



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Property Committee  
at the Billingshurst Centre  
Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 7pm**

**Present**

Cllrs Craig Gale (Chairman), Edna Bengner, Paul Berry, Phillip Day and Steve Thomas.

**In Attendance**

G Burt, Clerk to the Council

**01/24 Chairman's Announcements.**

The Chairman

- a. Advised that the meeting was being streamed to the internet. (This did not stream due to Clerk error!)
- b. Asked Members to raise their hands if they wished to speak and speak clearly.

**02/24 Apologies.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Sandy Duck and Roy Margetts - prior engagements. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Steve Thomas, **RESOLVED** that the apologies and reasons given be accepted.

**03/24 Declarations of Interest and Notification of Changes to Members' Interests.**

None.

**04/24 Minutes.**

On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Phillip Day, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2023, previously circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record by the Chairman of the meeting.

**05/24 Clerk's Report.**

The Clerk circulated suggested wording for a sign agreed at the last meeting, discouraging ball games from Manor Fields Play Area; corrections/suggestions to the Clerk.

**06/24 Public Session.**

None.

**07/24 To consider progress on Platinum Jubilee Trees and new hedge at Kingslea Farm.**

The Committee considered a report setting out proposals for a program of tree and hedge planting in the autumn of 2024. To include a new hedge and replacement trees on Council land at Kingslea Farm; new trees on other Council sites and new trees on highway land, subject to approval from West Sussex County Council (WSCC). On the proposal of Cllr Phillip Day, seconded by Cllr Steve Thomas, **RECOMMEND** that the Finance & General Purposes Committee agree to fund the works, estimated to be £5,000 from the commuted

sum funds held by the Council in an EMR, following the transfer of Kingslea Farm Public Open Space.

**08/24 To consider formalising the Bench Sponsorship Policy.**

The Council often receives requests from residents wishing to sponsor new benches in the Parish. Officers explain that only certain types of benches are accepted, and encourages them to agree to sites where benches aren't already over-provided. However, officers have asked that a formal policy be agreed to help them manage future enquires. On the proposal of Cllr Phillip Day, seconded by Cllr Edna Benger, **RESOLVED** that the Bench Sponsorship Policy, as amended by Committee, be approved.

**09/24 To consider the provision of an additional defibrillator at Adversane.**

The Government was offering to fund 50% of the cost of new additional defibrillators in public places. The Council had been successful in securing an allocation for an additional device to be sited at Adversane Hall. The Council would need to fund the other 50%. On the proposal of Cllr Phillip Day, seconded by Cllr Steve Thomas, **RECOMMEND** that the Finance & General Purposes Committee fund the balance (£750) from the Council's CIL fund accordingly.

**10/24 To consider formal proposal to install EV charging points at Jubilee Fields car park.**

An outline proposal had been received from a commercial operator to provide at no cost to the Council, EV charging points at Jubilee Fields Car Park. This would be a similar arrangement to that agreed for the car park at the Billingshurst Centre. On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that the outline be agreed in principle, subject to receipt of further details such as likely income to the Council, etc.

**11/24 To consider commemorations for 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day.**

The Committee considered a suggestion from Officers for a modest event on Adversane Green, prior to the Beacon Lighting at 9.15pm on Thursday 6 June, in commemoration of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day. Run in conjunction with the Royal British Legion, some appropriate stalls, displays and entertainment were suggested. Budget provision had already been made. On the proposal of Cllr Edna Benger, seconded by Cllr Phillip Day, **RESOLVED** that the proposal for a D-Day event on Adversane Green be supported.

With limited parking in the area, cars tended to park on surrounding roads at past events. Cllrs suggested appropriate signage be displayed e.g., SLOW DOWN - VILLAGE EVENT IN PROGRESS and that the police be asked to put out police cones.

**12/24 To receive an update on proposed new path at Station Road Community Gardens (SRCG).**

The Clerk advised that a third quote for the provision of a new path in SRCG was awaited and a full report would be presented to the next meeting. Horsham District Council (HDC) was quite insistent on three quotes in order to release S106 funding for such projects. **NOTED.**

**13/24 To receive property updates for information only.**

NOTED. The Committee's usual thanks to Officers for their endeavours were noted.

**14/24 Date of Next Meeting: 10 April 2024.**

*The meeting finished at 7.30pm.*

Chairman

Date