

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the KPC Parks and Environment Committee
held on Monday 12th May

Present: Cllr Logan, Cllr Reed, Cllr Swift (Chair), Cllr Weltman
Also present: Mrs W Maddock (Clerk & RFO)

The meeting started at 7.30pm.

279	Apologies Cllr Hoey (medical), Cllr Jewitt.
280	Declarations of Interest No declarations of interest were made.
281	Public Forum There were no members of public present.
282	Maintenance & Landscaping
282.1	<p>To receive an update following a review of all short-cuts and encroachments in Kingsmead and to approve next actions as appropriate.</p> <p>Cllr Swift detailed the review carried out by himself and Cllrs B Boylan and Herring, which noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirteen “unofficial” access points onto Top Path, which in many cases are causing erosion of the buffer zone, loss of privacy (where properties are overlooked from the bund) and could present a potential security risk to adjacent properties. • Several short-cuts directly from properties on Lime Avenue onto St. George’s field. There was also evidence of fly tipping and garden waste being left on the field, although it is not known where this is coming from. <p>The committee members discussed their concerns about the long-term impact of these encroachments and how the council must take responsibility for good stewardship of its land.</p> <p>Resolved – to recommend to Full Council that it writes to residents explaining its concerns and the proposed actions regarding closing off short-cuts and encroachments. The following letter were proposed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) A letter to all residents on the Western side of the estate detailing the council’s intention to return the buffer zone to its original state. b) A letter to Lime Avenue residents reminding them that access to St. George’s field was not allowed as a requirement of the original planning approval.
282.2	<p>Countrywide Grounds Maintenance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) To receive last month’s reports and updates. Noted – the work carried out in April by Countrywide. The clerk was asked to clarify the suggestion by Countrywide that the wildflowers/long grass should be cut on Moor Park Way. Actions were noted regarding an overflowing bin at Duke’s Way Pond and to remove a dead staghorn fern from school path. b) To agree when mowing of daffodil areas can begin. Resolved – that the daffodils can now be cut.
282.3	<p>To receive updates about the following works and to approve quotes as appropriate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Re-routing of a path at Claremont Close Resolved – to write to the residents at Claremont Close about the possible removal of the path. b) Kingsmead tree survey Resolved – to defer a decision about a tree survey pending receipt of additional quotes. c) Cheshire railings at Moor Park Way Resolved – to defer a decision about a tree survey pending receipt of additional quotes.

282.4	<p>To receive an update about installing solar powered lights on the Kingsmead wall and to approve a quote from Kingsmead Electrical for the works.</p>		
	<p>Resolved – to install an FL08 solar powered lighting system (as recommended by Solar Illuminations Ltd.), with a dusk to dawn capability to mirror the lighting at the Kingsmead wall opposite the clock tower. Kingsmead Electrical will be asked to quote for the installation works.</p>		
282.5	<p>To consider and approve the method for hedge maintenance along school path adjacent to 26 Calveley Close.</p>		
	<p>Resolved – to confirm that future hedge cutting in this location will be carried out by hand only due to the very close proximity of the house to the hedge. The council has no dispute in working with the resident to achieve the hedge cutting in the safest way possible, and this action had been agreed previously.</p>		
282.6	<p>To consider if action is to be taken regarding overgrown shrubbery on Bridgemere Way.</p>		
	<p>Resolved – that no action is required by the parish council as the land concerned is owned by a resident. This will be communicated to the resident who has raised the issue.</p>		
282.7	<p>To receive feedback following a meeting with Cheshire Wildlife Trust.</p>		
	<p>Noted – that Cllr Swift and the clerk met with CWT on 1st May. This proved to be a very positive meeting with the main topics of conversation being Poors Wood, surface erosion, fence maintenance and tree management. CWT confirmed it visits Poors Wood typically every 2-weeks to carry out inspections and maintenance, and it was noted the good work that has recently been done improving paths in the area. The CWT team did not have any concerns about erosion along Top Path, but did agree to monitor the situation and to consider possible under planting in some areas if was deemed necessary. They were disappointed to see the encroachment into Poors Wood at the end of Ellingham Way which included some fly tipping and cutting down of trees; photos were taken, and the situation will be reviewed. Both parties agreed it was useful to keep in touch and to support each other's work in maintaining the Top Path/Poors Wood area.</p>		
282.8	<p>To consider any other updates and to approve actions as appropriate.</p>		
	<p>Noted – that action can be taken if necessary to keep water levels topped up in Coronet Pond. The EA has confirmed that the parish council can extract up to 20m³ of water per day from the River Weaver, which has been shown to be the best source of water to use if extreme weather conditions require action to be taken to protect the pond wildlife. The parish council has a contingency plan ready to use if required.</p>		
283	<p>AOB</p>		
	<p>There were no actions requested for the next meeting.</p>		
284	<p>Next Meetings</p>	<p>Annual Parish Meeting</p>	<p>Monday 19th May at 7.00pm in Kingsmead School</p>
		<p>Annual Meeting of Kingsmead PC</p>	<p>Monday 19th May in Kingsmead School – to start on the arising of the Annual Parish meeting</p>
		<p>Parks & Environment Committee</p>	<p>Monday 9th June at 7.00pm in Kingsmead School</p>