

STOKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee
was held in the Town Hall, Stokesley on
Wednesday 10 November 2021 commencing at 7 pm

Open Spaces & Footpaths Committee Membership

Cllr Bryn Griffiths, Cllr Nigel Johnson, Cllr David Oxley, Cllr Graham Sowerby and Cllr Andy Wake.

Present: Cllrs Bryn Griffiths, David Oxley, Graham Sowerby and Andy Wake.
Clerk –Mrs Julie McLuckie.

1/10/11/21 NOTICE OF MEETING

RESOLVED that the public notice of the meeting had been provided in accordance with Schedule 12, paragraph 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

2/10/11/21 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None present.

3/10/11/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. **RESOLVED** that the apologies for absence from Cllrs N. Johnson be received.
2. **RESOLVED** that the reasons for absence provided be approved.

4/10/11/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None declared.

5/10/11/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JULY 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

6/10/11/21 PLAY PARKS

- a. **RESOLVED** that there would be a requirement to purchase two loads of play bark next year to ensure the levels are correct – this is the knock-on effect of not purchasing any play bark during 2020 because of the pandemic.
Members also agreed that a maintenance fund should be established so that going forward we have fund available to carry out identified repairs.
Members would also like to budget for some accessible play equipment to be installed in the main play area.
It was agreed that consultation should commence on introducing a new U8s Play facility at the other end of Town, Cllr Oxley would bring forward some proposed areas for this development.

7/10/11/21 TREE AND HEDGE WORK

- a. Hedge Cutting Service Level Agreement – **RESOLVED** that the current contractor had confirmed that the cost for this work in 2022 / 23 would remain the same despite the inclusion of the additional areas identified.
- b. Tree Work – **RESOLVED** that the following work be agreed for 2022/23:-
 - Tanton Road corner – raise crown and crown reduction
 - Northfield Drive Green Area – Shrub beds and tree work raising crowns and crown reduction
 - Paddock walk way – to reduce the shrubs
 - Levenside – to raise the crowns and thinning to all the trees from Stokesley Motors to the iron bridge
 - Riversdene and Riverslea – to prune all the cherry trees along the walkway.
- c. Jubilee Trees – it was agreed to plant trees in the following areas:
 - Replacement crab apple tree along the Riverside
 - Fairfield / Neasham field – to plant two trees in this area – to consult with our contractor to seek advice on what species would be most suitable.
 - Cllrs Griffiths and Wake had also been allocated a tree to be planted from HDC and it was proposed that this be planted on the large grass area at the end of Ashwood Drive.
 - The WI had requested permission to plant a tree to mark their 80th anniversary, members agreed that this could be planted on the area along Thirsk Road which is currently closed off by two tree trunks, again advice from our contractor on what species to plant would be sought.

8/10/11/21 GRASS CUTTING

- a. Areas of Concern – **RESOLVED** that no reports of concern had been received since the last meeting when following discussions with the contractor a marked improvement had been made.
- b. ‘No Mow May’ Initiative – **RESOLVED** that Members are in favour of the proposals submitted by the Climate Action Group but would like to see a full mapped report detailing the areas including measurements. Members agreed that this initiative should run through May and June – with cutting resuming the first week in July. This would be published to ensure residents are aware of the plan and the rationale behind it. It was agreed that the Town Council would purchase some signs to promote the work in each of the areas.
- c. ‘Wild Flower’ Areas – **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would share the report received from the Climate Action Group with NYCC as several of the areas referenced were NYCC land. In addition, the Clerk would also speak to NYCC about wildflower areas on the Leisure Centre roundabout and Strikes roundabout. It was agreed to plant an area on the North Road Play Park in front of the power station and also an area on Westlands which would also prevent vehicles parking on the verge.

- d. Riverside – **RESOLVED** that the Clerk is waiting for the report from the Tees River Trust advising what areas we should and should not cut to improve the wildlife along the river.

9/10/11/21 FOOTPATHS

- a. Complaints received – **none received.**
- b. Moss erosion / weeds on footpath – **RESOLVED** that Cllr Griffiths would raise this with NYCC and HDC the ongoing issue of moss and weeds on the footpaths, in particular the Riversdene/Riverslea estate.

10/10/11/21 BUDGET 2022/23

RESOLVED that the following budget proposal be submitted to the Finance Committee for consideration:-

Play Parks

Play Bark - £6,000
 Maintenance Contingency - £7,500
 Accessible Equipment - £2,000
Total = £15,500

Grass Cutting

Current contract plus percentage increase = £18,200

Tree / Hedge Work

Monthly tree work - £3,000
 Agreed tree maintenance as above - £5,575
 Hedge Service Level Agreement - £3,870
 Contingency fund = £555
Total = £13,000

Litter Bins £500	Seat Repairs £700	River Banks £600	Miscellaneous £500
Toilets £4,500	Christmas Lights/Maintenance £6,000		Christmas Lights/electric £300

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

SignedDate