

**KENNINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES
MINUTES**



Agenda published 24 March 2023

**A meeting of the Environment and Open Spaces Committee
was held on Thursday, 30 March 2023 starting at 6.30pm,
in the United Reformed Church**

- 1/23E** To note those present, to receive and consider for approval, apologies for absence and reasons given.
Present: Cllr Chris Morley (Chair), Cllr Charles Ellis, Cllr Alan Cooper (substitute) and (Cllr Justin Armitage, 18:46)
Apologies: Cllr Crook – Personal commitments and had substituted Cllr Alan Cooper
Also Present: The Clerk and one member of the public (18:46).
- 2/23E** To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs), Other Significant Interests (OSIs) or Voluntary Interests (VIs) relating to items on the agenda.
None were declared.
- 3/23E** To consider and adopt the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 September 2022
Resolved: Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th September 2022 as circulated were agreed and adopted as a true record by unanimous vote.
Action: Agreed Clerk to publish signed minutes on the website.
- 4/23E** Public Open Session for members of the public who may make representations, ask and answer questions and give evidence regarding items on the agenda or to suggest issues for discussion at a future meeting.
No members of the public were present at the time of this agenda item being originally reached. *At 19:00 the Chair of the Committee opened again to the public as the no public had been present initially.*
Noted: Concerns raised from resident re privacy severely impacted since the installation of the play park at Spearpoint/The Ridge and in particular one piece of high furniture.
Action: Agreed clerk to talk to Ashford Borough Council as natural screening would be welcomed and the best long term solution.
- 5/23E** Terms of Reference: Committee to review Terms of Reference and propose amendments if necessary for approval at next suitable meeting of the Council.
Resolved: Agreed that with the amendment of voting 5.1 In the case of an equal vote the Chair of the Council shall have a second or casting vote change to In the case of an equal vote the Chair of the Committee shall have a second or casting vote.
Action: Agreed Councillor Chris Morley will make necessary amendment and resend to Clerk.
Action: Agreed that the Terms of Reference be added to the next Council agenda for first draft and again on the May agenda for approval and adoption at the May Council.

*18:46 Councillor Justin Armitage and one member of the public joined the meeting.
Following this item, the Chair reverted back to item 4/23E as a member of the public had arrived after the meeting had commenced.
The resident then left the meeting at 19:10.*
- 6/23E** Community Garden: Committee to discuss and consider proposals for Community Gardens at various locations (including Rectory Way, Bockhanger Flats, Dudley Road and Randolph Gardens)
Noted: Meeting 29th March had to be cancelled as ABC officials could not attend, now waiting on timings for Cllr Chris Morley to attend a rescheduled meeting week commencing 03rd April.
Action: Agreed Clerk to reschedule meeting with dates from Cllr Morley once received and with Cllr Alan Cooper, Emma Sykes (ABC) and Anthony Crossley (ABC).
Action: Agreed that proposals be put forward following the meeting to the April Council.

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Allotments: Committee to

- 1) **review Allotment Policy incorporating Allotments Tenancy Terms and Conditions and propose amendments if necessary for approval at the next suitable meeting of Council.**

Resolved: Agreed and to be added to the next Council agenda for first draft and again on the May agenda for approval and adoption at the May Council.

- 2) **receive an oral update on number of vacant plots and number of residents on waiting lists. Noted:** Details as updated by Clerk

Noted: Burton:

- Allotment plots total number on site: 56/58.
- Available plots: 2 or 3, 27a can be let but waiting on timings to meet potential tenant/next on waiting list, 28b considered unlettable and being discussed/ considered later on, point 5 on the agenda, 10c tenant to be found as unknown.
- Waiting list: 19 (10 of which have selected both sites).
- Invoices outstanding: 7-9 (2 cheques in post, 1 agreed 50 percent payment now and second before 31/07, 1 unlettable, 1 to let, 3 still chasing and 10c to be found.
- Current issues outstanding: 3, there is a plot which has been found and no reference on any mapping from ABC and Ashford Borough Council have knowledge of this plot nor a tenancy re this plot, 28b which is a shady plot, shed which causes shade and large tree adding shade and taking water from ground and being considered either at point 5 or to make this area a shared use with picnic benches and perhaps improve on site facilities with i.e. a compostable toilet, and one tenant on a 50 percent pay now and 50 percent pay later a little later option.

Noted: Bybrook

- Allotment plots on site: 17.
- Available plots: 0.
- Waiting list: 17 (10 of which have selected both sites).
- Invoices outstanding: 0.
- Current issues outstanding: 3, 1 plot needs some attention, 1 re-tenancy agreement discrepancy with ABC, and the hedge issues to the rear needs to be considered and discussed at a future date and perhaps be inserted into maintenance or other alternatives adopted.

- 3) **consider whether a separate Data Privacy statement should be agreed to cover allotment tenants and prospective tenants.**

Resolved: Agreed and to be one of first exercises new Assistant Clerk/Allotments Officer should carry out with the guidance of Clerk.

- 4) **agree that the Clerk or Allotments Officer should write to all existing tenants to confirm that the personal data we hold is in accordance with GDPR.**

Resolved: Agreed and to be one of first exercises new Assistant Clerk/Allotments Officer should carry out with guidance of Clerk.

- 5) **consider for recommendation to the Allotments subcommittee and Council proposal for Bringing an unused small allotment back into use - working with local GPs and voluntary groups to provide a temporary community facility.**

Resolved: Agreed and to be recommended to the April Council and then advised on to the next Allotments Subcommittee if agreed at Council.

Signed: *CFM*

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6) **consider any matters for referral to the Allotments Subcommittee.**

Resolved: Agreed for the Bringing unused small allotment at Burton back in to use to be put to the next meeting once agreed by Council to note it will be happening and discuss and concerns and way it will work.

Resolved: Agreed to take re resizing from perches to Square metres.

Resolved: Agreed to take for noting changes to Allotment Policy once adopted at Council.

Action: Agreed Clerk or Assistant Clerk/Allotments Officer to add all above to workflow once appointed and bring to the next agenda or next suitable meeting.

8/23E **Playgrounds/Play Area Strategy: Committee to**

1) **note an update in relation to the play area equipment at Little Burton Farm**

Noted: Update paper circulated and meeting due to take place with Ward Councillor Katy Pauley, Councillor Justin Armitage, Clerk and further supplier with supplier at 11am on Friday 31st March.

Agreed: Clerks recommendation to seek agreement from Council to add a further £5k to be ringfenced in order to allow for a budget of approx. £21k at this site.

Action: Clerk to add to April Council agenda for consideration and approval for a carry forward/ring fenced sum of an additional £5k and all current lines £10k ward grants, £5k playground improvement and £1k of carried from Kennington Forum to be merged to give a total budget of £21k.

2) **discuss and consider proposals in relation to the play area adjacent to Oak tree House, Bybrook Road**

Noted: Update paper circulated, and outstanding meeting with ABC still needs to be scheduled, currently awaiting ABC, following completion of Rylands and Spearpoint.

Action: Agreed Clerk to schedule a meeting as soon as possible to do so.

9/23E **War Memorial Restoration: Committee to receive an oral update on working with War Memorials Trust**

Noted: An oral update given by Chair of Committee and Clerk.

10/23E **Defibrillator installations: Committee to**

1) **receive an update on sites completed and ongoing management.**

Noted: Circulated paper from Clerk

2) **receive an update on plans for remaining site (Tile Kilne Road, Phone box) and any additional sites to be considered.**

Noted: Update on remaining site at Tile Kiln Road and works need to be researched for cleaning and resetting phone box for defibrillator use.

Noted: Agreed to recommended as suggested by the Clerk further site at the Ashford Bowling Club and working with developers and Bowls Club to see if this can be considered there.

Action: Agreed Clerk to continue to liaise with Bowls Club to see if they can add to the current specification if possible as well as developers as necessary re installation of defibrillator at this site.

Noted: Training at Little Burton site has been previously discussed but still waiting on landlord permission to hold outside the shops.

Action: Agreed the Clerk to contact Future Dance to see if they may be able to lend out their room for training to take place. Clerk to bring back to next suitable meeting for update/progress.

Signed: *CAF*

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- 11/23E Highway Improvement Plan: Committee to**
1) **receive an update on the arrangements for traffic survey in The Street, Ulley Road and adjacent roads as advised by Kent Highways.**
Noted: Currently awaiting invoice from Kent County Council, once paid the surveys should take place in April/May during school term time.
Action: Agreed Clerk to chase invoice and bring to April Council or next suitable meeting.
Action: Agreed Clerk to liaise with Highways to ensure surveys are carried out during school time and before term ends.
Action: Agreed Clerk to ask Highways if they would do a small presentation of findings at the next suitable meeting.
- 2) **receive an update on purchase of Speed Spy traffic recording device.**
Noted: Speed Spy has finally been ordered and awaiting now delivery, training etc.
Action: Agreed Clerk to update at the next suitable meeting.
- Also Discussed:**
Signs now received by Clerk for both 20mph and 30mph bin stickers, banners etc applied for to Kent Highways.
Action: Agreed as per Council the bin stickers be available on the Kennington Fayre day with a bin if possible stickered up if not two to get there to advertise available here today. A list can be taken of anyone else wanting on if stocks used and then ordered post Fayre or approach Kent County Council to see if more are available.
Action: Agreed Clerk to make contact with Phoenix school reference 20mph one to see if the will put up for a short period.
Action: Agreed Clerk to make contact with resident on Faversham road who has been experiencing significant impact of those speeding over the 30mph limit.
Action: Agreed Councillors to consider alternative locations for both 30 and 20 mph banners post initial sites used.
- 12/23E Greens and Open Spaces: Committee to**
1) **to receive an oral update on the Town Green Application to Register Land At Kennington as a New Village Green (VGA684).**
Noted: Oral update given and received.
Action: Agreed Clerk to add to April Council meeting for oral update.
- 13/23E Kennington Coffee and Chat (previously Pop-up Café) – The Spearpoint Pavilion, The Ridge: Committee to receive an update re the recent meetings**
Noted: Circulated document from the Clerk.
Action: Agreed Clerk to continue to work with residents attending to see how this can be taken on for residents running within the next three to four months.
- 14/23E Benches - To consider a request from a resident re a commemorative bench**
Noted: Clerks update from ABC that they would like to wait for a period of time following the installation of the park area at the Ridge/Spearpoint to allow for issues from this to be resolved before further additions are added.
Action: Agreed Clerk to diarise for contacting ABC in September to see if ABC can now consider.
- 15/23E Planting schemes: Committee to note updates on**
1) **Daffodils planting scheme 2022/23 and to consider a scheme for 2023/24**
Noted: Update circulated from Clerk, on this year's planting ad issues due to bad weather and consideration for next year's planting.
Agreed: Planting for 2023/24 to be recommended to Council.
Action: Agreed Clerk to add to April Council agenda as a recommendation from the Environment and Open Spaces Committee.

Signed:

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2) Southern Water Wastewater treatment works Trees at Outfall request.

Noted: Update from Clerk

Action: Agreed the Clerk to continue liaising with Southern Water and update at the next suitable meeting.

3) Coronation Tree to commemorate the Coronation of HM Charles III.

Noted: Planted and discussed unveiling, decision for the Chair of Council to unveil this year at the Kennington Fayre as Mayor did so last year.

Action: Agreed Cllr Morley with Clerk to arrange suitable ribbons etc for the Fayre for ribbon cutting.

16/23E Summer in the Square programme at Bockhanger Square: Committee to consider in outline whether to hold a similar programme in 2023

Discussed: Agreed to recommend to Council to explore options with the Clerk in order to bring to the soonest Council meeting ideally May for discussion and Council decision.

Action: Agreed Clerk to add to April Council agenda

**17/23E Bockhanger Square Litter pick / Big Tidy completion event: Committee to
2) consider a date to complete what we started last year and were unable to complete in August for both the weeding, litter picking and completing the painting of the concrete balls**

Discussed: Agreed to recommend to Council from this committee to setting week commencing 14/08 for the date to complete the weeding, litter picking and the painting of the concrete balls started last year and potentially being conjoined with the Summer in the Square programme at Bockhanger Square 2023 Working Group.

Action: Agreed Clerk to add to April Council agenda.

18/23E Date of next meeting. TBC No meeting date was set, but a meeting will need to be set up for all committees post May meeting.

19/23E To exclude the public under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and sections 100 & 102 of the Local Government Act 1972.

No members of the public were present when this item was reached.

20/23E War Memorial Restoration: Committee to discuss and consider tender process and single tender waiver process for potential professional services.

Agreed: Recommendation to be put to April Council for a £3k budget spend for the professional services required for the restoration to happen.

Action: Agreed Clerk to add to Council's April agenda.

21/23E Close of meeting. The meeting closed at 21:22.

Signed:

OK Morley

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