

**Thurcaston & Cropston Parish Council Memorial Hall,
Anstey Lane, Thurcaston. LE7 7JA.**

Tel.: 0116 2367626 Email: clerk@thurcastonandcropston.org.uk

**Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on Friday 2nd December 2022 at
9.30am in the Memorial Hall, Anstey Lane, Thurcaston.**

**Present: Cllr Sue Graham (Chair), Cllr Sylvia Cole (minute taker), Cllr Matt Green,
Cllr Michael Jackson, Cllr Andy Sharp.**

1. Apologies – To receive apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given. Received from Jamie Torrance, Neil Pilcher & Clerk, Marianne Lane. Resolved to accept.
2. Declarations of Interest - To receive Declarations of Interest both pecuniary and non-pecuniary on agenda items. None
3. To approve minutes of 2nd September 2022 meeting. Resolved to approve as a true record.
4. Public Participation – 15 minutes set aside for residents to raise issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration. No Public
5. Jubilee Park – updates including signage and way forward following informal meeting at the park on 21st October 2022 . Shire Environment Grant – Jubilee Park Diversity Project. Cllr Sue Graham advised the bid successful. Project costs - £3380. Grant £2500 with a shortfall of £880. This amount to be requested from Parish Council including contribution in kind. Completion within 12 months of bid confirmation. Committee congratulated Sue Graham and Sylvia Cole on the successful bid. Clerk to be asked to circulate the application to all members.

Jubilee Park Sign-post. Where will this be? What approval (e.g. footpaths) is required. Clerk to check with LCC. Possibly on Latimer Road opposite Sandham Bridge Road.

Jubilee Park development plan supplied at 9.30 today by Jamie Torrance. Copies to be sent to all OS Members. Plan originally discussed by Jamie Torrance and Sue Graham. Tree planting, cutting etc follows usual routes and pathways used by visitors to the park.

Sign re dogs on leads. Andy Sharp reminded members of the signs (or absence of them) at other local parks and open areas. Andy Sharp and Michael Jackson still unhappy with decision that dogs should be on leads. Sue Graham reminded group of attempts to increase bio-diversity in park, protect wild-flowers, use walk ways etc. LRALC advice had confirmed that erecting such signs was not unlawful. Agreed to retain on agenda with review at March 2023 meeting.

Jubilee Park Emblem? Richard Hill School involvement – another competition? Children to suggest what should be on the sign. Sylvia Cole to lead on this.

Tree Planting – Delineation of relaxed-mown and tree planting areas to be completed by Contractor Jamie Torrance, as per plan and details in grant application. Purchased trees and saplings provided free of charge by the Woodland Trust (expected delivery early March 2023) to be planted by OS Committee volunteers/School Children.

OS8

6. To receive Sandham Bridge and Mill Race Bridge updates. Sylvia Cole shared the recent quote from James Rowley re small bridge regarding repairs to small bridge – replacement of stones etc. OS committee agreed unanimously NOT to accept quote. It was recognised that crossing the bridge with the exposed stones could be difficult in winter. Agreed that OS group should look at possible repairs in the Spring. Immediate action: Renew the “Warning” notice and strim round the pond to create an alternative walkway.
7. Wildflower Verge – to consider signage around verge ready for start of 2023 mowing season. Agreed to consider 3 signs. Matt Green to obtain quotes for steelwork and adhesive vinyl printed “covers” containing messages. Discuss purchase of signs at January PC meeting
8. To confirm date and time of next OS committee meeting on Friday 3rd March at 9.30am Time and length of OS meeting to be changed? Early evening – 1.1/2 hours? Sue Graham to discuss possibility with Clerk.

Meeting closed at 11.10am

Chairman.....Date.....