

**Notes of the Open Spaces and Highways Strategy Working Group  
(with OS&H Budget Setting for 22/23)**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 – 5.00pm via Zoom Video Conferencing**

Attending: Cllrs Wendy Matthews (Chair), Kevin Brown (Chair of OS&H committee), Ciaran Beary (from 6pm), Julie Cook, Stuart Mills, Peter Stanhope. In attendance: Stephanie Bennett (Clerk) and Jem Day (Deputy Clerk (DC)).

Potential absence was noted from Michael Sullivan.

**1) Notes of meeting from 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Agreed to be a correct record

**2) Update on Progress from Previous Meeting**

a) Tesco's Bags of Help Grant Application

Jem reported that he had placed a bid on the Groundworks Website ready to submit that now just needed the agreement of the detailed project proposal section. Members made some suggested changes.

**Action** Jem to finalise and submit bid and check when the next 'round' is. When moving to the research stage it could be possible to liaise with the school on Pinewood where set designers etc are educated.

b) Streetlight Update

Jem reported that the order had been placed for 93 new lamp columns and he would be making a recommendation for the next phase to the OS&H Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November.

c) Recreation Ground Usage Survey

Julie updated on the MS Forms survey set up and asked members to complete a test survey. The output in terms of the analysis was shared. It was agreed to have the survey open for 3 months but that a particular push should be made in December and then February / March. This might demonstrate some different results seasonally. It was agreed to promote on the Parish Facebook page and from here via the Residents' 'Associations

d) Speedwatch

Jem gave an update on the information received from Swarco concerning a solar powered MVAS similar to that installed at a local parish. The equipment can be moved around and records speed date without registration plates. The data can be easily downloaded from the device. What was the action on this?

e) Allotments

Peter gave a brief update on a potential development suggested by the Allotment Associations to install solar panel powered water pumps from the water table. It was noted that a licence would need obtaining from the Environment Agency to further this idea.

### 3) Open Spaces Projects / Issues Spreadsheet

The previously issued spreadsheet was reviewed.

Jem & Kevin had taken an exploratory walk around Hardings Row to look at the condition of the infrastructure there including decking, bridges, paths, benches and signage / notices. The current state of some of the infrastructure posed some health and safety risks. The walkround confirmed that whilst there was a belief that some composite material had been used, everything was timber based. It was agreed that a significant piece of work to improve the area for the local community was possible and funding from the Community Board was an appropriate source of funding for this activity.

**Action** Jem to develop a plan and proposal to progress to a Community Board bid.

The lease at Swan Meadow was discussed. Wendy confirmed that the lease is for 99 years and the cost to the Parish Council per year is approximately £5k – Jem to confirm (*confirmed as £4,990*). The point was made that the Council pay Bucks to lease it and then pay to maintain it. This can be viewed as the Council Taxpayer ‘paying’ twice for this facility. A suggestion was made for a change of use and that the area could be used for needed car parking for the village.

There is opportunity to further develop and improve St Leonard’s Mound but it was agreed to hold off on this until after the full Tree Survey is carried out.

The data and views received from the Recreation Ground usage survey will help inform any further development of as plan for a perimeter path for Iver Heath Recreation Ground.

It was noted that any projects carried out in relation to Iver Heath Recreation Ground would not be ‘owned’ by the Parish Council but by the Charitable Trust.

The position of Land Ownership and Parish interest at Clisby Bridge North Mud Wharf was discussed in relation to the development of Data Centres in the locality. **Action** This is to be investigated by the Office with the assistance of Councillors.

The Land Ownership of the area at Iver Heath Fields / Iver Heath Copse was discussed and whilst some extensive research into the position has been carried out Julie agreed to do some further research into the land ownership position with information provided from The Clerk.

**Action** Jem to obtain an update from Groundworks trust on the works they have carried out in relation to the 21/22 management plans for all sites.

**Action** Jem to collate the Additional Projects identified in the action plans for each site to bring forward to the next meeting.

Meeting finished: 6.46pm

**Jem Day**

**Deputy Clerk**

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021