

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES AND PLAY PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD IN COLBURN VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024**  
**AT 5.30 PM**

Present:

**Chair:** Cllr Miles Burnham

**Councillors:** **Vice Chair** Cllr Michelle Dunning, Cllr Andrea Crowe,  
Cllr Wayne Garbutt.

1. **APOLOGIES RECEIVED** Cllr Angie Dale, Cllr Akuila Tutora & Deputy Clerk  
Angie Pickersgill  
Barry Robertson.

2. **“DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS”** – None

3. **GROUNDSMAN REPORT**

**Jobs Done**

Litter picked all parks. All litter bins emptied. Litter picked Colburn Sidings woods and cleared paths in the woods. Checked the 3 bins on the A1636, emptied bin at White Shops. Cleared woods on A6136 checked areas were clear of litter and tidy Piper Hill, Bridge Close, Albermarle, A6136, Chestnut Avenue & Colburn Village

**Other jobs completed**

**Have finished off the jet washing and spent 3 days clearing and cleaning Grange Park. A big job but it now looks fantastic and ready for the summer, also cleaned and treated the balance bars in Chase 1 and removed and re-greased the gates in Chase 1 and replaced them.**

4. **RAISED BEDS AT BROADWAY**

Cllr Crowe reported that the beds were an ongoing process. In the summer, a large working party consisting of all Cllrs and members of the public was needed for some digging, weeding and planting.

5. **PLANTER SPONSORSHIP**

All planters are now sponsored and the details have been sent to the printer. The plaque labels will be changed over at the end of March. Invoices are due to be sent out this week for the sponsorships.

*Angie*  
*18/3/24*

## **6. LITTER PICK DATES**

The litter picks will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, 6<sup>th</sup> April 20 April, 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> May meeting at the Village Hall. All will be advertised on the Colburn Clean-up Crew FB page and Town Council FB page as normal. New litter pickers have been purchased and are now being used. Cllr Dunning reported that she had being asked by a volunteer, if bin bag rings could be purchased to be used on the litter picks. Cllr Crowe suggested that the office contacts NYC to ask if they would be able to fund some rings for the litter picks, before we look at purchasing them. Prices on Amazon range £7 - £10 each.

## **7. BIODIVERSITY POLICY & ACTION PLAN**

The Town Council had ratified the biodiversity policy and action plan. It is a live document and can be changed or added to at any time. It will be reviewed annually in January.

## **8. GARDENING COMPETITION DATE**

A discussion took place regarding the gardening competition date. The date suggested by Cllr Burnham was Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. He told the committee that this date would fit in better for councillors and residents who want to attend, and we are then not clashing with the Colburn Reunion event which is on 6<sup>th</sup> July. It was **RESOLVED** that the competition should be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> June and the categories and judges will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **9. COLBURN DRIVE GREEN**

Two Cllrs spoke to the resident who is damaging the grass while they were inspecting the area, he was asked to remove the flag stones and pallets which he had also put on the green. The resident has now moved the flags etc, he was also asked if he would reverse into his drive to avoid causing further damage to the green. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the committee decided that an official letter should be sent to the resident, asking if he wishes to repair the damage himself, or would prefer the council to carry out the work at his expense.

## **10. LAND TRUST & BUGLIFE MEETING**

Some members of the Open Spaces committee met with Ian Kendal from the Land Trust and Rachel and Jamie from Bug Life. They would like to extend our wild flower planting area. They will provide the seed and budget for the ground work.

Rachel suggests

Leave 1-1.5m cut short on the roadside and 1-1.5m on the pavement side of the verge and convert the rest the central area to a wider wildflower strip so at the widest part it would be 5m and narrowest would be 2m. Only a shallow scarifying as ground prep where the daffodils are to avoid disturbing them. Then, they would then flower in Spring before the wild flowers. She can look in to seed mixes and can order the seed and cover the cost of them too. She will also have some budget for the ground prep but would like to receive some quotes.

18/3/24  
Cllr

She will not start organising habitat work before April, the work to take place in the autumn. So, for now the focus is on deciding the area we are all happy to work on.

The Council would need to sign a 10-year management agreement, it's not legally binding but something to indicate that you agree to continue managing the site as we have discussed with an annual cut and collect in order to allow plants to flower.

I have asked Rachel and Jamie if they would visit us again and all Cllrs would be welcome to come along and the office would ask the groundsman to attend as it is vital he knows what is happening.

#### **11. HORSES DAMAGING GRASSED AREA.**

Cllr Garbutt reported horses and their riders using the grassed area within the Chase. He witnessed young riders veering off the bridle path to go and speak to other residents near to the play parks. It has been asked for the bridle paths to be made more noticeable, perhaps with signage, within the area and to speak to the horse owners. The clerk has spoken to the livery owners, and they will talk to their users to advise they must stick to the bridle path. Further action would need to be taken by the land owners as this is not CTC land.

#### **12. REPLACEMENT DEFIBRILLATOR**

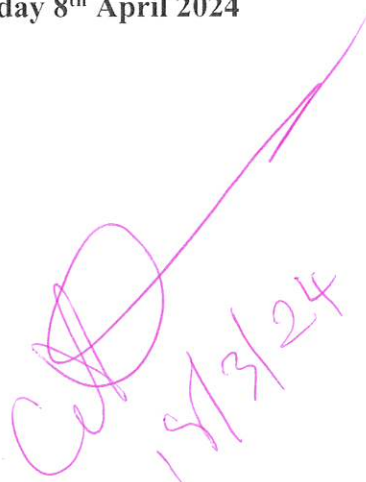
The deputy clerk had reported that the Defibrillator cabinet at the Sports Centre needs to be replaced, it has been repaired a number of times but now the door will no longer close. It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee recommend that a new cabinet is ordered at a cost of £490.74.

#### **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**Date of next meeting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Meeting closed at 6.05pm.

  
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