

Sevenoaks Town Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Asset Working Group
Held on 4th September 2024 at the Town Council Offices

Meeting Commenced: 14:00

Meeting Concluded: 14:59

Present:

Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet (Chair)	Present	Cllr Lise Michaelides	Present
Cllr Dr Peter Dixon (Vice-Chair)	Present	Cllr Nigel Wightman	Present
Cllr Libby Ancrum (Mayor, ex-officio)	Apologies	Cllr Gareth Willis	Apologies

In attendance: Responsible Finance Officer & Deputy Town Clerk, Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager, Open Spaces & Leisure Committee Clerk/Allotments Officer.

The quorum of 3 elected members was met.

148. Apologies for Absence: Received and accepted as noted above.

149. Requests for Dispensations: There were no requests for dispensations.

150. Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

151. Minutes of Community Asset Working Group held on 17th July 2024

It was agreed to receive and accept the minutes as a true record.

152. Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager's Report

Nicholas Cave, the Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager, presented his report.

It was noted that the search for the Deputy Supervisor's post continued due to lack of suitable candidates.

A start date of early October had been provided by the contractor for the repairs to the boundary wall at St Nicholas' Church. The contractor had been waiting for final approval for the colour of bricks to be used.

It was also advised to the Working Group that the Knole Paddock and Raleys fields had been weed killed and preparations were being made for the commencement of the Autumn playing season, reseeding of numerous pitches is also planned dependent on the moisture levels.

The Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager noted that with the recent addition of Longspring Wood, STC now has 11 woodlands of varying size under management. It was noted to the group that a new management plan for Longspring Wood as well

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as updating existing management plans for the other woods was being sought and quotes were in the process of being obtained.

153. Allotments Report

The Allotment Officer's Report had been received and noted by the Working Group.

154. Draft Proposed Charges for 2024-2025

The proposed charges for 2024-2025 had been received by the Working Group. Due to the increased deficit in the budget, the councillors recommended that the charges be increased by more than the originally proposed 2.5%

RESOLVED to recommend to the Finance & Delivery Committee:

- 1)** To increase the proposed Fees and Charges for Greatness Park Cemetery by 5%
- 2)** To increase the proposed Fees and Charges for Sports Facilities to 3%
- 3)** To increase the proposed General Fees and Charges to 3%

155. Statement of Accounts – Community Assets

The Working Group had received and noted the Statement of Accounts for July 2024.

156. Bat & Ball Solar Panels

The Bat & Ball Centre Solar Panels Report was received by the Working Group.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation to consider cleaning the solar panels at a cost of £830.77 be recommended to the Finance & Delivery Committee.

157. Current Matters

The current matters had been received by the Working Group and updates on the following current matters were:

1. Greatness Recreation Ground Survey
2. Boundary Wall between the Closed Churchyard at St Nicholas Church and The Chantry House.
3. Sevenoaks Greensands Common Project
4. Greatness Cemetery – Headstone & Memorial Testing
5. Longspring Woods

158. Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club Solar Panels: CIL BID

Due to the nature of the CIL BID, the Working Group agreed that the item would be more appropriately included in the Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Working Group.

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It was **RESOLVED** that the Sevenoaks Indoor Bowls Club Solar Panels CIL BID be deferred to the next Sevenoaks Town Sports Strategy Meeting to be held on 30th September 2024.

159. Press Release

None

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