

HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of **Play and Open Spaces Advisory Committee (POSAC)** held on **Tuesday 8 June 2021** at **6.30 pm** on site in South Gardens.

Present: Mr Shaxson (Chair) (AS), Mr Bonner (TB), Mrs Bramley (SBr), Mrs Bull (SB), Mrs Dawson (SD), Mr Palmer (AP).

In attendance: Mrs Walker (Parish Clerk) (TW).

1. Apologies for absence: None.

2. Declarations of interest: None.

3. Minutes from Meeting held on 6 April 2021

The minutes were approved and will be signed by the Chairman as a true record when the coronavirus restrictions allow.

4. Matters arising:

- i. The clerk will remain in contact with the local student in respect of South Gardens.
- ii. The gates at the entrances of South Gardens have now been erected.

5. Woodland update

It was noted the woodland appeared to be recovering well and the newly planted saplings and shrubs were now growing well following the period of rain earlier in the month. There is an abundance of wild flowers starting to emerge as a result of the reduce canopy. The brambles and nettles are starting to grow rapidly and it hoped that some of the volunteers will be wiling to check that the saplings aren't being choked by them. A further update will be given.

The new regen and the volunteer planting sessions for the end of the year will need some consideration in the next couple of months.

It was suggested that a 'photo post' might be placed in the Warren, this is a permanent feature that allows people to take a photo from the same spot over a period of time.

The idea is that the photo's are then sent to the Council and can be kept as a useful record of progress throughout the seasons and years.

6. Play Area Inspection and associated works

The play area inspections at South Gardens and the War Memorial Playing Field (WMPF) had taken place on 18 May 2021. The WMPF report had been passed to the trustees for attention. It was agreed the clerk would gather quotes for the recommended work highlighted in the South Gardens report, and this can then be taken to a future Council meeting.

The table below details the issues raised and the suggested action by POSAC:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Risk</u>	<u>Problem</u>	<u>Resolution</u>	<u>How & who</u>
Signage	Low	Dog ban and owner details missing	New signage will ask owners to keep dogs under control and remove waste. Ownership details on new signage too	In hand. Signage on order
Bench by swings	Low	Bench is brken and isn't secured to ground	Repair of bench and securing	Add to repairs from asset review – TW ask for quotes from local contractor
Other benches around play area	Low	Benches are in need of maintenance	As above	As above
Dinosaur rocker	Low	Paintwork in poor condition Hand grips not secure	Specialised play equipment contractor to repair	Quotes to be obtained - TW
Multiplay -slide and climber	Medium	Cap missing allowing water to pool Decayed timber on one post	Replace decayed post Replace missing parts	Quotes to be obtained - TW
Carousel - supernova	Medium	Surface damaged and torn	Repair surface material	Quotes to be obtained - TW
Carousel - long	Low	Wear in the bearings	Replaced in last 3 years – must be due to high usage	Monitor
Climber 'Bloqx'	Low	Shrinkage of surface, potential trip hazard	Allow grass to establish in the gaps	Monitor
Boulders	Low	Spacing of stones cause hazard	Either move stones further apart or closer together ie. 1500mm or 600mm	Agreed to leave the stones in the current position as there have been no reported incidents in the past 15 years
Slide	Low	Trip points around the edge of the surface	Make level	Monitor
General surfaces	Low	Debris on surfaces	Sweep regularly One off professional clean to remove green	Quotes to be obtained - TW

The following recommendation is made:

The members agreed to inform the Council the play area inspection had been carried out on 18 May 2021, there are no high risk issues, and quotes will be sought for the necessary actions and repairs and will be taken to a future Council meeting for consideration.

7. Position of South Gardens signage

The members considered the best siting for the new South Gardens sign. It was agreed it would be placed approximately 7 metres from the entrance gate on the westerly verge. It would be placed so that it faces the gate. This would allow the sign to be seen clearly as people enter South Gardens but without it obstructing access or causing any hindrances for the mowers.

The following recommendation is made:

The members agreed to report to the Council that they had discussed the positioning of the South Gardens sign and recommend the placement to the Council.

8. Pond survey update

The pond survey is due to take place on 7 July 2021. The contractor had asked for confirmation of the area to be surveyed. It was agreed the area would be the two Council owned ponds and the areas immediately surrounding them.

It is anticipated the survey will provide useful guidance to ensure both the ecological and leisure aspects of the area are considered.

It was agreed the owner of the most southernly pond would be contacted and informed the survey was taking place, thereby giving him the opportunity to arrange a survey if desired.

9. Items for future meetings

Results of the pond survey.

8. Dates of next meeting

The next meeting will be held once the pond survey information is available, the date and location will be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm