

## Sevenoaks Town Council

### Minutes of the meeting of the Community Asset (Open Spaces) Committee Held on Monday 04 August 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Council Offices, TN13 3QG

Livestreamed and available to view on YouTube until approved by Council:

<https://youtube.com/live/fxy4g0oP0s8>

Meeting commenced: 19:00

Meeting Concluded: 20:15

#### Present:

Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet (Chair)	Apologies	Cllr Tony Clayton (Mayor)	Apologies
Cllr Dr Peter Dixon (Vice-Chair)	Present	Cllr Lionel O'Hara	Absent
Cllr Libby Ancrum	Present	Cllr Lise Michaelides	Apologies

Substitute:		For
Cllr Victoria Granville (Deputy Mayor)	Present	Cllr Lise Michaelides
Cllr Claire Shea (Leader)	Present	Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet (Chair)

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

**Also present:** Natalie Eacercall – Member of Public

#### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Natalie Eacercall, member of the public, addressed concerns over dog fouling in Sevenoaks to the Committee (correspondence noted in Agenda Item 11).

Suggestions made by Keep Britain Tidy on resolving the problem were noted by the Councillors, the importance of reporting dog fouling to SDC was also recommended by the Councillors.

#### 258 - APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Noted as above.

#### 259 - REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None received.

#### 260 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

## **261 - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 23RD JUNE 2025**

The Committee received the minutes of the Community Asset Working Group meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025.

**RESOLVED:** To receive, adopt and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Asset Working Group held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 as a true record.

## **262 - WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLANS**

Councillors received and noted the draft Woodland Management Plans. The Open Spaces & Cemetery Manager noted delays were due to The Forestry Commission changing their system. No unexpected recommendations for STC managed woodlands were confirmed to date.

The final report would be available Autumn 2025.

## **263 - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - COMMUNITY ASSETS**

The Committee received and considered the RFO's summary report and Statement of Accounts for April, May and June 2025.

**RESOLVED:** That the accounts for April, May, and June 2025 be received and noted.

## **264 - GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND COMMUNITY & FOOTBALL PAVILION**

The Committee received and noted the update report on the Greatness Recreation Ground Community & Football Pavilion.

It was noted that a Quantity Surveyor and Employers Agent was appointed with construction work to start in September/October 2025.

Councillors also noted that STC was successful in obtaining £100,000 of CIL funding towards relocating and installing the Children's Play Area at Greatness Recreation Ground with the total budget being £250,000 for the project.

## **265 - PLAY AREAS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

The Play Areas Capital Investment Programme report was received by the committee. It was noted that repairs and refurbishment projects for several play areas were overdue, and an update of the play equipment capital programme was necessary.

### **RESOLVED:**

- i) That the Community Assets Committee review the future programme for improvements to Play Areas and make recommendations to the Finance & Delivery Committee.
- ii) Progress with refurbishment of Buckhurst Lane Play Area and Kippington Meadow Play Area.
- iii) Progress with obtaining tender for public consultation for new relocated Greatness Recreation Ground Play Area.

## **266 - VINE BRIDGE**

The committee received and noted the report on the Vine Bridge. Costs of a full refurbishment of the bridge and a consideration for a modernised bridge design were noted.

**RESOLVED:** That a tender process is entered into for the full refurbishment of the bridge, with consideration of a more modern design subject to meeting planning and conservation requirements.

## **267 - OAST HOUSE PROPOSAL**

The Committee received the feasibility report for the Oast House, the purposes of the report were to indicate that the facilities originally identified can be accommodated in the building (section 11) and to outline to Tarmac the intended community use of the building and request that negotiations for the Freehold of the building being handed to Sevenoaks Town Council commence.

**RESOLVED:** To outline to Tarmac the intended community use of the building and request that negotiations for the Freehold of the building (and ancillary area for car parking and outdoor space) be handed to Sevenoaks Town Council commence.

## **268 - ELECTRIC MINIBUS UPDATE**

It was noted to the Council that the delivery of the minibus would be delayed due to a nationwide recall on all electric Ford Transits. STC is awaiting further updates.

## **269 - DOG FOULING**

Councillors received and noted correspondence from a local resident regarding dog fouling in Sevenoaks (see Public Question Time section).

The Councillors were grateful to the member of the public for taking the time to contact them on the matter.

### **RESOLVED:**

- i) Review and implement where possible Keep Britain Tidy recommendations.
- ii) Raise Awareness on Social Media.
- iii) Provide Animal Welfare Officer contact details to resident.

## **270 - CURRENT MATTERS**

The updates on current matters were noted by the Committee.

Councillors noted that the relocation of the Greatness Recreation Ground Play Area was a large project and would begin once construction of the New Football Pavilion was completed. It was also noted that local schools and residents will be consulted on the proposed designs of the new and relocated play area.

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### 271 - PRESS RELEASE

It was **RESOLVED** that a Press Release be issued about the following items:

- Woodland Management Plan received and included newly acquired Longspring Wood.
- Oast House- 1st Draft of Feasibility Study published.
- Refurbishing of the Vine Bridge needed.
- Play Areas Programme to be reviewed.

There being no further business the Chair closed the Meeting.

Signed .....  
Chair

Dated .....