

# Thame Town Council

## Meeting Report: Open Spaces Working Group

Date: 10 May 2022

### Present:

Cllr Adrian Dite (Chair)  
Cllr Helena Fickling  
Cllr Catherine Jones  
Cllr Helena Richards  
Mandy Sturdy (Town Clerk)  
Andrea Oughton (Asset Manager)

1. **Apologies:** Nigel Champken-Woods, Linda Emery

**Action**

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### 2. Meeting – 8 February 2022

The report of the meeting held on 8 February 2022 was noted.

### 3. Elms Park

Meeting with Rectory Homes to be confirmed, possibly 6 or 7 June 2022. Mandy has asked Rectory for information ahead of the meeting.

S106 officer has confirmed TTC should not have to move the MUGA as it is specifically linked in s106 agreement 15S32 related to planning application (P14/S2176/FUL) which Rectory Homes allowed to expire. The second application does not mention the MUGA.

Discussions on possible inclusion of pentanque court, splash pad, toilets, lighting within the redevelopment of the park. Further discussions on layout, project timeline, etc, once meeting with Rectory Homes has taken place.

### 4. Cuttle Brook – Cox's Wood

It was noted that the felling of Ash trees in Cox's Wood did not take place as planned due to very wet weather making the ground too soft for the contractor to bring equipment into the wood. It is hoped felling will now take place during the summer months.

### 5. Dog Waste Bin Emptying

Andrea reported she had met Steve Partington of Shield Group to discuss Shield's proposal for taking over the emptying of Town Council owned dog waste bins. Andrea will write a report for the next CLR committee meeting recommending Shield take on the contract. If agreed, it is proposed that some of the surplus budget line is used to purchase additional dog waste bins to replace bins Thame Wombles have put in place and are emptied by their volunteers.

## **6. Updates**

Cuttle Brook Nature Reserve – Andrea reported a survey of trees in Cuttle Brook Nature Reserve took place on 20 April 2022. The primary reason for the survey was to check the condition of mature trees in higher risk locations by the main paths and along the roadside and parking area.

The survey report recommended some trees are felled or pollarded in the autumn with trunks and limbs cut into large length logs and left on site, where safe to do so, to form wildlife habitats.

Rycote Meadow – Outline specification for the path, including the pedestrian access onto Oxford Road is being prepared. S106 funding associated with providing a footpath through the meadow will be used to fund the work. Andrea is checking with SODC and OCC to see what permissions are required.

Moorend Lane Triangle area (adjacent to Skate Park) – Thame Green Living have proposed a scheme for mixed hedging and low-level planting along the boundary fence with the bypass. Andrea reported the Maintenance Team have repaired the wooden fence and the new hedging will create a natural boundary overtime. All agreed.

## **6. Any Other Business**

Helena Richards asked, on behalf of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Thame, who they should approach about getting approval to seek sponsorship for Kingsey Road Roundabout to improve the appearance. It looked very sad compared with Oxford Road and Aylesbury roundabouts.

## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

To be confirmed once meeting with Rectory Homes has taken place.