

# Gerrards Cross Town Council

Lodge, East Common, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD 01753 888018

to the Council – Mrs. S Moffat clerk@gerrardscross.gov.uk

www.gerrardscross.gov.uk



## Minutes of the Commons Committee held at 8 pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in Room 4, Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre

**Present:** Cllr. T Greenfield (Chairman), Cllr. N Barnett, Cllr. M Bracken, Cllr. B Holborn, Cllr O’Keeffe, Cllr. B Peck, Cllr. C Stuart-Lee and Cllr. A Wood,

**In Attendance:** Associate Cllr L Lindvall, Sue Moffat, (Town Clerk),

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Cllr. J Chhokar , Associate Cllr J Woolveridge.
- 2. Public speaking from residents regarding matters relevant to the meeting’s agenda with time allowed as 5 minutes per person.** – No public present.
- 3. Health & Safety Reports:-**

**East Common** – Cllr Peck reported that the common is looking lovely and everything in order.

**West Common** – Cllr Da Costa was unable to inspect the common this month. The Town Clerk reported that regards the bin by the pond, which is broken, it belongs to GXTC not Bucks Council. It was agreed to purchase a replacement bin.

**Report Play Equipment** – The Town Clerk reported the replacement cradle swing has now been delivered and should be installed this week. Also, there is some unsightly graffiti on the fitness trail, but she has arranged for this to be removed. Cllr Stuart-Lee reported that the zip wire is slipping. The Playground supplier will be asked to return for another meeting together with the inspection of the roundabout which still appears to be stiff to push.

(ii) Cllr Davey and Cllr Greenfield to bring alternative play equipment quote for consideration – Cllr Greenfield reported that the quote only arrived too late for this meeting so deferred to the next meeting.

**Report on The Camp.** Cllr Bracken reported that one of the wooden step needs repairing along Valley Way entrance. The increase in flowing water due to Climate Change and the increase in usage of mountain bikers using this bridleway has caused more than usual damage to the wooden steps. Cllr Wood to talk to Highways contractor to see if there is an alternative to using wooden steps that would be more enduring. In the meantime, the Town Clerk will arrange for the broken step to be repaired.
- 4. Gerrards Cross Commons - Tree Planting for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.** – The Oak tree has been planted. Cllr Peck and a young volunteer offered to water the tree on a regular basis. GXTC to consider a plaque at a later date. A metal tree guard is being ordered to protect the tree.
- 5. Gerrards Cross Commons – To consider purchasing a bench for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee** – The cost has now increased to £1178 plus £67 engraved plaque (if required) plus £36 fixings plus £105 delivery charge. Total is £1283 plus VAT. Amersham Town Council has quoted £342 to construct a slab base and fix the bench to the slabs. These costs were agreed. Also agreed to allow for a 10% increase in cost of the bench if necessary.
- 6. Tree Survey Report** – The Town Clerk is seeking quotes for the tree maintenance work required as set out in the tree survey report.
- 7. To consider purchasing an additional dog bin on East Common.** Cllr Barnett also asked for additional dog bins along the footpath that crosses the road between East and West Common. It was recognized that South Bucks Waste Team will need to agree the location but are unlikely to be able to empty any more bins on permanent basis. It was agreed not to ask for any more bins. However, Cllr Greenfield will monitor the situation and provide proof if there is the need for another dog bin in the future on East Common, opposite Mill Lane.
- 8. Circus** – The circus usually attends West Common at the May Bank Holiday weekend. They have asked to attend late June this year. The Fun Fair will not be attending late June this year

as will be in attendance for the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebration at the beginning of June. It was agreed for the Circus to use the Common in late June.

9. **To review outstanding projects** – Copy to be emailed to councillors. The Town Clerk has placed an order for the paths to be refurbished. Cllr Wood confirmed that the contractor will carry out this work in June. Also, to add the bit of footpath by the turning circle.
10. **Commons Budget** – Copy to be emailed to councillors.
11. **Report on the latest meeting of the Gerrards Cross Conservation Volunteers**- No meeting last week due to it being the Easter weekend.
12. **Footpaths** – Cllr Bracken reported the dangerous condition of the Orchehill Rise tarmacked footpath. It has been reported to Bucks Council but in the hierarchy of problems it will be low down on the list for repair. In the longer term, Cllr Bracken suggested we may want to use our delegated authority to repair this type of footpath .It was agreed for everyone to consider prioritising footpaths for repair over the next couple of months. In the meantime, Cllr Wood will ask the Highways contractor to repair one particular dangerous pothole along the Orchehill Rise footpath.
13. **Communications** – None.
14. **To note general information received in the correspondence at the Council Office** – (i) Gerrards Cross Combined school have asked to use East Common for their cross-country run in May. This was agreed but to ensure no notices are nailed into any trees; (2) GXFunRun have asked if GXTC want a stand in the Community tent on the day. It was agreed not to have a stand this year due to the closeness of the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations on West Common on 4<sup>th</sup> June.
15. **To confirm that the next meeting of the Commons Committee will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 7.30 pm following Planning at Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre.**

Meeting closed at 8.48pm.

Signed.....

Date.....