



SHAFTESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**RECREATION, OPEN SPACES AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a meeting of the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee held in the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, High Street, Shaftesbury Dorset SP7 8LY on Tuesday 14th April 2015 commencing at 6:00pm.

Members Present:

Cllr K Tippins (Chair)
Cllr W Harvey
Cllr R Tippins

Cllr S Clinch
Cllr M Hicks

Absent:

Cllr M Madgwick (apologies)

Officers Present:

Claire Commons, Committee Services Officer
Stephen Holley, Town Clerk

In Attendance:

Two members of the public

MINUTES

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were invited to make representations to the committee on any matters relating to the work of the committee or to raise any issues of concern. There were no matters raised.

01. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Madgwick, who was absent due to personal commitments.

02. Declaration of Interests

Members and Officers were reminded of their duty to declare any known interests in any matter to be considered. Cllr Hicks declared that he was acquainted with the applicant in respect of tree application 2/2015/0430/CATREE and one of the tree surgeons in agenda item 05.

03. Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the minutes of the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee meeting held on 3rd March 2015. The minutes were duly signed.

04. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported on the following areas;

- That Breach Common Right of Way pathways had recently been cleared of brambles and overhanging foliage by 1.5 metres by the Dorset Countryside Rangers on behalf of Dorset County Council. It was reported that thanks had been received in the Office by members of the public and **AGREED** to forward these to the Rangers.
- That the Council's part-time Gardener would be leaving at the end of April 2015 and a post would be advertised shortly for a replacement Grounds person.
- That the Council was currently looking for a ceramic artist to help replace the mosaic tiles at the shelter on Park Walk.

05. Tree Applications

The Officer's report 0315/ROSE/05 was received. The Committee **RESOLVED** to submit the following observations to North Dorset District Council:

Reference	Applicant and address	Detail	Tree Surgeon
2/2015/0388/CATREE	Mrs P Chapman, 14 Well Lane	T1 - Goat Willow - Pollard back to previous pruning points T2 - Plum - Fell	David Harness
Shaftesbury Tree Group Comments	We can't see these trees well enough from the road and are unable to assess their size or condition, so we cannot make a comment. We hope that the orchard trees that are to be felled will be replaced, and that the variety of the plum trees to be cut down are known in case they are locally rare. Plum can be safely pruned from June to August (silver leaf spores are active the rest of the time - not a friend to plums). Apples should be pruned in winter or alternatively summer.		
Committee Comments	The Committee requested that the applicant be asked why T2, T5 and T6 required felling. In addition, they wished to know what the variety of plums were and whether they were being replaced. The Committee had no objections to T1, T3, T4 and T7		
2/2015/0430/CATREE	Mrs L Madgwick, 50/52 Bimport	T1 - Hawthorn - Coppice, cut back to all main stem bases leaving 300 - 450mm for regeneration, 85% total crown to be removed	Unknown
Shaftesbury Tree Group Comments	We have no objection to this hedgerow being pruned.		
Committee Comments	The Committee had no objection to the application		
2/2015/0430/CATREE	Mrs K MacDonald, 16 French Mill Lane	T1 - Yew Bush - Reduce to 6ft T2 & T3 - Cherry - Crown lift to approx. 5m T4 - Holly - Reduce by 3m T5 - Goat Willow - Fell G1 - Group of Hazel and Elder - Re-coppice	Treewise

Reference	Applicant and address	Detail	Tree Surgeon
Shaftesbury Tree Group Comments	These trees are not visible from the road, but the proposals do not seem unreasonable.		
Committee Comments	The Committee had no objection to the application		
2/2015/0495/CATREE	Mr Allen, Greenhill, Umbers Hill	T1 - Holly - Crown raise over private footpath (south west side) by 2.5m T2 - Maple - Reduce to previous pruning points by approx. 1.5m	Mr N Baxter
Shaftesbury Tree Group Comments	Again, we were unable to locate these two trees, but the proposals do not seem unreasonable.		
Committee Comments	The Committee had no objection to the application		

06. Update Report

The Officer Report 0415/ROSE/06 was received and noted. The Clerk reported that he would not be requesting an aerial survey to be carried out on the trees on Tout Hill as he had received advice from three experienced arboriculturists.

It was confirmed that the new allotment site on the A30 would be transferred to Shaftesbury Town Council as a Freehold.

07. Queen Mothers Garden

The Officer Report 0415/ROSE/07 was received and noted. It was recommended that care be taken in selecting the appropriate time for planting to ensure that they were sufficiently watered and to also carry out substantial weeding of the area prior to planting.

08. Grassed Area in Coppice Street

The Officer Report 0415/ROSE/08 was received. The Clerk updated the Committee that following a meeting with North Dorset District Council, he understood that there were plans from Dorset County Council for parts of Coppice Street to be pedestrianised and that the Committee should consider whether the works contained within report 0415/ROSE/08 could be met as part of the County Council's delivery of enhancement in that area. The Committee considered that the project to improve the grassed area in Coppice Street was urgent and it was:

RESOLVED to allocate up to £1,000 to improvement of that area. (*Policy 0415/ROSE/08*)
(*Financial Implication - £1,000*)

09. Shaston Super Sunday

The Officer Report 0415/ROSE/09 was received and noted. It was **AGREED** to support BHR Event Solutions in their vision for Shaston Super Sunday monthly market.

10. Open Spaces Standards

The Officer Report 0415/ROSE/10 was received. It was **AGREED** that the report form the basis of a comprehensive Grounds Management Plan to be created by the Head Groundsman.

11. Read Easy

The Officer Report 0415/ROSE/11 was received. It was:

RESOLVED to grant Read Easy free use of the Guildhall or Council Chamber on occasional Wednesdays during the day, not to the detriment of any paid booking request and subject to review annually. (*Policy 0415/ROSE/11*)

12. Correspondence

There was none.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members and public for attendance and closed the meeting at 6:47pm.

Signed

Date