

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES MEETING OF ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
VIRTUALLY ON THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER 2021**

**PRESENT** Councillor Wheelhouse (Chairman)

Councillors: Boyce, Kenyon, Renwick and Ridgway

Others – E Smith (Clerk) R Bullimore (Deputy Clerk) R Hill (Assistant) No members of the public

**Table of Contents**

<b>240/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>241/21 MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES MEETING .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>242/21 CEMETERY ACTION PLAN .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>243/21 CEMETERY REPORT AND REPAIRS COST .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>244/21 CEMETERY VOLUNTEERS UPDATE .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>245/21 ALLOTMENT REPORT .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>246/21 REVIEW ALLOTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND FEES.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>247/21 IDA’S ROAD PLAY AREA.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>248/21 ASH CRESCENT PLAY AREA.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>249/21 GOLDEN BALL PLAY AREA .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>250/21 ADDITIONAL LITTER BINS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>251/21 FUNDING .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>252/21 ACTION POINTS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>253/21 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>254/21 DAMAGE TO BUS SHELTER AT RENISHAW .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>255/21 REPAIRS TO WALL AT MARSH LANE WAR MEMORIAL .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>256/21 RENISHAW COMMUNITY HALL WALL/GAS BOX.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>257/21 PLANT A TREE IN REMEMBRANCE OF A LOVED ONE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>258/21 SIGNAGE ON THE TRIANGLE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>259/21 ADDITIONAL PLANTERS AT CARR WOOD ROAD AND EMMETT CARR .....</b>	<b>4</b>

#### **240/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Archer  
Cllr Dye - Illness  
Cllr Hunt

#### **241/21 MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES MEETING**

**RESOLVED** received and approved as a true record Minutes 221/21 – 239/21 of the Open Spaces Meeting held on 30 September 2021.

#### **242/21 CEMETERY ACTION PLAN**

**RESOLVED** noted the report circulated.

#### **243/21 CEMETERY REPORT AND REPAIRS COST**

The Cemetery tractor is 16 years old and may need replacing in the near future.  
**RESOLVED** noted the report circulated.

#### **244/21 CEMETERY VOLUNTEERS UPDATE**

The volunteers have not managed to meet up due to COVID. The old section of the cemetery is still to do they may return around April time next year. There are quite a few corrections from the records in the new section that need updating in the meantime.  
**RESOLVED** noted

#### **245/21 ALLOTMENT REPORT**

Water meter charges at School Street to be invoiced by the treasurer. Marsh Lane water meters are still due to be read. The Assistant Clerk reported that this is taking time due to the tenants holding the keys to the locks on the meter housing.  
Cllr Wheelhouse will send the Clerk information about the new water meters.  
All tenants are told by the Council to either move their meter into their shed or bubble wrap it during winter months.  
**RESOLVED** noted the report circulated

#### **246/21 REVIEW ALLOTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND FEES**

Fees for allotments do not seem to follow a pattern this was looked into 3 years ago but advice received at the time stated it was impossible to change them. The Assistant Clerk has spoken to the Allotment Association who states the allotment fees could be brought into line with one another across all sites in the Parish.  
**RESOLVED** Assistant Clerk to produce a proposal report on what all allotment fees should be to bring them all into line to be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **247/21 IDA'S ROAD PLAY AREA**

Slabs have now been laid. The flooring is now complete.  
**RESOLVED** Clerk to contact NEDDC to ensure all the weeds are cleared in this area.

#### **248/21 ASH CRESCENT PLAY AREA**

Flooring has been removed and the grass matting has been installed. NEDDC have re-installed the swings.  
**RESOLVED** noted

#### **249/21 GOLDEN BALL PLAY AREA**

Councillor reported that an item of equipment requires repair. NEDDC have stated in relation to the surfacing at Golden Ball, they have consulted the manufacturers, and their

technical team informed NEDDC if it hadn't formed a film, hot water and detergent should clear off the paint, but that if it had formed a film, it is very tough and will be pretty much impossible to clean off. Attempts have been made to clean the paint off the surfacing with hot water and detergent (as advised by the manufacturer), plus cold water with detergent, and graffiti remover, but it has proved not possible to clean or scrape off the surfacing so far. NEDDC's next port of call is to try the drainage jetter to see if the water under pressure will clean it off, but NEDDC require the ground conditions to be firm/solid enough for a vehicle to tow the jetter across the playing field. Current ground conditions are quite soft.

With regret, due to the timing of the rain after the team had left site, it seems that the paint had already formed a film, and it is proving the manufacturers correct. However, NEDDC will keep trying.

**RESOLVED** Clerk to request monthly play area inspection sheets from NEDDC. Clerk and Deputy to look at which piece of equipment has been reported as faulty and action necessary repair. Clerk to chase up dog bin repairs at Golden Ball and Ash Crescent.

#### **250/21 ADDITIONAL LITTER BINS**

Any additional/replacement litter bins will need to be metal (Belfast) bins as these are much better than the plastic ones.

**RESOLVED** any bins that are full should be reported to the Clerk to report so a paper trail is formed.

#### **251/21 FUNDING**

Nothing to report.

**RESOLVED** noted

#### **252/21 ACTION POINTS**

Hedges to be considered at School Street play area – Eckington boys football club would help with the cost of cutting the hedge. Ida's Row/Stead Street also need looking at in terms of a reduction in height.

**RESOLVED** noted report. Clerk to obtain prices for hedge work on school street play area and Stead Street to bring back to next meeting.

#### **253/21 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH**

Deputy Clerk, Cllr Archer, Dye and Renwick have completed their practical training. The location has now been approved.

**RECOMMEND** Clerk to purchase Radar Gun at a cost of £229.00, Hi-Viz vests at £12.50 each and Signs at a cost of £68.20 each (two to be purchased). Deputy Clerk appointed as lead contact for speed watch.

#### **254/21 DAMAGE TO BUS SHELTER AT RENISHAW**

Clerk has contacted a structural engineer to look at the bus stop awaiting report.

**RESOLVED** noted

#### **255/21 REPAIRS TO WALL AT MARSH LANE WAR MEMORIAL**

The handyman is currently working on levelling up the stone in which the railings are attached.

**RESOLVED** noted

#### **256/21 RENISHAW COMMUNITY HALL WALL/GAS BOX**

Accident happened on 23 November where a car mounted the pavement and hit the

structure which houses the gas supply for Renishaw and Spinkhill Community Hall. Clerk has received the crime number and insurance details of the third party which have been passed onto the Councils insurer. Clerk to obtain 2 quotes for the work and pass onto the insurer to pay.

**RESOLVED** noted

**257/21 PLANT A TREE IN REMEMBRANCE OF A LOVED ONE**

Marsh Lane field could be used for this but areas must not form shrines.

**RESOLVED** Assistant Clerk to come back with a proposal for planting a tree in memory of loved ones at the Cemetery and bring back to the next meeting.

**258/21 SIGNAGE ON THE TRIANGLE**

Bus stop at Eckington – sign to show what shops are in the precinct and surrounding area. This will need to be a big sign for drivers rather than pedestrians. There is £2K left in the budget.

**RESOLVED** deferred to the next meeting.

**259/21 ADDITIONAL PLANTERS AT CARR WOOD ROAD AND EMMETT CARR**

**RESOLVED** Clerk to ask NEDDC to plant two grassy areas with flowers at these locations.

The Meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed .....  
Chairman                      Date 10 February 2022