

# HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

**To: All Members of the Grounds & Environment Committee (Kate Bailey, Jane Baker, Leslie Campbell, Georgia Cheshire, Frances Gaudencio, Peter Gibbons, David Hammond, and Bill Hatton) and Co-Opted Members (Tony Copeland) with copies to all other Councillors for information.**  
**cc Richard Higgs**

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A meeting of the **GROUND AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** will be held on **Thursday 27 June 2019 at 7.30pm** in the **Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.**

Parish Clerk  
21 June 2019

1. **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**
2. **TO ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**
3. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR.**
4. **MINUTES**
  - 4.1 To accept Minutes of the Grounds and Environment Meeting held on 30 May 2019. (Previously Circulated)
5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**
6. **OFFICER'S REPORT.** (Appendix 1).
7. **PARKLANDS ROAD ALLOTMENTS.** Verbal Report (Tony Copeland, Chair of Hassocks Allotment Holders Association, HAHA)
8. **PARKLANDS COPSE.** To consider in principal the negotiation of an arrangement to provide ongoing access to Lodge Farm land from Parklands Copse. (Appendix 2)
9. **SID DEVICE.** To agree in principle a proposal for the Parish Council to apply to the CIF fund that is allocated by County Councillors at the CLC, for funds to purchase a Speed Indicator Device(SID) for the parish. (Appendix 3)
10. **ADASTRA PARK.**
  - 10.1 **Japanese Knotweed.** To approve a quote for the associated work required for the treatment of Japanese Knotweed in Adastra Park. (Appendix 4)
  - 10.2 **Rain Garden Signage.** To consider the proposed signage for the Rain Garden. (Appendix 5)
  - 10.3 **Adastra Park Masterplan.** Verbal Update.
  - 10.4 **Adastra Skate Park.** Verbal Update.
11. **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY.** Verbal Update (Cllr Leslie Campbell.)
12. **URGENT MATTERS** at the discretion of the Chairman for noting and/or inclusion on a future agenda.
13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Thursday 25 July 2019 at 7.30pm

## FILMING, RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS AND USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

During this meeting members of the public may film or record the Committee and officers from the public area only providing it does not disrupt the meeting. The Confidential section of the meeting may not be filmed or recorded. If a member of the public objects to being recorded, the person(s) filming must stop doing so until that member of the public has finished speaking. The use of social media is permitted but members of the public are requested to switch their mobile devices to silent for the duration of the meeting.

**Please Note**

All members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees.

**Item 5** – a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for the public statements and questions relating to the published non-confidential business of the Meeting.

It may be necessary to consider particular items in confidential session and where this arises, these items will be considered at the end of the agenda.

**Appendix 1**

**HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL**

To: Grounds & Environment Committee

Date: 27 June 2019

Contacts for this report: Deputy Clerk

Subject: Agenda Item 6 - **OFFICER'S REPORT**

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1. The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on Grounds and Environment (G&E) Matters.
2. **Anti-Social Behaviour.** There have been several incidents of anti-social behaviour within Adastra Park including a window and a security light at the Parish Office being smashed, guttering being damaged at the Keymer and Hassocks Sports and Social Club, verbal abuse targeted at Parish Council staff and the security fencing around the Skatepark being knocked down and damaged. All incidents have been reported to the Police.

3. **Allotment Keys**

The combination padlock providing access to the Allotments will be replaced with a key operated padlock on 29 June 2019. Tenants are issued one key per plot, replacement keys will be charged at £5. The issue of keys is being managed by the Parish Office with support from HAAHA.

4. **Science Trail – Adastra Park.** Verbal Update.

**HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL**

To: Grounds &amp; Environment Committee

Agenda Item 8

Date: 27 June 2019

Contact for this report: Clerk

Subject: Parklands Copse – access paths to Lodge Farm

1. The Council manages Parklands Copse which incorporates a woodland trail that leads onto land owned by Lodge Farm. Since the establishment of this woodland trail users have enjoyed the benefit of access onto permissive paths onto Lodge Farm that in turn links up with Public Rights of Way (PROW).
2. This benefit to the community was originally realised as the landowner received funding from the EU not to work this land and to permit access to the land by way of permissive paths.

A **permissive path**, permitted **path** or concessionary **path** is a **path** (which could be for walkers, riders, cyclists, or any combination) whose use is allowed by the landowner.

3. This funding arrangement through the EU is due to expire in the near future and the intention is that the landowner will recommence working this land.
4. The Council became aware of the position regarding the EU funding and in light of the key benefit of accessing the Lodge Farm land the Chair and the Clerk held a preliminary meeting with the landowner to explore opportunities to retain the benefit of this access for the community.
5. The landowner is keen to work with the Council to ensure that the community enjoy the benefit of the woodland trail and the walks beyond however it will need to be recognised that this piece of land will now be worked. In light of the EU funding coming to an end the conditions attached to this including the provision of access to the land will no longer apply.
6. The landowner technically could therefore withdraw access to his land. If this were to occur this would significantly reduce the enjoyment of this walk and the benefit of Parkland Copse.
7. The landowner has indicated that is not what he would wish to do and is keen to work with the Council.
8. At the preliminary meeting discussions took place as to what arrangements would need to be put in place to retain access to Lodge Farm land and to maximise the ongoing benefit of Parklands Copse. If the Council were unable to negotiate an arrangement to access the farm land the walk would cease at the boundary of Parklands Copse.
9. It was suggested that to protect the interests of both parties that a formal agreement should be entered into between the Council and the landowner so that access can be secured for a defined period (to be determined)
10. It is proposed that this agreement would also detail:
  - The meterage of permissive path that would be made available and would be managed by the landowner to existing standard.

- Agree an annual sum to be payable by the Parish to continue to enjoy the permissive path rights. (to be negotiated)
- Term (length of agreement)
- Provide signage acknowledging that the path is being funded by HPC.
- Permit the installation of a kissing gate or similar for access from the corner near Parklands Copse. Subject to agreement on positioning

11. **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION.** Members are requested to consider in principal that the Council negotiate an arrangement with the landowner to secure the ongoing benefit of access to Lodge Farm land and to instruct an appropriate legal representative to draw up a suitable agreement between the parties.

**HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL**

To: Grounds & Environment Committee

Agenda Item 9

Date: 27 June 2019

Contact for this report: Clerk

Subject: **Speed Indicator Device**

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1. The purpose of this report is to invite Members to consider in principle a proposal for the Parish Council to apply to the CIF fund that is allocated by County Councillors at the CLC, for funds to purchase a Speed Indicator Device for the Parish.
2. Following a successful application by another Parish Council in the area, Cllr Kirsty Lord has queried if Hassocks PC would consider making an application to the CIF fund so that Hassocks could have its own mobile Speed Indicator Device. Currently the Council shares a SID with all the parishes in Hurstpierpoint & Bolney and have not had access to it this year. If the Council had its own SID this could be moved around speed hotspots much more frequently and be used to gather speed data.
3. At this stage the Committee is invited to indicate whether it supports in principle the purchase of a SID for the Parish Council. Cllr Lord will provide further details on the process, however it is understood that the Parish Council who were allocated funds to purchase their own SID, crowdfunded to support it and then CLC granted the remainder that was needed.
4. Members are invited to note that the installation and removal of the SID will most likely require buying in an outside resource.
5. OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION. Members are invited to consider whether Hassocks PC should progress an application for funding to purchase a SID.

**HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL**

To: Grounds & Environment Committee

Agenda Item10.1

Date: 27 June 2019

Contact for this report: Deputy Clerk

Subject: Japanese Knotweed

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1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee that a small amount of Japanese Knotweed has been identified in the outside border of the Garden of Remembrance. Hassocks Parish Council has a duty of care to arrange treatment for the removal of the knotweed and to cover the costs of doing so
2. The location has been inspected by a specialist contractor and a report and treatment programme has been provided. The total cost for the programme is £1,475.00 (A copy of the report and quotation is available in the Parish Office, and will be available at the meeting). The treatment programme covers a duration of three years via chemical treatment with 2 years monitoring.
3. **RECOMMENDATION.** Members are asked to agree the appointment of Japanese Knotweed Sussex to carry out treatment and monitoring of Japanese Knotweed in The Garden of Remembrance, Adastra Park at a cost of £1475.00 over five years. To be funded from the Adastra Park Grounds Maintenance Budget.

**HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL**

To: Grounds & Environment Committee

Agenda Item 10.2

Date: 27 June 2019

Contact for this report: Clerk

Subject: Rain Garden signage

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1. The purpose of this report is to seek Member's views on signage for the Rain Garden in Adastra Park.
2. At the G&E meeting held on 23.4.19, Members considered an outline design from HKD for a Rain Garden information board and were informed that it was proposed to be A1 in size and a similar style to the one currently located in the 'bird field'. Members requested further information before finalising a decision and the opportunity to view the final design.
3. A sign to scale (A1) has been provided and will be displayed at this meeting to enable Members to determine whether they are minded to approve the proposed signage.
4. OFFICER RECOMMENDATION. Members are therefore requested to consider:
  - i. To approve the Rain Garden signage as proposed.
  - ii. If approved in its current form/size, to consider the location of where the sign should be located in the vicinity of the garden.