



Horndean Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL ON 31ST MARCH 2025

PRESENT : Cllr A Redding (Vice Chair), Cllr J Lay, Cllr R Sowden, Cllr D Prosser

IN ATTENDANCE : Carla Baverstock-Jones (Chief Officer), Matt Madill (Grounds Manager),
Susan Blake (Minute Taker)

PUBLIC – 2 members of the public

Meeting Opened 7pm by Cllr A Redding

G 69/24/25 To receive apologies for absence. Cllr Ron Smith

G 70/24/25 Declaration of interest: No declaration of interest

G 71/24/25 To open the meeting to members of the public

No public present

G 72/24/25 To elect a Chairman to the Grounds Committee.

Cllr A Redding suggested this be deferred until May. All Agreed.

G 73/24/25 To receive and approve the Minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting held on Monday 27 January 2025.

Minutes approved and signed by Cllr A Redding

Cllr R Sowden to take/organise notice board to Morrisons.

G 74/24/25 To receive an update in respect of the completed projects/significant works undertaken by the Countryside Team.

Ash die back work complete

One member of staff has left the Countryside Team – 1 applicant so far

Tree Safety works completed

Volunteer work continues on Hazleton Common

Installation of Carvings continues

Jubilee Play Area works have been completed

A2

G 75/24/25 To receive an update in respect of the Horndean Green Trail and Heritage Network

Update received by Cllr A Redding:

4 Sculptures are now in place
Noticeboards still to be put in place
Launch event planned in May – Local MP to be invited

Active Travel Fund to be obtained – Grant money. The project has been awarded HCC Active Travel Funding of £18k, and EHDC Climate Action Funding of a further £12k. This will be used for the second phase of the project work, aiming to complete by school summer holidays.

South Downs National Park CIL funding closing on the 21st April 2025, and an application will be submitted for a 'quiet lanes' initiative in the Blendworth zone.

Strategic Plan update as part of the Annual meeting

G 76/24/25 To receive a verbal update in respect of the renewal of Catherington Down lease.

Cllr Redding, Grounds Manager and the Chief Officer meeting HCC in the next week at the Parish Council Office

G 77/24/25 To receive and consider the renewal of the Woodland Management Plan, and available grants.

Grounds Manager to contact English Forestry early next year

G 78/24/25 To receive and consider engaging a pond consultant in respect of the ponds within the parish.

Quotation for £1,500 received which was agreed, and to be recommended to Council. Advised work to be completed in May 2025

To go to Full Council

G 79/24/25 To receive and consider the draft Dell Piece West Management Plan.

10 Year plan - to build on
Amendments to go to Full Council

G 80/24/25 To receive and consider the new version of the Countryside Stewardship Scheme, and discuss the way forward.

A brief discussion took place
To go back to Natural England too express an interest and to find out more



G 81/24/25 To receive and consider the quotations received in respect of the tree safety inspections, and discuss the way forward.

New quotes were circulated

A brief discussion took place – all agreed to remain with existing contractor for an additional year to provide a further opportunity for improvement.

G 82/24/25 To receive and consider the Access Document in respect of the works to be undertaken by SSEN at Hazleton Common.

Access document reviewed – 3 weeks access request to be given by SSEN. SSEN to be reminded of the requirement to work solely within the access dates stipulated in the agreement. SSEN to be reminded of the original agreement regarding replacement of the gates which are removed to gain access to Hazleton Common.

G 83/24/25 To receive and consider the Parish Pollinator Pledge.

All agreed – to sign up to the pledge

G 84/24/25 To receive and consider the feedback received in respect of the bench at Jay Close, and agree the way forward.

Cllr Redding explained that in a consultation exercise undertaken by HPC with the residents of Jay Close, the majority of respondents asked for the bench to be removed, because of the anti-social behaviour that it attracted. Cllr Prosser proposed moving it to Jubilee Recreation Ground.

Cllr D Prosser – Agreed

Cllr R Sowden – Seconded

Cllr Redding agreed; Cllr Lay abstained.

G 85/24/25 To resolve to exclude the public and the press, in the view that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or arising out of the business about to be transacted. (Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960).

Public excluded 20:10pm

G 86/24/25 To receive and consider the current contractual usage of the football pitch at Five Heads Recreation Ground.

A discussion took place – current usage of Five Heads football pitch to increase, and advised next season will be full. An update will be provided to HPC in mid-August, as to the confirmed number of teams using the pitch.

To be reviewed at the meeting of the Grounds Committee on the 18 August 2025.

Next meeting to be held on 2nd June 2025

Meeting Closed 8.20pm

