



Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee

held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council,

19:00hrs on Thursday 4th of June 2026.

Present: Councillors Bobbie Sunderland (Chair), Simon Budd, Lynne Paraskeva, Ashlea Etches, and Kelly Allen.

Absent: Councillors Eli Akatwijuka and Daryl Hembrough.

In attendance: Environmental Services Manager - Paul Kearsley.

Apologies: Councillors Abi Cohen (Deputy Chair) and Andy Cowie.

Public: No members of the public were in attendance.

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

OS_2026.027 Election

Resolved: Cllr Bobbie Sunderland appointed to be Chairman.

OS_2026.028 Election

Resolved: Cllr Kelly Allen appointed to be Deputy Chair.

OS_2026.029 Welcome and Introductions.

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

OS_2026.030 Declaration of Interest – Localism Act 2011.

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

OS_2026.031 Public Participation.

Minutes: No members of the public were in attendance.

OS_2026.032 Minutes.

Resolved: The *Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting on 7th of May 2026*, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

OS_2026.033 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_2026.034 Correspondence.

Correspondence and responses were noted by the Committee.

OS_2026.035 Parish Memorial Space.

A brief discussion took place regarding the feedback received from the recent consultation period.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved to discontinue the project due to predominantly negative feedback received, together with the limited capacity of officers to undertake an additional large project.

OS_2026.036 Special expenses consultation.

A brief discussion took place regarding the updated response.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to submit the response on behalf of the Committee.

OS_2026.037 Allotment Tenancy Agreement.

A brief discussion took place regarding the recommended updates to the current tenancy agreement.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to amend the tenancy agreement to incorporate the agreed changes and to issue communication to the current tenants.

OS_2026.038 Dibden Lane Allotment Plot.

A brief discussion was held regarding recent correspondence received, in relation to a community plot.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved that the project was not viable due to insufficient interest, and that the plot be rented as usual, while offering support to interested parties through potential future provision of planters or similar growing facilities.

OS_2026.039 Watermark Town.

A brief discussion took place regarding the water harvesting project at the allotment site.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to request feedback from current tenants and to bring this back to a subsequent meeting.

OS_2026.040 Rodway Common Roadside strip.

A brief discussion took place regarding the deterrent measures possible on the roadside strip adjacent to Rodway Hill.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to seek comments from South Gloucestershire Council Highways and the Commons Officer regarding the proposed placement of boulders in this section to deter vehicle parking. To also investigate costs for boulders and bring this information back to a subsequent meeting.

OS_2026.041 Town Council Flagpole.

A brief discussion took place regarding the need for a second flagpole at the Town Council building.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved that the costs associated with the application, together with any likely subsequent expenditure, were considered to outweigh the anticipated benefits.

OS_2026.042 Sustainable Urban Drainage.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Emersons Green Park sustainable drainage scheme.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to investigate costs to commission an independent review of the Emersons Green Park sustainable drainage scheme.

OS_2026.026 Dates and timings.

Cllr Bobbie Sunderland announced that the next meeting of the Open Spaces Committee was scheduled to take place. On **2nd of July 2026** at 19:00hrs in the Emersons Green Town Council Chamber.

Cllr Bobbie Sunderland concluded the formal business of the meeting at 20:07hrs, and announced that an informal 'roundtable' discussion would take place afterward.

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