## **Gnosall Parish Council** Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting Held on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.30pm

Cllr T Simkin (in the chair), Cllr Doug Webb, Cllr J Cook, Cllr M Deegan, Cllr R Greatrex, Cllr J Tomkinson, Cllr S Green, Jayne Cooper Present:

## **Press and Public Open Forum** – none present

1	To receive apologies and record absences	
	None received	
2	To receive any Declarations of Interest	
	As an allotment tenant, Cllr Deegan declared an interest in discussions regarding the allotments.	
	Cllr Green declared an interest in discussions about illumination of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)	
3	To receive and confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	
	The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.	
4	To consider any matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda	
	There were no matters arising.	
5	To discuss allotment matters including:	
	a) Update on the realignment project	
	The project had been delayed over the winter months as the ground was too wet. It is hoped the project would start in the next two weeks. A meeting had been arranged with Western Power on 1 <sup>st</sup> March to receive advice and guidance for working under power lines. Straightening the telegraph pole within plot number 15 would also be discussed.	
	A contract had been drawn up for the works and would be sent to the Contractor. There would be 2 or 3 days additional work to clear rubbish from affected plots. The raising of the boardwalk would also be carried out as part of this project.	Cllr Deegan
	Cllr Deegan was thanked for overseeing this ongoing project.	
	b) To consider allotment renewals for 2016 including the annual fee, Gnosall Allotments and Gardens Association (GAGA) membership and water usage	
	It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the fees for $2016/17$ would remain the same as the previous year ie £27 for a full plot and £13 for a half plot and would include GAGA membership and fees for water usage in 2015. Clerk to action and send letters to all allotment tenants.	Clerk
	The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with GAGA to review work for the year ahead and discuss how GAGA membership fees are spent.	Clerk

6	To agree action for Open Spaces projects for 2016 including	
Ü	To agree action for open spaces projects for 2010 metating	
	<ul> <li>Fun Weekend and Staffordshire Day</li> <li>It was agreed to amalgamate the two events into one to be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May, Staffordshire Day. Council had agreed at a meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March that an old fashioned type fete should be arranged with other local organisations being invited to take part and help. The Clerk would circulate a list of possible events including, fair rides, coconut shy, refreshments, tombola. Future meetings would be arranged to plan</li> </ul>	Clerk
	this.	Clerk
	• It was also agreed that the arrangements to book the fun fair for the weekend in July when local schools break up for the summer holiday, remain the same. Clerk to confirm fun fair booking.	
	Illumination of Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)	
	• It was agreed to arrange a public consultation and invite Abacus to attend and provide display boards with relevant information. This should be held in May on a Saturday morning in the Grosvenor Centre. The Clerk to arrange and invite PCSO's for their input.	Clerk
	Dog Fouling Campaign	
	<ul> <li>Cllr Webb had met with SBC's Enforcement Officer to progress with this project that would run from the beginning of April 2016.</li> <li>The five areas that would be closely monitored are: The Acres, The Village Green, Wharf Road, Mill Lane and Audmore Road/High Street.</li> </ul>	
	• The project ties in with plans to monitor the Millennium Way and Station Road.	
	<ul> <li>Monthly reports would be provided to the parish council.</li> <li>Posters had been designed specifically for Gnosall and would be prominently displayed from the end of March</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>The Bakery had agreed to keep a supply of dog-waste bags to give out free of charge (as the parish council office does)</li> <li>Press releases and flyers to be arranged.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Gnosall St Lawrence CE Primary Academy School to be asked if they would invite the Blue Cross to give a talk to children about responsible dog ownership.</li> </ul>	
	Cllr Webb was thanking for overseeing this ongoing project	Cllr Webb
	<ul> <li>Chippy Jumps/Allotment Road</li> <li>Cllr Simkin and the Clerk had visited Wildwood Park to get ideas on equipment/facilities that could be used on the Chippy Jumps site. Costs of equipment would be requested from Stafford Borough Council to get an idea of how much would be needed to revamp this area.</li> </ul>	
	• The Clerk would be meeting with S106 Officer on 2.3.16 to discuss this project as well as enhancing the surface of the allotment road and play area car park (as one project) and determine whether S106 funds could be used. Following this meeting the Clerk to inform councillors of the outcome.	Clerk
7	To discuss any maintenance requirements on/at:	
	The Acres	
	<ul> <li>Work to repair and relocate the damaged interpretation panel is still outstanding.</li> </ul>	Handyman
	• A burst pipe near to Norbury Close had resulted in sewerage being spilled onto the Acres. Severn Trent had repaired the pipe and would clear up spillage. The affected area had been cordoned off. The Handyman would be monitoring this.	Handyman
	An abandoned car on the play area car park had been removed by	

	Stafford Borough Council's Enforcement Officer. Unfortunately a section of the parish council's perimeter fence had been damaged by the vehicle and had been fixed, by the Handyman, at a cost of around £30.	
	<ul> <li>Play areas</li> <li>Regular inspections and general maintenance is carried out by the Handyman.</li> <li>Chains need replacing on a set of swings. Clerk to action.</li> <li>The Basket ball area and the MUGA surface needs steam cleaning and the lines repainted. It was agreed that the Clerk should action this as soon as possible asking Streetscene to assist.</li> <li>The picnic site needs tidying.</li> </ul>	Clerk Clerk
	Village Green	
	• When development commences on the field to the rear of the Village Green, ongoing monitoring would be required by cllrs to ensure the hedge at the far side of the Village Green remains intact.	Cllrs
	Burial Ground	Clerk
	• It was agreed that a dead tree, that is unsafe, should be removed as soon as possible for safety reasons. Clerk to instruct JWH to carry out the work.	Handyman
	• The water to be turned on by 5 <sup>th</sup> March.	
	Notice boards/Benches	
	• The new notice board on the Village Green already needs repair. The Clerk to inform the supplier, Joinery Solutions as this board is only 6 months old.	Clerk
	• The Handyman to include varnishing notice boards to his summer work schedule.	Handyman
	<ul> <li>Benches would be reviewed and any maintenance carried out in time for the Best Kept Village season. It was agreed that the bench outside Knightley Church should be secured to the ground.</li> </ul>	Handyman
8	To receive any correspondence relating to Open Spaces Committee	
	An email had been received from Mrs S Howlett informing the Council that damage had been caused to her vehicle last year that she believes to be because of the poor condition of the allotment road. She asked for guidance as to the process in addressing the repair cost. It was agreed the Clerk should respond asking for information about the car (make, model, registration) and detailed evidence of the damage, including costs of repairs with receipts that would be forwarded to to the council's insurers for consideration.	Clerk
	A letter had been received from P Boston asking for permission to locate a restored Parish Council bench along the Millennium Way just outside Gnosall Parish. The Clerk to respond thanking Mr Boston for his ongoing help restoring benches and painting parish signposts but cllrs would prefer the bench to be kept within Gnosall parish.	Clerk
	It was reported that a horse had been seen being exercised on the Acres with inadequate tack (ie a loose rope) that had concerned some residents. This would be monitored and if seen again the owner would be identified and written to.	
9	<b>To confirm the time and date for the next meeting</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	