

Bovingdon Parish Council

Meeting of the Outdoors Committee
held in The Memorial Hall, High Street, Bovingdon
on
26 July 2022 starting at 7.00
p.m.

Present:

Councillor Graham Barrett
Councillor Ben Richardson
Councillor Hugh Schneiders
Councillor Dave Stent
Councillor Philip Walker
Councillor Pauline Wright (Chair)

Also present:

Ian Barrow, Head of Horticulture and Landscape, Sunnyside Rural Trust for Item 6
Mike Kember, Parish Clerk

1.	Appointment of Chair of the Outdoors Committee to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	
	Councillor Wright was appointed Chair of the Outdoors Committee to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.	
2.	Apologies for absence	
	There were apologies for absence received from Councillors Alison Gunn and Adrian Watney.	
3.	Declaration of Interests linked to any of the items	
	There were no Declarations of Interest.	
4.	Minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2022	
	It was agreed by those present at the meeting, that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2022 were a true representation of the meeting and were signed by Councillor Wright.	
5.	Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2022 not on the agenda	
5.1	Creation of additional off-street parking	
	The Parish Clerk is continuing to try find out the situation regarding the provision of additional parking spaces on the grass verges in Old Dean and Austins Mead. Gill Martinez who was dealing with this is no longer working at Dacorum Borough Council. Some additional car parking spaces have been created in Dean Field.	Parish Clerk
5.2	Booklet of village footpaths	
	Councillor Walker reported that he has walked a number of the footpaths and that this project is on-going.	Councillor Walker
5.3	Millennium Sign, High Street	

	Luke Jarman will be undertaking the refurbishing / repainting of the sign in the near future.	Councillor Stent
5.4	Footpaths	
	The Parish Clerk reported that there is no list / map of the landowners adjacent to the footpaths in the parish and that any issues should be taken up with Clayton Rae at Dacorum Borough Council as they arise.	
5.5	Village gates	
	Agreed to wait for the work that is being undertaken as part of the monies received from the Police & Crime Commissioners budget to improve the road safety at the entrances to the village to be carried and then review the matter.	
	The Parish Marshals have cleared the vegetation from the gate in the Chipperfield Road and Councillor Schneiders has removed the tree which was damaging the gate.	
5.6	Footpaths	
	The hedges have been cut back in Newhouse Road, Chesham Road, Church Lane and along parts of the footpath from Shantock Lane to Bovingdon Green. The brambles and undergrowth of hedges on Bovingdon Green have also been cut back. The cost of this work was met from the 2021 – 22 budget.	
5.7	Watering system for the Memorial Hall hanging baskets	
	This has been installed.	
5.8	Plant containers	
	This will form part of a wider discussion with Rob Cassidy, Parks & Open Spaces Officer at Dacorum BC for making environmental improvements around the village.	Councillors Barrett & Wright
6.	Report from Sunnyside Rural Trust (SRT) on Village Warden contract	
	David Cooper, Bovingdon Contract Manager was unable to attend the meeting but had previously circulated information to the Committee, which was noted. In his absence Ian Barrow, Head of Horticulture and Landscape reported that the litter picking routes have been reviewed to reflect the amount of litter collected which has freed up more time for horticultural work.	
	Councillor Wright commented on the weeds growing on pavements, which Dacorum BC should have sprayed in the spring. Agreed to provide a list of the worse areas and it may be possible for SRT to undertake some spraying as Ian hold the necessary licence.	Councillor Wright
	Ian agreed to carry out some tidying up of the rear garden of the Memorial Hall.	
	David Cooper has resigned and will be leaving SRT in a couple of weeks. Until a replacement is appointed, Ian will be covering this post.	
7.	Budget Spend to 31 June 2022	
	There was no report available but it was noted that the budgets are on target.	

8.	To discuss the following :	
(a)	Bovingdon Green Pond	
	The two original Interpretation Boards have been replaced. Councillors Schneiders and Walker to replace the rotten posts.	Councillors Schneiders & Walker
	Councillor Walker to place an order with Amazon for two new signs with the wording 'Danger – deep water'.	Councillor Walker
	The Parish Clerk confirmed that the renewal of the lease for the pond which expired in April 2022 is being undertaken by the Commercial Assets & Property Development at Dacorum Borough Council. It has been agreed to extend the period of the lease to 25 years. There will be legal fees for the lease renewal are £1000 plus VAT if applicable and the Fields In Trust have confirmed their fees to be £200 plus VAT.	Parish Clerk
	Councillor Wright asked Ian Barrow, SRT to schedule in some time to carry out some maintenance work.	Councillor Wright / SRT
(b)	Contract for maintenance of the Docks	
	The Parish Clerk was to contact the Garden Company to arrange for the annual de-silting of the docks, once the Highways engineers have completed their current investigations.	Parish Clerk
(c)	Sweeping of pavements and gutters	
	This is not something that SRT can undertake. The Parish Clerk was asked to contact Dacorum BC and arrange for the pavements and gutters to be swept.	Parish Clerk
(d)	Matters for discussion with Rob Cassidy, Parks & Open Spaces Officer, Dacorum BC	
	Agreed to ask Rob Cassidy to come to the village to meet with Councillors Barrett, Schneiders, Stent, Walker and Wright to discuss the following : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bund on Bovingdon Green • Road sweeping • Flower boxes / troughs for railings outside the library • Road signs • Wildflowers – new areas for wild flower planting • Footpath across grassed area outside Archway surgery • New areas for daffodil planting • Plaque / surround for beacon on Bovingdon Green 	
9.	The Queens Green Canopy (QGC)	
	Councillor Wright reported that a tree has been ordered via Dacorum BC to be planted on the grassed area outside of Archway flats in the High Street. A donation of £500 is required for the maintenance and upkeep of the tree for the first five years. However, this will be partially offset by a grant of £350 from Herts CC. On-going.	Councillor Wright

	Agreed not to purchase a plaque costing £125 from the Royal British Legion to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee.	
10.	Health & Safety	
	None	
11.	Any other business	
11.1	Library Forecourt	
	Agreed to fill in the area where there was a tree and remove the tree guard.	
11.2	Millennium Sign	
	Luke Jarman to remove sign and restore it.	Councillor Stent
11.3	Area outside Co-op	
	Arrangements to be finalise for provision of planters and benches outside the Co-op.	Councillors Stent and Wright
11.4	Christmas Tree	
	Thought to be given to the tree being sited on the grassed area outside Archway flats this year.	Councillor Wright
12.	To agree dates of meetings for remainder of 2022	
	Tuesday 15 November in the Memorial Hall starting at 7.00 p.m.	All to note
	<u>Exclusion of the public</u>	
	Part II - That under S 4 (A) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public be excluded during the item(s) in Part II of the agenda for this meeting, because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to a contract:	
13.	Sunnyside Rural Trust	
	Agreed to review the contract prior to its renewal from 1 January 2023.	Councillor Wright / Parish Clerk
	Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.	