget.

OS2324.45 TO IDENTIFY ANY ADDITIONAL COST PRESSURES THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION IN THE DRAFT 2024/2025 BUDGET (OVER AND ABOVE EXISTING PROVISION/BUDGET)

It was **RESOLVED** to ask for some form of covered seating on Town Council open spaces to be considered during the budgeting process for 2024/2025.

OS2324.46 TO NOTE DATE OF NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2023

The date of the next meeting was noted to be Tuesday 21 November 2023 at 7:30pm.