

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee

held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council

1900hrs on Tuesday 4th of July 2023

Present: Councillors Dave Somers (Deputy Mayor), Simon Budd and Bobbie Sunderland.

Absent: None.

In attendance: Committee Clerk, Richard Hull.

Apologies: Councillors Alka Mehta-Graham and Pat Morgan.

Public: None.

Notes: The meeting began at 1900hrs. All resolutions are passed with a majority vote, by a show of hands, unless otherwise stated.

OS_2023.013 Welcome and Introductions.

Cllr Dave Somers welcomed everyone present at the meeting and explained the emergency procedures.

OS_2023.014 Declaration of interest – Localism Act 2011.

Minutes: Cllr Dave Somers reminded members of the requirement to declare an interest.

OS_2023.015 To receive representations from the press and public.

Minutes: No members of the press or public were present.

OS_2023.016 Minutes.

Motion: It was moved by Cllr Dave Somers, supported by Cllr Simon Budd, and resolved that;

Resolved: The *Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on the 30th of May 2023*, copies having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

Minutes: The minutes were signed at the meeting by Cllr Dave Somers.

OS_2023.017 Outstanding items.

Minutes: At the invitation of the Deputy Mayor, the Committee Clerk delivered a summary of the work undertaken as a result of the resolutions and action points from the previous meetings. Details can be found in the *Committee Clerk's Report* at Annex A.

OS_2023.018 Correspondence.

Item 1: An inquiry from a resident of Meadgate about land to the rear of their property.

Motion: It was moved by Cllr Dave Somers, supported by Cllr Bobbie Sunderland, and resolved that;

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee approves the email to a resident of Meadgate, copies having been circulated.

Items 2 & 3: Emails from two tenants about alleged thefts from the allotments.

Minutes: Members noted the emails and will consider whether to bring a motion to a subsequent Open Spaces Committee meeting.

OS_2023.019 South Gloucestershire Council maintenance work.

Minutes: Members reviewed the maintenance work that SGC had completed during an allocated week in the summer of 2022. Members noted that SGC are able to do further works this year. Suggestions were made for clearing the path alongside Mangotsfield Primary School and the path alongside the Vinney Green Children's Home.

Action: The Committee Clerk will email members asking for further suggestions for maintenance work and will prioritise the list before sending to SGC.

OS_2023.020 Dates and timings.

Minutes: Cllr Dave Somers announced that the next meeting of the Open Spaces Committee was scheduled to take place:

Tuesday the 5th of September at 1900hrs in the Emersons Green Town Council Chamber.

Finally, Cllr Dave Somers concluded the formal business of the meeting at 1958 hrs, and announced that an informal 'roundtable' discussion would take place afterward.



EMERSONS GREEN
TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT OF:	Committee Clerk
TO:	OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
REPORT DATE:	30th of June 2023

Contact Details:	Richard Hull
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COMMITTEE CLERK'S REPORT

<p>PURPOSE OF REPORT</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with official advice and recommendations from the Town Councils proper officer for the following meeting:</p> <p>Open Spaces Committee, The Council Chamber of Emersons Green Town Council, 4th of July 2023 commencing at 1900hrs.</p>

AGENDA ITEM: OS 2023.017 Outstanding Items.

To report that:

- Some of the Open Spaces committee Councillors met with Dan Marchant, SGC, and his colleague, to consider options for the car park at the allotments. The Committee Clerk has sent them a reminder to provide their thoughts / quote.
- Signs to replace ones with MRPC have been received and will be installed at Green Lane and Rodway common.
- The Committee Clerk is still to register the Town Council's ownership of the land at the East side of the allotments with HM Land Registry.
- The Committee Clerk is still to commission the procurement and installation of recycled plastic bollards and a retractable metal post at Vinney Green Common.
- An allotments site visit will be arranged for members to consider a location for a compostable toilet.

Annex A

- An email has been sent to Vinney Green Children’s Home to decline the offer of the exercise equipment.
- The Committee Clerk will organise the allotments evening to take place on the 17th of October.
- The Committee Clerk organised a review of the unsatisfactory plots on 6th of June and the tenants concerned have been told to improve their plots. The allotment judging has been arranged for the 11th of July.

AGENDA ITEM: OS 2023.018 Correspondence.

LEGAL POWER OR DUTY TO ACT

- Standing Order 15x.

RECOMMENDATIONS, CONDITIONS, AND OTHER CONTROLS

- Item 1; Resolve that: “The Open Spaces committee approves the email to a resident of Meadgate, copies having been circulated.”
- Items 2 & 3; The Committee considers the correspondence from two allotment tenants and members can consider whether to bring a motion to a subsequent Open Spaces Committee meeting.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- Item 1; The Town Council does not have any current plans for the land to the rear of Meadgate.
- Items 2 & 3; To comply with Standing Order 15x.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS & RISKS

None.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

None.

AGENDA ITEM: OS 2023.019 SGC MAINTENANCE WORK.

LEGAL POWER OR DUTY TO ACT

This will depend whether the works are on land owned by SGC or by the Town Council

- Inclosure Act 1845.
- Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, s.34.

RECOMMENDATIONS, CONDITIONS, AND OTHER CONTROLS

The Committee agrees a list of maintenance work to be completed by SGC.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

To meet Corporate Priority 1.

“Improve the management and maintenance of the parks & open spaces managed by the Council.”

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS & RISKS

None.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

This will depend on what works the Committee agrees but climate change impact will need to be considered.