

## **Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee**

**held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council,**

**19:00hrs on Thursday 3rd of April 2025.**

**Present:** Councillors Bobbie Sunderland (Chair), Simon Budd, Abi Cohen and Kelly Allen.

**Absent:** Councillors Eli Akatwijuka, Andrej Turk and Daryl Hembrough.

**In attendance:** Committee Clerk, Paul Kearsley.

**Apologies:** Councillors Rosemary Shakespeare and Lynne Paraskeva

**Public:** Three members of the public were present.

**Notes:** The meeting began at 19:00hrs. All resolutions are passed with a majority vote, by a show of hands, unless otherwise stated.

### **OS\_2024.102 Welcome and Introductions.**

**Minutes:** Cllr Bobbie Sunderland welcomed everyone present at the meeting and explained the emergency procedures.

### **OS\_2024.103 Declaration of Interest – Localism Act 2011.**

**Minutes:** Cllr Bobbie Sunderland reminded members of the requirement to declare an interest.

### **OS\_2024.104 Public Participation.**

**Minutes:** Members of the public made representation regarding the current circus and the request for a further funfair. Councillors acknowledged the concerns raised.

**Notes:** Councillors chose to discuss agenda item **OS\_2024.108** next.

**OS\_2024.108 Coles Funfair.**

A brief discussion took place regarding the request for a funfair including the impacts to the common land as well as the local community.

**Resolved:** The Open Spaces Committee decided not to approve the current request, believing that one large event per season is sufficient for the site. Councillors expressed a willingness to consider a request for next year, but they noted that a site visit would be beneficial as part of the process. Since a fair last used the site, multiple trees have been planted, significantly reducing the available space.

**Notes:** The members of the public left the meeting and Councillors chose to discuss agenda item **OS\_2024.105** next.

**OS\_2024.105 Minutes.**

**Motion:** It was moved by Cllr Bobbie Sunderland, supported by Cllr Kelly Allen, and resolved that:

**Resolved:** The *Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting on **6th of March 2025***, copies having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The minutes were signed at the meeting by Cllr Bobbie Sunderland.

**OS\_2024.106 Outstanding items.**

At the invitation of the Chair, the Committee Clerk circulated a summary of the work undertaken as a result of the resolutions and action points from the previous meetings.

**OS\_2024.107 Correspondence.**

Correspondence and responses were noted by the Committee.

**OS\_2024.109 Summer Maintenance.**

A brief discussion took place comparing the four, redacted quotes, received for the Summer Maintenance work.

**Resolved:** The Open Spaces Committee delegates authority to the Committee Clerk to accept quotation number three for a total annual cost of £2,500+vat. Company three was *Town and Country Assets and Services*.

#### **OS\_2024.110 Lyde Green Wildlife Corridor**

A brief discussion took place regarding the current litter problem, the locations for signs, as well as the size and design.

**Resolved:** The Open Spaces Committee delegates authority to the Committee Clerk to bring the costs of 2 x A3 signs along with possible designs to a subsequent meeting. The locations agreed were <https://what3words.com/sushi.hills.rested> and <https://what3words.com/saying.risen.paid>

#### **OS\_2024.111 Richmond Road Parking**

A brief discussion was had regarding the area of common land and the section that is gravelled with a dropped kerb.

**Resolved:** The Open Spaces Committee requests that the Committee Clerk investigate the ownership of the section in question and bring this back to a subsequent meeting.

#### **OS\_2024.112 Emersons Way Planters**

A brief discussion was had regarding the Town Council owned planters and the importance of keeping these looking good seasonally.

**Resolved:** The Open Spaces Committee delegates authority to the Committee Clerk to purchase the bedding plants within a budget of £200 and to refresh the paint on the planters. The planting will be completed by the Friends of Emersons Green Park.

#### **OS\_2024.113 Dates and timings.**

Cllr Bobbie Sunderland announced that the next meeting of the Open Spaces Committee was scheduled to take place:

On 8th of May 2025 at 19:00hrs in the Emersons Green Town Council Chamber.

Cllr Bobbie Sunderland concluded the formal business of the meeting at 20:34hrs, and announced that an informal 'roundtable' discussion would take place afterward.