

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 3rd APRIL 2025 AT 6.30 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Bowden (Chair)
Councillors Bates, Jenkins, Knight, Lofthouse and Needham.
M Isaac (Clerk)
Also, present Lewis Evely

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – None

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies announced.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

Burial Ground.

The Committee considered an email from Councillor Jenkins (previously circulated) following his inspection of the Burial Ground:

- Four grave stones had an "unsafe" notice on them. The upright part of the memorials although not high could be moved, and it appeared that they were not firmly attached to the base stone on which they were resting.
The Chair stated that FJ Stephens the appointed surveyors of the gravestones had put the notices on the unsafe gravestones in advance of the completion of the survey. Once received the Council would consider contacting the families concerned.
- A large amount of excavated earth and stones from the recent burial had been placed adjacent to the plot with excavations from previous burials at the bottom of the burial ground.
It was agreed that Councillors Bowden and Knight would visit the burial ground and assess the situation.
- Gate post stones missing.
It was agreed that Councillors Bowden and Knight would visit the burial ground and assess the situation.
- The drainage gully was clear of debris, however the point at which it met the carpark surface was not clear. The open flow route had been pointed out following an earlier inspection. The above was noted and not considered a problem.

It was noted that Lewis Evely had trimmed the large hedge around the site but that he considered that for future maintenance it should be reduced in height to approximately 6 feet.

It was agreed to seek a quote from Lewis to reduce the height of the hedge during the autumn/winter seasons.

4. TOWER VIEW RECREATION AREA

- a) Provision of Solar powered lights, signs and cameras: update
The Chair reported that following a meeting with Councillor Needham that due to legal issues regarding safeguarding issues etc raised by DALC it was considered reluctantly that the provision of cameras be not progressed at present.
It was agreed however to look at the provision of solar lights located along the central path and the alley way at the bottom end.
Councillor Knight stated that the lights that had been agreed to be purchased were controlled by a timer and would not go on or off as people passed by.
It was agreed that Councillor Needham seek advice from DALC regarding the legal issues of the two types of lights.
- b) Publication of information/pictures of the ongoing work in Tower View on the Park Noticeboard.
Councillor Lofthouse stated that he had previously sent a form of words for consideration by the Committee but that it had been deferred as some changes were required. He had not heard from Councillor Mason regarding the QR codes.
It was agreed to defer to the next meeting and that the Clerk re-send the email to all Committee Members and that Members send their proposed changes to the Clerk.
- c) Damaged Trees
It was noted that the damaged trees had been actioned by Lewis Evelyn.
- d) RoSPA Annual Inspection Report
The Committee considered the RoSPA report (previously circulated).
The only issue raised related to the goal mouth area and net.
It was agreed:
 - i) That Councillor Knight research the provision of a new goal net and posts
 - ii) That Councillor Bowden take some pictures of the worn area in the goal mouth for the next meeting.

5. TUDOR PARK

- a) Review of Notices.
Councillor Knight reported that the type and size of noticeboard purchased for the Burial Ground would also be appropriate for Tudor Park. He agreed to take measurements to assess suitability. He also agreed to look at the location for the new noticeboard at the Burial Ground.
- b) RoSPA Annual Inspection Report
The Committee considered the RoSPA report (previously circulated).
The only issue raised related to the condition of the old bench.
It was agreed:
That the Old Bench be removed and replaced with a new plastic bench in keeping the other benches in the park and that the Clerk seek a quote from TK Play.

c) Fencing

Councillor Needham reported that it appeared that the new fence of number 13 encroached onto the park by approximately 2 feet. However, he advised that having considered all the circumstances, he felt it would not be appropriate to take any further action at this time. It was agreed that no further action be taken at this time.

6. ELIZABETH DRIVE (TOP CORNER) ROTTEN TREE

Lewis Evely reported that following the removal of the large fallen tree branch at the top corner of Elizabeth drive, the rest of the tree looked like it could have the potential to fall down due to some rot in the middle from where the branch sheered. A tree survey may be deemed appropriate as it may be dangerous.

It was agreed that as the land and tree was owned by DCC that DCC be requested to undertake a survey of the tree and also re-imburse the Parish Council for the cost of the removal of the fallen branch.

7. PROVISION OF WHITE INFORMATION SIGNS INDICATING THE LOCATION OF THE TWO PARKS

Councillor Lofthouse reported that he had not received a response from DCC Highways re consent for their location but would chase.

8. BURIAL GROUND – LARGE HEDGE

See minute 3 above

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the following issues be considered at the next meeting:

Tower View Play Equipment
Tudor Park – Concreted areas

Chair the meeting ended at 7.50 p.m.