

Minutes of the Open Spaces and Play Parks Committee Meeting
Held in Colburn Village Hall on Monday 6th July 2026 at 5.30 pm

Present

Chair: Cllr Andrea Crowe

Councillors: Angela Dale, Helen Grant, Brigitte Martin, Maria Stewart, Akuila Tutora,

Deputy Clerk: Angela Pickersgill

In Attendance: Barry Robertson & Nicky Robertson

1. **APOLOGIES RECEIVED** – Cllr Janet Emmerson,
2. **Councillor “DECLARATION OF INTERESTS”** – None
3. **Matters arising** – update on Blue Tub Plaques. The printer contacted, no reply so will contact again this week.
4. **Financial Expenditure Summary of the Open spaces.** - Committee happy with the financial summary.
5. **Groundsman report** - groundsman had sent his report of jobs completed this month. He also reported that the Wetpour which was not repaired last year has been damaged in Piper Hill play park. A large piece has been ripped up which will need repairing and 2 new flat bottom seats need to be ordered as the swings as they are worn. The groundsman is working on a tree which is in a resident's garden backing onto Albermarle play park. Some branches are protruding through the fence and children are climbing on them. The groundsman is cutting back the branches on the play park side of the fence for safety. Councillors were happy with the reports and would like to thank the groundsman for all the hard work.
6. **Signage for play park litter bins** – The groundsman reported about the bin, which was constantly overflowing with food stuff, but this has now stopped. At present, additional signage is not required.
7. **Garden Competition** – Entries to date: 5 large garden, 9 small garden 5 veg, 3 hanging baskets, 2 sunflowers, 9 best in bloom & 2 scarecrows. A good response to gardens but not very many scarecrows. Judging was completed on Monday 6th July by the 2 judges. The presentation will take place on Saturday 11th July. There will be in house categories and a tombola and raffle in aid of the mayor's charities.
8. **Litter Pick Dates** - 18th July. Photos of the rubbish bags will only be taken in future if the whole clean-up crew are at the hall for a picture. Some people do not return to the hall as they carry out the litter picks in their area. There will be a break for the summer holidays and Picks begin again in September. If the volunteers wish to do a litter pick, they can pop in on a Saturday morning and collect picker and high vis vest and return it to the hall when finished. No refreshments will be served during the summer break.
9. **Biodiversity Action Plan** – up to date the next water testing day and sites are to be arranged.
10. **Date of next meeting** - Monday 7th September. Deputy Clerk gave her apologies as she will not be able to attend. A committee member will take the minutes.



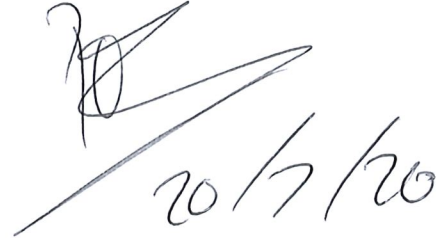
11. Items for next agenda – Christmas tree & Christmas lights. Poppies for remembrance. more are required.

Office to contact NYC re lights. Why can we not have lights on the lamp posts.

Meeting closed at 6.10. Groundsman left the meeting. The committee then went into a closed session to discuss groundsman review.

Confidential item

Meeting closed at 6.35

A handwritten signature, possibly 'R. D.', is written above the date '20/7/20'.