

**REPORT OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2012**

**MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE**

- Chairman:** \* Mrs M Jarrett
- Councillors** \* Mrs W Boatman  
\* T Edwards  
\* N Eve  
\* Mrs A Hayward (ex officio)  
\* Mrs A Preedy  
\* Mrs L Sutherland (ex officio)  
\* S Watkins  
\* Mrs J Worrall

\*Denotes members present

There was one member of the public present.

**11/109 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**11/110 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest:

**11/111 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The Committee  
RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012 and the Minutes of the Open Spaces Extraordinary Meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2012 be approved as a true and correct record.

**11/112 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Play Area in Chorleywood** – Members were advised that at a recent Chiltern Open Air Museum meeting the attendees had been advised that four items of play equipment had been purchased at a cost of £56K but noted that the costs had been met through grant funding. The question of whether TRDC had yet approved and set aside the money for the proposed play area in Chorleywood was raised but Members were advised that the information was not yet available. Submission of the report to TRDC of the Play Area Advisory Committee was questioned and it was confirmed that this had not yet been sent but would be sent shortly.

**Grazing** – Appreciation was voiced for all those who had attended the recent walkabout of the Common to raise greater awareness of the reasons for grazing on the Common and proposals on the way forward. This had been arranged for those who had voiced objections to the grazing although on the day some in favour of the grazing had also turned up. Particular thanks were expressed to the Chairman Cllr Mrs Hayward for her support and management of the public on the day. Members were advised that a further walkabout for those in favour of the grazing was being arranged for the 15<sup>th</sup> March which would

have a similar approach. This would then be followed by consultation with interested parties. In response to a request for feedback on the day it was felt that some misunderstandings had been cleared up with a few requesting that their names be removed from the petition that had been submitted to the Council at the time of the Section 38 Application to DEFRA last year. It was however clear that there was still much misinformation in the community about the proposals which might be partly addressed by an article in the next edition of Chorleywood Matters. It was confirmed that there was no further information at this stage on the costs of temporary fencing.

**Project Updates-** Members were advised that the Common Management Plan had now been updated and was being proof read, when this had been completed it would be sent off to the printers.

**11/89 Request from Veolia Water for a Borehole to be placed on the Common and 11/90 Entrance to the Paddocks** – clarification was sought on progress of the two resolutions with the Council’s Legal representative and Members were advised that nothing had yet been received on either of these two subjects.

### **11/113 FINANCIAL COMPARISON STATEMENT 2010/11**

The Committee  
RESOLVED  
To note the statement.

### **COMMON & GROVEWOOD**

#### **11/114 REPORT OF THE PARISH RANGER**

The Chairman thanked the Rangers for the usual detailed and comprehensive report. Members were advised that the Cricket Club were not happy with the work that had been done on the French drain to alleviate the problem of flooding as it had just moved the problem further round the Cricket Pavilion. It would be looked at again when it rains.

The Committee  
RESOLVED  
To note the report

#### **11/115 ORAL HISTORY OF THE COMMON**

There was some concern over how the Parish Council could give permission for someone to approach people for the purposes of collecting oral histories of the Common from local residents. It was however felt that Members may be able to help with suggestions of some people to approach and it could be mentioned in Chorleywood Matters. Cllr Mrs Jarrett would find out more from the Chilterns Conservation Board at a forthcoming meeting.

The Committee  
RESOLVED  
To note the report

#### **11/116 DOG BINS ON CHORLEYWOOD COMMON**

Members were advised of a new contractor that had been found for emptying the Dog Bins at a considerable saving over the current contractor. This would more than offset the cost of emptying the extra two bins being offered for purchase by Chorleywood Residents Association and the extra dog bags that were now being used.

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the Clerk convey the Council's appreciation of this offer to the Residents Association which will be taken up.

This was proposed by Cllr Mrs Sutherland, seconded by Cllr Edwards and carried unanimously.

#### **11/117 ICE CREAM CONCESSION ON THE COMMON**

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the tender from Company B for a seven day licence be accepted.

This was proposed by Cllr Eve, seconded by Cllr Mrs Boatman and unanimously agreed.

#### **ALLOTMENTS**

##### **11/118 OCCUPATION**

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the occupation of the allotments.

##### **11/119 WAITING LISTS**

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the report.

#### **LAWN CEMETERY**

##### **11/120 INTERMENTS**

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the Report.

##### **11/121 ALLOTMENTS AND CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The Committee

RESOLVED

To note the report

#### **PARISH PATHS**

**11/122** The Committee noted the current position on the Parish path signage. The meeting was advised that Herts CC were apparently awaiting a response from the Parish Council with respect to the footpath across Warings Field. Officers advised that a response had been sent at the time, thought to be around the same time in the previous year but that the correspondence would be re-sent if required.

#### **GENERAL**

**11/123 FOUR YEAR VISION**

The following items were proposed for the Open Spaces contribution to the Council’s Four Year vision:

- Hollybush Hall change of use to a Field Centre
- Butterfly Survey – suggestion that a group of volunteers be sought to be trained by Mr Bill Cattle who has undertaken these invaluable surveys for a considerable number of years. Mr Greg Hill advised that he would raise this at the forthcoming meeting of Friends of Chorleywood Common.  
It was suggested that a gesture of thanks be made to Mr Cattle for his contribution and support to the Council by undertaking these surveys over the years.
- Establish a ten year calendar of surveys to be undertaken on the Common
- Investigation of an informal leisure trail on the Common
- Allotment water harvesting

Another suggestion that funding for all these initiatives would need to be investigated as it was felt that there was a lot of funding that might be possible to be accessed, would be raised at the Policy and Resources Committee.

The Committee  
RESOLVED

To forward the five items proposed as the contribution from the Open Spaces Committee for consideration at the next Full Council meeting.

This was proposed by Cllr Mrs Jarrett from the Chair and carried unanimously

**11/124 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT**

There was nothing to report.

**11/125 REQUEST FOR A FARMERS MARKET ON THE COMMON**

A request had been received by the Clerk that morning for permission to hold a Farmers Market on the Common. It had been introduced as a one off event to encourage people to use local suppliers and an impressive list of suppliers was read out. The issues with holding such an event on the Common were discussed and an overall view reached that it would create a number of problems to have such an event on the Common eg insufficient space for the proposed number of stalls and parking for stall holders and customers, access, damage to the Common, highway danger etc and permission should therefore not be granted. An alternative of holding the market in the War Memorial Hall was suggested which would be put to the person wishing to hold the event

**11/126 CLOSURE**

The meeting having commenced at 8 pm closed at 9.17 pm.

Signed ...*Cllr Mrs Jarrett agreed by email*..... Date  
.....20/03/2012.....

These minutes were agreed as a true and correct record at the Open Spaces meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Signed..... Date.....