

Minutes of Open Spaces/Fabrics meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2024

Present: Councillor T Threlfall, (Chair)

Councillors Mrs. N Whalley, Mrs. L Willis, Mrs. C Thomas, Mrs. P Mulholland, K McKay, Mrs D Dickinson.

The Chairman of the Council Mrs. N Griffiths was also in attendance for part of the meeting.

1) Apologies:

Councillors Mrs J Atherton and T Fiddler (other business)
The reason for absence was accepted.

2) To record Declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

All Councillors, as Landlords, declared an interest in item 3 – To review the Open Spaces on the Hawthorns Estate. Item 4 - To review the Drainage on the top end of Bush Lane Sports field.

3) To review the Open Spaces on the Hawthorns Estate.

All councilors commented that the area was looking good, it was much improved since their last visit. The clerk reported that the remembrance bench had been obtained from FBC by Councillor Threlfall. The refurbishment that Dean Wilson had done looked very good. It was agreed to replace the 2 dying Ash trees after they have been removed. The type of trees that will be used to replace them will be agreed at a later date. The Clerk will write a letter of thanks to the contractor for the big improvement on how the area is looking.

4) To review the Drainage on the top end of Bush Lane Sports field.

It was pointed out that drains have been installed on both the Football pitches and the Cricket outfield and these took the water into the drain that was installed to take this water into the over flow tank installed by UU on the allotments. However, there is a small area in the north east corner of the field that is lower than the rest of the field and this allows rain water to run in to the road on Bush lane. This area is where the garages used to be and is concreted over. It would not be possible to drain this area to allow the water to run in to the existing drains. It was noticed that the surface drain on the road immediately adjacent to this area was blocked. Councillor Threlfall informed the meeting that LCC will only clear blocked drains that are reported and the local residents have a responsibility to check and report blocked drains, particularly where flooding has occurred in the past. He agreed to report this blocked drain the following day.

5) To consider areas for planting new trees.

It was agreed that the 2 ash trees that are dyeing at the Hawthorns and the Alder at Balderstone would be replaced with new trees. The Clerk gave an update that the council’s request for an orchard to be planted in the village has been approved. The Clerk agreed to write to FBC to ask what types of trees are available for planting.

Signed.....Mrs. L Willis, Vice Chairman.....

Date.....08/10/24.....