

Minutes of the meeting of Holbeach Parish Council, Open Spaces Committee, Tuesday 25th October 2022 at 17:00 at Coubro Chambers, Holbeach

	In attendance	Apologies given
Holbeach Parish Council, Open Spaces Committee	Cllrs: M Murfet, I Hutchinson & S Lewis & R Flood Clerk: Jan Hearsey	Cllr S Hussain
Public including Councillors	Cllrs: S Hutchinson, R Stevens & T Wiltshire. 1 member of the public	

Chair Cllr M Murfet opened the meeting at 17:00

2022/3-081 Apologies for absence

To receive and accept apologies where valid reasons for absence have been given to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Apologies were received and accepted under the delegated powers of the Clerk from:
Cllr: S Hussain

2022/3-082 Declarations of interest. To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensations in respects of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in Agenda items.

Cllr S Lewis declared a pecuniary interest in part of agenda item 2022/3-091 (a)

2022/3-083 Minutes-

- a) It was **resolved** to approve as a correct record the notes of the meetings of the Council held on 26th September 2022 and to authorise the Chair to sign the official minutes.

2022/3-084 Clerks report

- a) To receive a report from the Clerk - see appendix 1

2022/3-085 Carters Park

- a) It was resolved to agree the recommendation of the committee regarding the slide to Full Council in that the company are requested to remove the slide as it is not fit for purpose
- b) It was discussed and **resolved** to agree to go out to tender for the bowls club maintenance

2022/3-086 – Cemeteries

- a) It was **resolved** to recommend to Full Council to increase cemeteries fees from 1st April 2023 (Cllr M Murfet registered his vote against)



2022/3-087– Allotments

- a) The waiting list, once the large plot has been ploughed at Battlefields, should be exhausted
- b) It was **resolved** to agree the shed and fruit trees on plot BFG11
- c) It was **resolved** to agree the shed on plot BFG37b
- d) It was **resolved** to agree the greenhouse on BFG44 subject to it not being glass
- e) It was **resolved** that Cllr I Hutchinson will carry out the allotment inspections on 24th November along with the Clerk

2022/3-088- Nature Reserve

- a) To receive an update from Cllr M Murfet re the Working Party – none was provided

2022/3-089 Churchyard

- a) It was **resolved** to agree the planting of the war memorial that Cllr R Flood will buy the plants and plant up

2022/3-090– Tree work

- a) It was **resolved** to agree to defer the item for tree work

2022/3-091 Budgets 2023/4

- a) It was discussed and **resolved** to agree to recommend the draft Budget to the Finance Committee at £67,072 – put forward two budgets, one with projects and one without. Budget without projects £47,572

2022/3-092- Work scheduling

- a) It was **resolved** to agree the work schedule – see appendix 2
- b) It was **resolved** to agree who will represent the committee at the work schedule meeting

2022/3-093 – Confirmation of date and venue of the next Open Spaces meeting

The Next meeting of the Open Spaces Committee will be on Thursday 24th November 2022 at 17:00

Meeting closed at 18:02

Signed Chair.....Dare.....

Appendix 1

Open Spaces Clerks report 25/10/2022

We have received several complaints about inaccessible graves in Park Road cemetery. I have explained that the Winter programme of cutting back is underway.



From a parishioner:

I understand that the cemetery is a public space, and we have signs there about dogs being on leads. There seems to be a growing number that are off leading their dogs and throwing balls and exercising the dogs there. It's not really the place for this kind of activity.

Can you please pass this on to open spaces as this will become a problem, not only for the people tending to graves but also the dogs are going to mark headstones (if its a boy) and also leave deposits that the owners have not noticed while their dog is off lead.

Holbeach Hurn

We have received a couple of complaints from a parishioner at Holbeach Hurn regarding grass cutting and saying that the grass has not been cut in three weeks. I have checked with the contractor and the grass has been cut weekly. On the 19th of October, the contractor went to do the weekly cut and a square has been cut very short by some person. Our contractor reports that they believe this square to have been cut by the person who plays golf on the playing field as there are quantities of golf balls left on the playing field. This would be costly to the contractor if they were to damage his machinery. We have photos.

Allotments

We have the new allotment signs, and they are waiting to be put up. The allotment invoices have all gone out.

Following the comments made at the last full council meeting regarding the allotment rent, the original agreement from 2013 did state rent in advance, however two previous Clerks before me had charged the rent in arrears. I have sent a letter to the gentleman concerned along with previous invoices and asked why this was not raised before. The legislation is the Allotments Act 1950 section 10, which states: if the yearly rent exceeds twenty-five shillings (£1.25) then it is not permissible to provide for more than one quarter's rent to be payable in advance. Although this is not legally compliant, if both the tenant and the allotment authority make an agreement at the beginning, the rent may be payable in advance. If the gentleman wishes to pay in advance, then we would need to have confirmation from him and the rent would be more next year as a president has already been set with paying in arrears.

The large plot is ready for ploughing and I am waiting to hear when that will be.

Tree work

We need to give notice to work on the trees as most of them are in a conservation area. I have now spoken to the lady and have completed the paperwork.

Kubota

The company that could make the part are no longer in business, one of the open spaces team is looking into somewhere else.

Bulbs

We have been offered some free bulbs.

Appendix 2

Work schedule - red = do now/ amber = non urgent/green = when there is free time

Red	Amber	Green
Clean bowls club lawn of leaves Nature reserve cut back ivy etc Cut back canopy Carters park except boundary of Park Road Chippings (ongoing) Hedge Hol st Johns memorial Risk assessments Paperwork	Grass cutting fortnightly only Hedge trimming Spray Park Road cemetery (AT) Cedar P/R Signs allotments Empty sand pit Fortnightly visits to Hall Gate	WINTER LIST Remove remaining fencing Jubilee garden Trees CP along Park Rd, Raise to 3m canopy Play equipment repaint Benches repaint & re-site CP P/R Cemetery cutting back Clean tennis courts (1) Grills toilet doors etc (2) Tree Holbeach Surgery