



## BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES of the Open Spaces Committee on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – Conducted remotely.

- Present: Cllrs Bridgeman (Chair), Burton, Faraday, Handford, Marshall and Swales. The clerk Christine Downey. Cllr Adams attending as a member of the public. And one other member of the public.
- OS47 Apologies from members unable to attend: -
- 47.1 To note apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.  
**None.**
- 47.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence – if consideration of reasons requested.  
**None.**
- OS48 Declaration of interest: -
- 48.1 To note declarations of interest not already declared under members code of conduct or members register of disclosable pecuniary interest.  
**Cllr Marshall declared an interest in item OS51.1 ducting near Duke Street / High Bentham Business Park.**
- 48.2 To approve dispensation request – if dispensation request received.  
**None.**
- OS49 To approve minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020. (Papers OS2021/01)  
**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 are agreed and be signed.**
- OS50 To receive an update on the Open Spaces budget. (Paper OS2021/02)  
**Received.**
- OS51 Street Lighting renewal programme – items to be discussed and a way forward agreed:
- 51.1 Barn ducting recently installed near Duke Street/High Bentham Business park (just up from lamppost 34). Could feed electric supply for lights on the footpath that could not be reached before.  
**RESOLVED: To proceed with laying the ducting now while the opportunity exists.**
- 51.2 Email of 26/02/2021 from a resident requesting a street light outside the entrance to Low Mills Business park. (Paper OS2021/03).  
**RESOLVED: Clerk to advise the applicant that because this is a public highway it is NYCC's responsibility and he will need to direct his request to them. And that alternatively he could approach the developer who built the business park and ask them what the arrangements are regarding installing lights to the proper standard and getting them adopted by NYCC on completion.**
- OS52 To discuss matters at School Hill and agree actions: -
- 52.1 Planters for spring.  
**RESOLVED: Clerk to chase up delivery and installation, including levelling of the planters.**
- 52.2 Arrangements for ongoing maintenance of planters.  
**RESOLVED: Top of planters to be covered in bark peelings to stop them drying out.**
- OS53 To consider quotes from Thomas Brown for: -
- 53.1 Trimming Beech tree at Lairgill. (Paper OS2021/04)  
**RESOLVED: To proceed with the work quoted for at a cost of £100.00.**
- 53.2 Repair to bus shelter. (Paper OS2021/05)



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**To proceed with the work quoted for at a cost of £240.00**

- OS54  
54.1 Fingerpost pointing to PHPF from Ellergill/Burton Road side only.  
To receive an update from Cllr Faraday on the ownership of the land and obtaining permission from NYCC to install on grass verge or cobbles.  
**Received.**
- 54.2 To agree a way forward.  
**RESOLVED: Clerk to find out from land registry search who owns the cobbled piece of land just before the "Ellergill" sign.**

- OS55  
55.1 To discuss matters at PHPF and agree actions and/or a way forward regarding: -  
Items from inspection reports and walkabout. (Paper OS2021/06)

	<b>Item on report or from walkabout</b>	<b>RESOLVED</b>
1	Gate: The gate latch rod projects and has the potential to cause eye injuries - Consider cutting back and providing a ball shaped end.	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct Thomas Brown to cut off and make flush.</b>
2	Cable Runway: Cable slack – Retension.	<b>RESOLVED: whoever is appointed to perform the annual seat and zip wire inspections (see item 55.2) to retension the cable runway if necessary.</b>
3	Gate: The latch does not operate correctly – Ensure latch can be set freely.	<b>RESOLVED: No further action to be taken.</b>
4	MUGA: Finger entrapment.	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to continue pursuing date engineers from HAGS will rectify.</b>
5	Cable Runway: Annual inspection.	<b>RESOLVED: To be performed by a professional firm asap, under consideration at item 55.2.</b>
6	Cable Runway: The seat connection cannot be inspected without dismantling the seat – dismantle the seat to inspect the seat connection for wear.	<b>RESOLVED: To be performed by a professional firm asap, under consideration at item 55.2.</b>
7	Multi Play Junior: There is mud on the surfaces resulting in slippery conditions – Clean and treat appropriately.	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct Thomas Brown to perform the annual spring clean of surfaces and equipment.</b>
8	Titan: There are trip hazards at the edges of the surfaces – reinstate surrounding surface levels to remove the trip points.	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct Thomas Brown to proceed.</b>
9	Titan: The seat connection cannot be inspected without dismantling the seat – dismantle the seat to inspect the seat connection for wear.	<b>RESOLVED: To be performed by a professional firm asap, under consideration at item 55.2.</b>
10	Basket Swing: There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface –	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct Thomas Brown to proceed.</b>



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	reinstate surrounding surface levels to remove the trip points.	
11	Bench: There are trip hazards present on the base – reinstate surrounding surfaces to level to remove the trip points.	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct Thomas Brown to proceed.</b>
12	Bench: there is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged on the item – replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers.	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct Thomas Brown to proceed.</b>
13	Fence: new tension wire needed left side of pedestrian gate 9 (facing into PHPF).	<b>RESOLVED: Clerk to ask Robert Taylor if he installed this section of fence, and if so, can he fix or replace the tension wire as required.</b>

55.2 To receive an update re maintenance and repair options available in respect of the Cable Runway and Titan. (Papers OS2021/07 to 11)

**RESOLVED: Clerk to obtain confirmation from Sovereign Play that the sum of £582.00 would be the full and final annual cost for dismantling the seats on the Titan and Cable Runway and inspecting the seat connections for wear, as well as performing the annual inspection and re-tensioning of the zip wire.**

55.3 Spring clean of equipment and surfaces.

**Resolved to proceed at item OS 55.1 (7).**

55.4 To consider writing to the developer of the houses pointing out that a gap of six inches clearance must be maintained between the beech hedges and the fence.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to write to the developer regarding the beech hedge.**

55.5 To consider arranging for the wall to be painted.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to find out who owns the wall.**

OS56 To discuss planting matters: -

56.1 To consider sending photos of bulbs to Catherine Mercer at the Bee Together Project.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to send the photographs.**

56.2 To consider planting of bulbs next to site of old shed at the cemetery after it has been cleared.

**RESOLVED: To proceed if and when bulbs or seeds are donated.**

OS57 To discuss the list of Open Spaces jobs not already covered, and agree actions.

**RESOLVED: Cllr Bridgeman to pursue the quote from Jonny Latimer for the lettering and QR code for the PHPF sign.**

OS58 To consider another Walkabout in March 2021, at which additions to grass cutting contract to be considered. (Harley Close and verge between High and Low Bentham), and to agree a date.

**RESOLVED: Walkabout to be at 7pm on April 26<sup>th</sup> 2021, starting at The Green, Low Bentham.**

**RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct Thomas Brown to proceed with grass cutting before Easter.**

OS59 To discuss recommendations for the grass-cutting tender document 2022/23 to 2024/25.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to draft an appropriate advertisement for discussion at next Open Spaces meeting.**



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- OS60 To review the position regarding the gritting of pavements with a view to recommending what permanent arrangements should be adopted with effect from the next council year, and to investigate if it's possible to recharge the cost of purchasing grit/salt to NYCC.  
**RESOLVED: Position of grit bins to be reviewed on walkabout of 26/04/2021, to identify sites where new grit bins are required, with a view to obtaining three quotes for the gritting of pavements next winter in due course.**  
**RESOLVED: Clerk to ensure that the order form for gritting is submitted to NYCC at the appropriate time – which is thought to be August or September.**
- OS61 To consider the number of Open Space committee meetings to schedule for the year 2021/2022.  
**RESOLVED: To schedule six Open Spaces meetings in 2021/2022.**
- OS62 To receive and consider minor items / items for the next agenda.  
The position regarding the lease at the Bentham Playing Field is under review. Any progress should be reported back to full council in due course.
- OS63 Date of next meeting: **TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.02.