

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council,
19:00hrs on Thursday 3rd of July 2025.

Present: Councillors Abi Cohen, Kelly Allen, Lynne Paraskeva and Simon Budd.

Absent: Councillors Eli Akatwijuka and Daryl Hembrough.

In attendance: Committee Clerk, Paul Kearsley.

Apologies: Councillors Andrej Turk and Bobbie Sunderland.

Public: None.

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

OS_2025.026 Welcome and Introductions.

Minutes: Cllr Abi Cohen welcomed everyone present at the meeting and explained the emergency procedures.

OS_2025.027 Declaration of Interest – Localism Act 2011.

Minutes: Cllr Abi Cohen reminded members of the requirement to declare an interest.

OS_2025.028 Public Participation.

Minutes: No members of the public were present.

OS_2025.029 Minutes.

Motion: It was moved by Cllr Kelly Allen, supported by Cllr Simon Budd, and resolved that:

Resolved: The *Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting on 5th of June 2025*, copies having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Chair.

The minutes were signed at the meeting by Cllr Abi Cohen.

OS_2025.030 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_2025.031 Correspondence.

Correspondence and responses were noted by the Committee.

OS_2025.032 Memorial and Plaque Policy.

A brief discussion took place regarding the recent requests for memorial plaque`s and reviewed the draft policy.

Resolved: That the Town Council does not currently have the suitable space, or resources to set up and manage a memorial policy that would benefit the community as a whole. As a result, we are unable to proceed with the recent requests.

OS_2025.033 Bye Mead Open Space Improvement.

A brief discussion took place regarding the benefit of wildflowers, and the advantages of benches throughout the community.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegates authority to the Committee Clerk to investigate permissions for sowing wildflower seeds and installing a bench at the locations discussed and to bring these back to a subsequent meeting.

OS_2025.034 Manor Road Open Space.

A brief discussion was had regarding the open space, recognising the value of well-managed areas for both the environment and the community.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegates authority to the Committee Clerk to obtain quotes for professional environmental reports and to bring these back to a subsequent meeting.

OS_2025.035 Dates and timings.

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

On **4th of September 2025** at 19:00hrs in the Emersons Green Town Council Chamber.

Cllr Abi Cohen concluded the formal business of the meeting at 20:00hrs, and announced that an informal 'roundtable' discussion would take place afterward.