

Worth Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities & Assets Committee Meeting held on Monday 16th June 2025 at 7.30pm in the South Room, Parish Hub

Present:

Cllr Casella (Chairman)	Cllr Wilson (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Bingle	Cllr Coote
Cllr Dorey	Cllr Dymond
Cllr King	Cllr Phillips
Cllr Stewart	Cllr Williams
Mrs L Bannister (Chief Officer)	3 members of the public

01 Vice Chair

Cllr Wilson was elected as Vice Chair.

02 Public Question Time

The trustees of the CD Village Hall reported that no more progress has been made with the new Village Hall. MSDC seems to be delaying with making a decision.

Cllr Stewart arrived

Their solicitor has chased MSDC to see what they want. The lease has not yet been discussed at cabinet level.

03 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cruickshank and Scott.

04 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Phillips declared an interest in the youth club as chairman of charity benefitting from hall hire in Copthorne.

05 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2025.

06 Chair's Announcements

The Chair reported as follows:

- The dead trees on private property in Church Road have now been felled.
- A football team has been in touch as they are using the Copthorne Village Green temporarily as a training ground for their 4-5 year olds. They do not charge for this. Members were happy with this as long as they can provide public liability insurance.
- A resident has raised a question about the potential for a field at Heathy Wood to be used for sports facilities. This is not actively being pursued by the Parish Council as they are currently focussing on delivering other projects. This has in the past been pursued by Cllr Phillips in his capacity as Chairman of the CSCA, and as such these conversations are commercially sensitive and so confidential.

07 Allotments

It was noted that:

- a. Allotment inspections took place in May, with 23 plots being identified as needing to be worked.
- b. A standpipe at the allotments is no longer required.
- c. The Heathy Wood allotments are still being constructed. No handover date has been discussed yet. The developers are struggling to get a water supply to the site because the water company will only provide new connections to residential homes, and there is no legal requirement for them to supply an allotment. Alternative sources of water collection are being considered such as rainwater collection.
- d. A complaint was received about bonfires being allowed after 4pm on the allotments. This was noted.

08 Events on Council Land

The following events were approved:

Copthorne Village Green -	Copthorne Carnival 28 th June Year 6 leavers event 18 th July
Crawley Down Village Green -	Gig on the Green 26 th July Village Fayre 6 th September

09 Youth

The report was noted.

10 Street lights

It was noted that there is approximately £30,000 worth of work remaining to finalise all of the repairs. The majority of this work will now take place in the next financial year.

11 Council and Community Assets

It was RESOLVED to recommend to the Finance & General Purposes Committee purchasing a new defibrillator at an approximate cost of £2,000, to be paid from the Capital Purchases budget. The Crawley Down defibrillator is no longer compatible with the new batteries being provided. Funding can be sought for this.

12 Council Premises and Land

It was RESOLVED to:

- a. Approve the Estate Management Plan.
- b. Note that Swish Fibre has offered a payment of £750 for a wayleave agreement to site their cabinet on land in Crawley Down. The agreement and amount are currently in negotiation as legal fees will be approximately £750.
- c. Note that the trees on land next to Francis Court have been surveyed, and one dead limb has been removed.

13 Crawley Down Village Hall

It was RESOLVED to write to the leader of MSDC, copying in the CEO and Solicitor to request a meeting with the trustees of the Village Hall in an attempt to progress the lease on the land.

It was noted that the objective of the Committee is to ensure that the village hall facility remains in Crawley Down. Members thanked the committee for their work so far.

14 Matters for Consideration submitted by the Village Working Parties

None.

15 Consideration of items for discussion by the Village Working Parties

None.

16 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 22nd September at the Parish Hub, Copthorne.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Chairman: _____

Date: _____