



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Parks and Environment Committee
of Kingsmead Parish Council held on Monday 17th April 2023.

Present: Cllr Bannister, Cllr Hoey, Cllr Reed, Cllr Weltman (Chair)

Also Present: Mrs W Maddock (Clerk & RFO)

The meeting started at 6.15pm.

245	Apologies Cllr Jewitt (work) and Cllr Van Gordon (work)
246	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest made.
247	Public Forum There were no members of the public present.
248	Minutes It was noted that there was a typo error in the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 th March 2023. The committee resolved to approve the minutes once this error had been corrected.
249	Strategy To receive an interim report from the village walk-round carried out on Sunday 2 nd April. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To confirm a date to complete the exercise. A summary of the initial walk-round was discussed, highlighting works that are required on a short-, medium- and long-term basis. It was agreed that the bridges need to be fully surveyed and suitable companies will be sought. The walk-round will be completed during the litter pick on 30 th April, after which, the committee will consider a strategy to propose to council.
250	Maintenance & Landscaping 250.1. To receive an update regarding Countrywide Grounds Maintenance. The latest report received from CGM was discussed and it was agreed that a good start had been made to the summer season of works. A small number of areas were noted for attention and the clerk would raise these at the next CGM meeting. It was agreed that monthly CGM reports would be discussed at the Parks & Environment committee meetings and the monthly schedule circulated to all. 250.2. To consider and approve a quote for lowering the laurel hedge at Royal Gardens. It was resolved to approve a quote from NorthHort Ltd to cut back the hedge at Royal Gardens to help improve visibility from the path. NorthHort will be instructed to survey the hedge for signs of nesting before any work is carried out. 250.3. To consider and approve installing a bench at Monarch Drive play area. It was resolved to approve installing a park bench (from NTC) at Monarch Drive play area. 250.4. To consider a request to carry out maintenance work on "Top Path". It was resolved to approve laying gravel (at a cost of £740 for 5m ³ plus labour) in the two muddiest areas of the path and to monitor if this improves accessibility. 250.5. To receive any other updates.

	<p>i) A motion was proposed by Cllr Hoey and seconded by Cllr Reed to install a new bin at Duke's Way Pond. It was resolved to approve a new bin from Countrywide.</p> <p>ii) CWaC has notified Cllr Weltman that the crown hedge will not be cut back until autumn/winter of 2023. "Report-It" notifications requesting the hedge be cut were submitted in Nov-22 and Mar-23 by Cllr Weltman and in Jan-23 by the clerk. It was agreed that a formal complaint should be made to CWaC about the lack of maintenance and failure to respond to the reports submitted.</p>		
251	<p>Play Areas</p> <p>251.1. <u>Kensington Way Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider and approve quotes for the refurbishment of the slide. It was resolved to approve a quote from Groundworks & Leisure Services (at a cost of £5400 plus VAT). • To consider quotes received for the top field area. Quotes were discussed for installing a large play surface with a stone soak-away underneath. It was agreed that further investigation into the drainage problem was needed before a decision is made on using this option and a report is awaited from Caddis regarding the pipe underneath Kensington Way. • To note the planting of trees to mark the King's Coronation. It was noted that an oak tree has been planted at Kensington Way Park and a hazel tree at St. George's field. <p>251.2. <u>Play Inspection Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive the Annual Inspection Reports (if received) and to approve any actions. The annual play inspections had not been received prior to the meeting. <p>251.3. To receive any other updates. There were no other updates received.</p>		
252	<p>Structures</p> <p>To consider and approve quotes received for the maintenance of the cenotaph and clock tower. It was resolved that an additional quote should be sought and a decision on undertaking the maintenance was deferred to the next meeting.</p>		
253	<p>Environment</p> <p>To note that KPC has been approached by Sylvan Resources about a possible opportunity for battery storage in the parish. The committee noted the approach from Sylvan Resources, and it was confirmed that a desk-top review is to be undertaken at no cost to the parish council.</p>		
254	<p>AOB</p> <p>Items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on crown roundabout • Bridge surveys • Maintenance on cenotaph and clock tower • Wildlife seeds 		
255	Next Meetings	Kingsmead Parish Council	Monday 17 th April at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School

The meeting closed at 7.23pm.