

# Bristol City Council

## Minutes of Public Rights of Way and Greens Committee (AGM) held on 21 September 2015 at 2pm

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### Members:-

(A) De-notes absence (P) De-notes present

Labour	Conservative	Green	Liberal Democrat
Cllr. Jackson (P) Cllr. Milestone (P) Cllr. Langley (P)	Cllr. Abraham (P)	Cllr. McMullen (P)	Cllr. Kent (P)

**Officers:** Duncan Venison, Christine Pouncett, Anne Nugent, Tom Dundson

### 1. Election of Chair

Nominations received - Councillor Abraham.

**Councillor Abraham was duly elected as Chair of Public Rights of Way and Greens Committee for 2015/16.**

### 2. Election of Vice Chair

Nominations received - Councillor Milestone.

**Councillor Milestone was duly elected as Vice Chair of Public Rights of Way & Greens Committee for 2015/16.**

### 3. Membership of the Committee

That the membership for the 2015/16 Municipal Year be noted as follows:-

Labour	Conservative	Green	Liberal Democrat
Cllr. Jackson Cllr. Milestone Cllr. Langley	Cllr. Abraham	Cllr. McMullen	Cllr. Kent

### 4. Apologies for absence

None.

### 5. Declarations of interest

Cllr. Kent declared an interest in Item 11, current applications for registration of land as town or village greens, Colston's School Playing Fields (file number JD5.587)

### 6. Terms of Reference

**Resolved – that the Terms of Reference of the Public Rights of Way and Greens Committee as determined at the Annual Council meeting held on 26 May, 2015 be noted.**

**7. Meeting dates**

That the meeting dates for the 2015/16 Municipal Year be noted as follows:-

- 2.00 pm Monday 14 December 2015
- 2.00 pm Monday 14 March 2016

**8. Minutes of Public Rights of Way and Greens Committee – 29 September, 2014**

**Resolved – that the Minutes of the Public Rights of Way & Greens Committee held on 29 September, 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.**

**9. Public Forum – Questions, statements and petitions**

None received.

**10. The Deregulation Act 2015 Report**

The Committee considered a report of the Surveying Authority (agenda item no. 10) relating to the Deregulation Act 2015.

In discussion, the following was noted:

- (a) Concern was raised that there was no longer a requirement to advertise in the local press this could be replaced with online notices. This could affect areas of Bristol with known low digital usage. There was a potential to tailor notices to the needs of the local citizens.
- (b) Clarification was sought on how the changes may affect the work of the Authority in practice. Three months was allocated for a preliminary assessment of any application (information gathering) and decisions on applications must be made within twelve months. First stage appeals would now go to Magistrates Court.
- (c) Clarification was sought on the current status of applications, how far they went back and whether the new deadlines affected past applications. The team were seeking authority to temporarily recruit to the team externally in order to clear the backlog as the in-house legal team were under resourced. The Chair requested a list of outstanding applications and the status of each to be circulated to Members.
- (d) Confirmation was sought over the integrity of any definitive map of the public rights of way. The information was contained in a physical map with an electronic version as a working copy accessible by the public via PinPoint.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the report be noted.**
- 2. Action: Officers to circulate a list of outstanding applications and their status to Members.**
- 3. Training to be provided to Members on changes to legislation.**

Tim Kent left the meeting before the next item.

**11. Current applications for registration of land as town or village greens**

The Committee considered a report of the Commons Registration Authority (agenda item no. 11) setting out the present position with regards to current applications for registration of land as town or village greens.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the present position with regards to town or village green applications be noted.**

**12. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Public Rights of Way and Greens Committee will be held on Monday 14 December, 2015 at 2pm.

(The meeting ended at 2.35 pm)

CHAIR