

**WEST END PARISH COUNCIL
NOTES OF THE RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20th MARCH 2024, AT 7.15 PM**

Councillors Present: **C Boulton (Chair)**
 D Berry
 J Haylett
 R Prince-Wright
 S Turl

In Attendance: **B Bond, Deputy Parish Clerk**
 S Adams, Head Groundsman
 S Johnson, Admin Officer

 0 member of the public

As Councillor MacDonald was unable to attend the meeting, Councillor Boulton, as Vice Chair, was due to chair the meeting. However, as Councillor Boulton was late in arriving, Councillor Turl opened the meeting and acted as chair until she arrived.

148/24/REC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No questions raised as no members of the public were present.

149/24/REC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No new declarations were made.

150/24/REC APOLOGIES FROM COUNCILLORS

Apologies received and accepted from Councillor MacDonald.

151/24/REC MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 21st February 2024 meeting were agreed at the Full Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 13th March 2024.

152/24/REC EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY 2024-2034

The Strategy sets out Eastleigh Borough Council’s approach for the protection, maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural environment in the Borough. A consultation on this strategy is currently open for residents to provide feedback on. The closing date is Friday 29th March 2024.

Councillors agreed to look into this and provide any feedback to the Deputy Clerk before the closing date so a Council response can be submitted.

Councillor Boulton arrived at 7.21pm

153/24/REC PARISH EVENTS

D-Day 80th Anniversary – Thursday 6th June 2024

10 th Itchen North Scouts will be helping us to light the beacon. A meeting is being arranged with the Scout group leader to discuss this in further detail.

156/24/REC OPEN SPACES / RECREATION AREAS

- The Open Spaces Risk Assessment has been reviewed and was all agreed to be relevant.
- A verbal update was provided by Councillor Prince-Wright on the work being done by the Eastleigh Borough Conservation Alliance at Telegraph Woods.
- There is a leak under the oak tree outside the Parish Centre which has been reported to Hampshire County Council and is being dealt with by Southern Water.
- Councillor Tennent was contacted by a resident that had a visit from a tree surgeon who informed him work was needed on an overhanging tree in his garden which backs onto Megan Green, as per Council instruction. No such instruction was given, and we informed the resident that should the Council ever need to conduct any tree work, the resident would always be notified in advance.

157/24/REC PLAY AREAS

- The bench in the Hatch Grange Play Area needs replacing as the wooden slats are rotten. This will be at a cost of £650.00 + VAT. The Head Groundsman reported that this is the last of the concrete-ended style benches in the Parish and will be replaced by the composite / recycled plastic style.
- The rope swing has had to be removed again at Townhill Farm play area due to damage by a dog. The Deputy Clerk reported that CCTV options are being investigated.

158/24/REC QUOB LANE CEMETERY/ BURIAL GROUND

There has been a lot of sinkage of the full burial graves at Quob Lane Cemetery due to the weather. The Grounds team have been topping these areas up as and when they occur. It was confirmed that the memorials are stable or staked and a stability test will be carried out in May.

159/24/REC ALLOTMENTS

- **RESOLVED:** West End Garden and Allotment Association (WEGAA) have asked the Parish if we are able to provide the prizes for their Best Kept Allotment awards again as we have done in previous years. The Councillors unanimously agreed to provide this once again.
- The SSEN generator has now been removed from the allotment site.
- The current waiting list stands at 30 (10 Parishioners, 20 non-Parishioners) and the current number of vacant plots is 13.

160/24/REC DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 17th April 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.46pm.