

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 21 July 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, Nigel Johnson, David Oxley, Graham Sowerby and Andy Wake.

Clerk –Mrs Julie McLuckie.

1/15/07/21 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.

2/15/07/21 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None present.

3/15/07/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

4/15/07/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None declared.

5/15/07/21 ELECTION OF CHARIMAN

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Griffiths as Chairman.

6/15/07/21 TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference be agreed subject to two changes, to increase the membership to five Councillors as previously agreed and to add that the Clerk be authorised to deal with any urgent repairs on the Play Park.

7/15/07/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 OCTOBER 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

8/15/07/21 PLAY PARKS

- a. ROSPA Play Park Reports - **RESOLVED** to receive the ROSPA Play Park Reports. The Clerk confirmed that several repairs identified have been

completed and that the goal posts have been re-painted. New signs have been installed updating all the contact information etc.

- b. MacVenture Quarterly Play Park Reports - **RESOLVED** that the quarterly Play Park reports from MacVenture were received and noted.
- c. Programme of Work for 2021 / 22 - **RESOLVED** that the quote received from MacVenture to repair broken equipment in the U8s Play Area at a cost of £580 +vat be approved. Members had already agreed to cut the Play Park hedge. The Clerk would review the level of play bark and would advise members if there is a requirement to purchase more this year. Members agreed to meet at the Play Park on Sunday morning to review the current equipment and to consider purchasing some additional equipment in the coming years including facilities suitable for use by children with disabilities. This would then formulate a forward plan and budget proposal for the next financial year.
- d. CCTV Camera and Play Park Hedge - **RESOLVED** that additional CCTV signs would be installed in the play park. The Clerk would promote the hedge maintenance work and the CCTV camera through social media and on our website.

9/15/07/21 TREE AND HEDGE WORK

- a. Hedge Cutting Service Level Agreement - **RESOLVED** that following a review of the current Hedge Cutting Service Level Agreement members agreed that the cutting should remain as twice a year and that the first cut should take place towards the end of July beginning of August (subject to confirmation that there are no birds nesting) and then again in October / November.
- b. Service Level Agreement for 2022/23 – **RESOLVED** that the Service Level Agreement should remain the same but with the addition of the Play Park hedge maintenance.
- c. Tree Work – **RESOLVED** to approve the following work to be carried out this year as quoted for in October 2020:-
 - West Green – to dead wood into the crown all ten trees - £2200 +vat.
 - Malvern Drive / Leven Banks – removal of 8 trees for coppicing - -£1600 +vat.
 - Tree branches to be cut back on Silver Street to ensure the streetlight is not covered – this to be requested as part of the monthly tree work.The Clerk would request a quote for the Acres field, Tameside and Acres as the Contractor had advised that this requires thinning again as it is 6 years since it was last carried out. This would include crown lifting and thinning the trees and clearing out all the shrub beds.
The contractor had also examined the dead tree at Fairfield and confirmed that this was due to the tying strap not been removed and it has grown into the tree causing its death. The Clerk to confirm if this tree is on Council land.

The Clerk to ask the Tree Contractor to provide a quote to carry out maintenance of the trees along Levenside and to ask that these be included in the routine maintenance plan.

It was agreed that if BT did not remove the branches that had been cut off a tree on Levenside at the back of Costa then the Town Council Tree Contractor would be asked to remove them. An article would be placed in the newsletter advising that any work to trees along the Levenside must be approved by the Trustees and carried out by an approved contractor, any non-approved work is classed as criminal damage and will be reported to the Police. The article will also ask residents to inform the Town Council if they have any information on who carried out this work.

Jubilee Trees – as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations we are encouraged to plant trees. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would consult with SPIOTA and the Climate Action Group for any suggestions on where trees could be planted and that residents be also asked in the next newsletter for their proposals.

10/15/07/21 GRASS CUTTING

- a. Areas of Concern – **RESOLVED** that the clerk would ask the contractor to ensure that he is strimming at the same time as cutting and that he strims right up the fence lines. The Clerk would also remind the contractor that grass cuttings should not be left on the footpaths.
- b. ‘No Mow May’ Initiative – **RESOLVED** that the Town Council support this initiative in principle and that they would liaise with the Climate Action Group to agree a proposal for next year. Once the proposal is drafted this will be publicised so that residents are aware of the scheme and the areas to be included.
- c. ‘Wild Flower’ Areas – **RESOLVED** that the Town Council support this initiative and that they would liaise with the Climate Action Group to agree appropriate areas for wild flower planting.

11/15/07/21 FOOTPATHS

- a. Complaints received – **RESOLVED** that the main complaint across the Town was the level of weeds on the footpaths and roadside. Cllr Griffiths confirmed that NYCC are due to weed kill in the next month, Members were disappointed that this had not taken place earlier before the weeds had seeded as this will inevitably lead to more weeds next year.
Levenside Footpath – **RESOLVED** as previously reported one section of the footpath is sloping dangerously towards the river. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for signs to be displayed advising of the danger. Subject to approval of the Levenside Project Planning Application that this section of work (which would be on a phased programme) be carried out first. If this

was not achievable before the winter months, then this Committee would consider what should be done to make the area safe at its next meeting.

- b. Moss erosion / weeds on footpath – **RESOLVED** that Cllr Griffiths would raise this with NYCC and HDC.

12/15/07/21 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

RESOLVED that the purchase of any new lights would be postponed till next year when hopefully things were more settled.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

SignedDate