



Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee

held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council,

19:00hrs on Thursday 7th of May 2026.

Present: Councillors Bobbie Sunderland (Chair), Simon Budd, Abi Cohen (Deputy Chair), Eli Akatwijuka, Lynne Paraskeva, Andy Cowie, and Kelly Allen.

Absent: None.

In attendance: Environmental Services Manager - Paul Kearsley.

Apologies: Councillor Daryl Hembrough.

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_2026.011 Welcome and Introductions.

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

OS_2026.012 Declaration of Interest – Localism Act 2011.

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

Notes: Cllr Bobbie Sunderland declared that she was a member of the group mentioned in agenda item **OS_2025.024**.

OS_2026.013 Public Participation.

Minutes: No members of the public were in attendance.

OS_2026.014 Minutes.

Resolved: The *Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting on 2nd of April 2026*, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

OS_2026.015 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_2026.016 Correspondence.

Correspondence and responses were noted by the Committee.

OS_2026.017 Local Climate and Nature Action Plan.

A brief discussion took place regarding the updated draft of the LCNAP, including the additional late submitted document.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved that the draft be revised to incorporate the aspirational live mapping updates and subsequently submitted to Full Council for final approval.

OS_2026.018 Manor Road and Rodway Common Litter.

A brief discussion took place regarding the level of litter and fly tipping at the locations.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to investigate using Community Payback to complete regular litter picking and to bring this back to a subsequent meeting.

OS_2026.019 Rodway Common Ecology report.

A brief discussion took place regarding the historic report and the benefits of a new preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA).

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to bring quotes for a new full site PEA to a subsequent meeting.

OS_2026.020 Rodway Common Land Hire Deposit

A brief discussion took place regarding the recent visit by the circus and the impact to the common land.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved that the impact to the land had only been superficial and that the deposit could be returned back to the circus.

OS_2026.021 Special expenses consultation.

A brief discussion took place regarding the South Gloucestershire Council Policy and the subsequent implications.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to collate the suggestions and produce an updated draft response for consideration at the June meeting.

OS_2026.022 Memorial Bench.

A brief discussion took place regarding the project to create a community garden at the village hall.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved that the memorial bench would be a great addition to the community garden.

OS_2026.023 Keep Britain Tidy Campaign.

A brief discussion took place regarding the possible usage of the materials available in the campaign pack.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee delegated authority to the Committee Clerk to purchase the campaign pack promotional material at a cost of £150 +vat.

OS_2026.024 Orchard Complaint.

A brief discussion was held regarding a complaint received in relation to the local Friends of the Park group.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved that responsibility for responding lay with South Gloucestershire Council and expressed confidence that the matter would be addressed appropriately.

OS_2026.025 Future Projects

A brief discussion was held regarding ideas and priorities for future Open Spaces projects.

Resolved: The Open Spaces Committee resolved that Councillors would identify potential projects and submit these to the Committee Clerk, who will collate them for consideration at a future meeting.

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 **4th of June 2026** at 19:00hrs in the Emersons Green Town Council Chamber.

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