



Maresfield Parish Council

REPRESENTING THE VILLAGES OF MARESFIELD, NUTLEY & FAIRWARP

Minutes of the Maresfield Parish Council Environment Committee meeting held remotely via Zoom on Tuesday 6th October 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Dr P Handley (Chair), Cllr Mrs S Cumming, Cllr T Lewin, Cllr Dr B Smith, Cllr Mrs L Stevens-Smith, Mrs N O'Hanlon (Asst Clerk).

1. **Public session.** None.
2. **Apologies for absence.** Cllr A Strevens, Cllr D Watson.
3. **Declarations of interest.** Cllr Mrs S Cumming – Maresfield Conservation Group
Cllr T Lewin – Maresfield Conservation Group
4. **Minutes of previous meeting held via Zoom on 7th July 2020: -**
 - 4.1 Adoption. The minutes as previously circulated were **Adopted**.
 - 4.2 Matters arising from these Minutes not elsewhere on the Agenda. None.
5. **To Note: Action Points update.** Noted.
6. **Play Areas – inspections, maintenance & development: -**
 - 6.1 **Fords Green Play Area.** None.
 - 6.2 **Fairwarp Play Area.**

Two benches inside the play area were flagged up as needing a lot of attention in the latest inspection report. It would cost more to refurbish the benches than to replace them. Cllr Dr Handley proposed that up to £600 is spent to purchase two new replacement benches. This was seconded by Cllr T Lewin and **AGREED** by all.

Further investigation to be carried out with regards to the bench that is outside the play area.

Action: Cllr Dr Handley to ask Fairwarp village Hall Committee about it.
 - 6.3 **Maresfield Recreation Ground.**

Cllr Dr P Handley proposed that up to £200 is spent to replace the broken disabled bucket seat, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs S Cumming and **AGREED** by all.

6.3.1 Correspondence regarding cleaning of playground equipment.

It was **Agreed** that in the short-term Garden Force should be asked to do an extra hour each week when sanitising the play equipment and over the course of 8 weeks either scrub or power wash all of the equipment. This would give 2 hours per playground and cost £20 per week. Going forward it was **Agreed** that annually we should get a price for giving the playground equipment a thorough clean, as a one-off job. **ACTION:** Asst Clerk.
 - 6.4 **Parklands, Maresfield.** None.
7. **Footpaths.** None
8. **Roads and Pavements: -** None
 - 8.1 **Parking on Pavements.** Discuss draft notice for putting on offending cars.

The draft leaflet was **Approved** and copies to be printed and circulated to Councillors for putting on cars that are parked on pavements making it difficult for pedestrians or buggies etc to pass. **ACTION:** Asst Clerk.
9. **Trees and Hedges:-** Update from Asst. Clerk. It was noted that all hedge letters that have been sent out in the past couple of months have been acted on by residents.

The woods opposite the car sales garage on the Straight Half Mile in Maresfield are growing over the pavement, it is thought that a Mr Thorn might own these woods and that a letter to him would be in order. **ACTION:** Cllr Dr P Handley will confirm his address.

Cllr Dr B Smith identified two houses along the Crowborough Road in Nutley that need their hedges to be trimmed back. **ACTION:** Cllr Smith to supply addresses so that letters can be sent.

It was requested that some investigation is done into TPOs, how to apply for them and which trees within the Parish are already protected by a TPO. **ACTION:** Asst Clerk to ascertain. It was noted that the County Tree Warden has been asked to inspect 2 trees in Maresfield.



Maresfield Parish Council

REPRESENTING THE VILLAGES OF MARESFIELD, NUTLEY & FAIRWARP

- 11. Climate Emergency:-** Update from Cllr Dr P Handley.
Cllr Dr Handley attended a very informative seminar regarding climate change and selected various pieces of information to circulate to Committee members prior to this meeting. Having discussed the information Cllr Dr Handley proposed that MPC declare a Climate Emergency, Cllr T Lewin Seconded and it was **Agreed** by all. **ACTION:** To be put on the agenda for the next full Council meeting for ratifying.
It was noted that grants are available currently to help residents 'green their homes'.
ACTION: Asst Clerk to add to the Newsfeed on the website.
It was agreed that it would be useful to set up an Interest Group to drive initiatives around the climate emergency. **ACTION:** Posts to be put on social media and website to gauge interest.
ACTION: Asst Clerk to make enquiries regarding any grants available for the installation of electric car charging points.
- 12. Road Safety:-**
- 12.1 MVAS update.** It was noted that the FR Maintenance team now swap the batteries. It was **Agreed** that it would be a good idea, if it can be done safely in light of Corona Virus, to move the signs to alternative sites, even if just for a short while, so that they maintain impact.
- 12.2 Speedwatch update.**
It was suggested that information about Speedwatch, showing session results for the Parish, might get more support if it went into Parish Magazines as a separate article and at the very least this information should be posted on social media and onto the bespoke Road Safety web page once created.
- 12.3 Motorcycles on Maresfield bypass and A22.**
The excessive noise from traffic, especially motorbikes, was raised and it was suggested that next spring it would be worth contacting WDC about this to see if they can do anything.
- 12.4 Black Cat speeding device.** Noted but more information needed.
- 13. Correspondence regarding Duddleswell/Fairwarp identity: -**
This was discussed and it was decided Cllr Dr Handley would respond to the correspondent explaining the history and reasoning for the placement of the signs.
ACTION: Cllr Handley to respond to Correspondent.
- 14. Date of next meeting:-** 1st December 2020

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.24