

Thame Town Council

Meeting Report: Open Spaces Working Group

Date: 06 July 2021

Present:

Cllr Nigel Champken-Woods
Cllr Adrian Dite (Chair)
Cllr Linda Emery (Deputy Chair)
Cllr Helena Fickling
Cllr Catherine Jones
Cassie Pinnells (Acting Town Clerk)
Andrea Oughton (Asset Manager)

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Helena Richards

Action

2. Meeting – 14 June 2021

The notes of the meeting held on 14 June 2021 were noted.

3. Elms Park

Need to look at the process and develop a timeline. Previous consultation out of date. Light touch consultation to be carried out once new proposed plans drawn up. New paths need to link up with development on The Elms.

New s106 Agreement does not stipulate the MUGA has to be moved.

Agreed to review original proposals to see what is still relevant. Andrea to circulate hard copies of the Landscape Design (Stage 1 & 2) Report and the Interim Stage 3 Report for discussion at the next meeting.

AO

Agreed to invite interested stakeholders to a future OSWG meeting once new plans are developed, this will be followed by a public consultation.

Agreed to approach Rectory Homes in September to gain a better understanding of their timeline for development on The Elms.

4. Any Other Business

A resident in Park Street has requested a self-seeded sycamore tree in Elms Park is felled as the tree overhangs their small garden and the black sap drops making everything 'dirty and sticky'. As the Park is in a Conservation Area, any tree work requires permission from the District Council. Andrea has spoken to the tree officer who said they don't advocate the felling of trees as a rule but a contractor / house owner can apply to SODC to have the tree removed under a 211 Notice of Works regardless of who owns the tree. That's not to say permission will be granted.

It was agreed Andrea will circulate details / location of the tree to members so they can undertake a site visit before the next meeting.

AO

John Scott, of Thame Green Living has made a tentative enquiry about the possible installation of ground mounted solar panels on the triangle shaped piece of land next

to the Skate Park.

Members agreed the idea was a good one but not on this site which in the long term is proposed as a site for a BMX Track and in the short term is one of the greening / wilding areas.

5. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 11 August 2021, 2.30pm in the Upper Chamber, Thame Town Hall.