

Minutes of Commons and Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 2nd March 2023 at 7.30pm, in the Conference Room at Redbourn Parish Centre.

Present: Cllrs C O'Donovan (Chair), T Finnigan (V Chair), D Bigham, V Mead, D Mitchell, S Withers, D Smith

In Attendance: C Kenny (Clerk)
Representative from Wild about Redbourn
Representative from

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from:
Cllrs I Caldwell, S Vegro

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Caldwell – Friends of Nickey Line (CM)
Cllr Bigham – Community Care Group (CM), Village Hall (M)
Cllr Mead – The Museum (T), Active in Redbourn (M) Redbourn in Bloom (CM)
Cllr Mitchell – District Councillor, Community Group (M)
Cllr Finnigan – Classics on the Common (CM), Friends of High Street (CM)
Cllr Vegro – Active in Redbourn (CM), U3A (T)
Cllr Mitchell – District Councillor, Community Care Group (M)

Cllr Mead item 9

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Item 13 brought fwd

WILD ABOUT REDBOURN

To consider a request for 4x4m area of land on the Common to use as a community dry garden

Volunteers from Wild about Redbourn addressed the meeting, presenting their ideas on creating an area to be used for a community dry garden, that would be an educational resource for residents. The plan is to engage with residents by asking for items they need to start rather than sourcing from new. So they will put out an initial appeal via Facebook for gravel, pallets and plants. The allotment association have offered an allotment plot for their use and the School are also keen to be involved.

Cllrs accepted that we need to start adapting the way we manage the Common.

It was proposed, seconded and resolved that:

In principle Councillors agree to allocating a 4x4m area of the Common for the purposes of a dry garden to be used and managed by Wild about Redbourn.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a site visit with Cllrs O'Donovan, Bigham and Mead to decide on the best possible area of the Common to use.

Item 12 brought fwd

COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY REPORT

To review the outcome of the report and how to progress this matter

The Facilities Officer expressed her frustration with the Countryside Management and Rights of Way team and their performance in compiling a grounds maintenance action plan. Having completed it a year late, they have still not responded to queries, as the Plan has not evolved or moved with the times.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

RPC withdraw from working with Countryside Management and Rights of Way team due to their failure to deliver on the project despite our best efforts, allowing us to approach another supplier.

Item 9 brought fwd

REDBOURN IN BLOOM

To consider a request from RinB to install signage boards at the entrances to the village, that can be used by all organisations

Representative of RinB asked Cllrs to consider letting them install signage display boards at the three entrances to the village. The idea would be that all organisations in the village would have access to this resource. It will be a permanent structure that will have interchangeable display boards. They would source a printer which all would use so that the sizing and look are the same. Funding would come through sponsorship and the idea is that Parish Council would maintain and co-ordinate the requests for usage.

Cllrs liked the idea in principle and would support RinB in their aim. Permission would need to be sought from the landowner, HCC, and also planning permission granted by SADC.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

In principle, RPC agree to the signage given that RinB will finance the original investment. RPC will take responsibility for the maintenance and usage moving forward

Item 11 brought fwd

SCOUT HUT

To receive and discuss report from the Scouts regarding the Scout Hut

A representative from the Scouts explained the problems they are experiencing with asbestos. It has been an ongoing problem which they have been monitoring. However, due to the snow fall at the end of 2022 where the snow laid for a week or so, it has penetrated the roof and caused further deterioration. It is mainly the middle section of the second garage which is of concern.

The long term plan has always to been to rebuild the garages and hut and the hope was that the roof would last until they were in a position to start this project. Therefore, the hope is that they can do a temporary fix which will last long enough until this time. If it is left too long to do this quick fix, the stock of equipment will start getting damaged.

ACTION: Add this item to Full Council.

ACTION: Scouts to obtain two more quotes that we can present to Full Council

4 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Posts on Blackhorse Lane – Cllr Smith
Debris on Bypass – Cllr Finnigan

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***The minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2023 are adopted
as a true record of the meeting***

6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

Item 8.3 – New Forge place are happy to pair up with U3A on this project but the Clerk has not to date, had a response from U3A.

7 FINANCE

7.1 To receive the finance report on Commons expenditure

The Clerk presented the finance report.

It was highlighted that we had not been invoiced for the information board as yet.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***The Commons Income and Expenditure reported dated 2nd March 2023
for the month of February be received***

8 REDBOURN COMMON

8.1 To receive an update on Common repairs

Remedial repairs have been made to the main car park on the Common. Repairs are required to the verges of the Common in various places and these will be done when weather conditions are more suitable.

8.2 To consider a request for a memorial bench for Mr and Mrs Cooper

Cllrs considered the request for a memorial bench and scored as per the criteria.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***RPC will give permission for a memorial bench for Mr and Mrs Cooper
be installed. Due to the location requested, the request will go on a waiting
list until such time as a same becomes available.***

8.3 To consider a request for a memorial bench for Christine Wheatley

Cllrs considered the request for a memorial bench and scored as per the criteria.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

***RPC give permission for a memorial bench for Christine Wheatley be
installed by The Moor.***

8.4 To consider a request for use of land for Folk on the Common

Cllrs considered the request to host Folk on the Common event on the Common

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

RPC grant permission for the Common to be used to host Folk on the Common on 9th September 2023

8.5 To consider a request for use of land for Classics on Common

Cllrs considered the request to host Classics on Common event on the Common

RPC grant permission for the common to be used to host Classics on the Common on 2nd September 2023

8.6 To consider a request for use of land from Redbourn Porsche Owners Club meets

Cllrs considered the request to host Redbourn Porsche Owners Club meets on the Common

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

RPC grant permission for the overflow car park on the Common be used to host Redbourn Porsche Owner club meets, once a month from May to September

8.7 To agree to hosting a Fun Fair on the Common during the Coronation weekend

Cllrs discussed the fun fair coming to the Village on coronation weekend. Since the agenda had been issues, they had also requested coming on 19th – 27th March.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

RPC grant permission for the Fun Fair to have use of the Common during coronation weekend and March 19-27th March

9 REDBOURN IN BLOOM

To consider a request from RinB to install permanent signage boards at the entrances to the Village, that can be used by all organisations

This item was moved fwd

10 FLAMSTEADBURY PLAY AREA LEASE

To agree and sign the lease for Flamsteadbury Play area

Having discussed the heads of terms previously, the new lease agreement was discussed.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

Cllrs agreed to the terms of the new lease for Flamsteadbury Play area and that Cllr Mitchell (chair of RPC) and Cllr O'Donovan (Vice chair of RPC) execute the lease as per Standing Order 22.

- 11 **SCOUT HUT**
To receive the outcome of the report and how to progress this matter
This item was moved fwd

- 12 **COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY REPORT**
To review the outcome of the report and how to progress this matter
This item was moved fwd

- 13 **WILD ABOUT REDBOURN**
To consider a request for 4x4m area of land on the Common to use as a community dry garden
This item was moved fwd

- 14 **THE BIG VOLUNTEER DAY**
To discuss and consider a volunteer event to run on 8th May as part of the Coronation weekend
The Clerk reported Officers were moving ahead on plans to hold a 'big pick' on 8th May, the idea to engage with as many residents as possible to come together on this day and take part in a community litter pick. She requested some funds to buy litter pickers, if required.

It was proposed by the Chair and resolved that:

£200 maximum be allocated to purchase litter pickers for the purposes of the 'Big Pick' event

- 15. **MATTERS TO REPORT**
Blackhorse Lane – Cllr Smith questioned if it was allowed that residents permanently fix bollards into the grass verges.
ACTION: DS to send picture to Clerk who will report to Highways

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date is Thursday, 27th April 2023 at 7.30pm, in the Conference Room at Redbourn Parish Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chair Date