

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
 Minutes of a meeting held on 5 July 2016

Present	Cllr Sue Reed(Chair) Cllr Jonathan Duckworth Cllr Robert Maitland Cllr Sally Millett
In attendance for part of the meeting	Cllr Anne Elliott Cllr Paul Francis
Apologies	Cllr Norman Kay Cllr Angela Norman

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Cllr Maitland nominated Cllr Reed for Chair of the Committee, seconded by Cllr Millett. Cllr Reed was duly elected and took the chair.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of interest or applications for dispensations.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

A list of the Committee's areas of responsibility had been previously circulated. This was noted. In response to a question, the Clerk confirmed that some Council policies were set by full Council and some tended to be initiated by committees, within their specific budget constraints and in the context of the Town Action Plan.

**Cllr Elliott left the meeting at this point.*

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3 MAY 2016

Cllr Reed explained that, owing to changes in the composition of NTC following the May election, Council had been unable to approve the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 3 May. Consequently, the items discussed at that meeting had been placed on the agenda for the current meeting.

COMMEMORATIVE POLICY FOR NAILSWORTH

The Clerk had circulated an updated report on the proposed adoption of a Commemorative Policy for Nailsworth, which if adopted would establish a coherent procedure for dealing with requests from members of the public or organisations to commemorate persons or events. She advised that as part of this process it would be helpful to map the Council's existing and future assets and explained that an electronic mapping system was available for this purpose at a cost of approximately £65 p.a.

After discussion it was agreed to recommend that NTC adopt the draft Commemorative Policy.

BEE/FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION

Cllr Reed reported that certificates had been distributed to local householders whose gardens had been judged as 'bee friendly' by Committee members. She added that she was in the process of investigating the possibility of Nailsworth becoming a 'Bee Community' and would be seeking to co-ordinate a group of local enthusiasts, including bee-keepers, who might wish to form a bee group to take forward this initiative. She suggested that NTC might initially run the group with a view to it being taken over by the community in due course and that an informal training session could be organised for committee members and other interested councillors to discuss the matter further.

After discussion, it was agreed to recommend to Council that a series of 100x10 post cards or similar artefacts, at a cost of approximately £186, be produced and stocked in the TIC featuring photographs of local 'bee gardens' and including an invitation to participate in the bee gardens/bee town initiative. It was also agreed to recommend that the bee gardens project be run for another 3 years and to aim to have a centre-spread publicising the 2017 event in the February 2017 edition of Nailsworth News.

**Cllr Francis left the meeting at this point.*

PROPOSAL FOR LOCAL HISTORY DISPLAYS IN THE TOWN INFORMATION CENTRE

It was agreed to recommend that a formal invitation be sent to the Town Archives team to display regular themed displays relating to Nailsworth history in the back room of the TIC to be changed every 3 months. It was suggested that artefacts in the Town Archives could be digitised to form a picture library which for easy reference and Cllr Maitland undertook to pursue this matter and report back.

REFURBISHMENT OF TOWN SIGNS

The Clerk reported that the temporary Projects Assistant was currently investigating refurbishment options.

NORTON WOOD UPDATE

The Clerk had circulated a report updating progress on work carried out in and around Norton Wood, which was discussed. It was noted that the current Management Plan for the wood was due to expire in 2018.

It was agreed to recommend to Council that local residents be consulted on future management of the woods from 2018 onwards and that the results of this consultation be fed into the new Management Plan as appropriate. It was further agreed to recommend that quotations be sought from the existing contractor plus two additional contractors to renew the Management Plan for Norton Wood, and that NTC land at Bunting Hill be included in the Plan. The Clerk advised that the public consultation could be included in the tender price.

REPORT ON THE USE OF LEYHILL PRISON WORK PARTY FOR TOWN PROJECTS

A report on the potential for using the Leyhill Prison Work Party for work on public spaces in the parish, previously circulated, was considered. The fee for this type of work would be £130 per day for land other than that owned by SDC.

After discussion, it was agreed to recommend that councillors make detailed notes of any public spaces in the parish considered appropriate for the utilisation of the Leyhill Work Party and that Cllr Millett be delegated to liaise with SDC to co-ordinate the project.

Cllr Millett advised that the Work Party was fully booked until the end of August and suggested that the work could start in September.

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Chair

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Date

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RATIFICATION BY FULL COUNCIL

RECOMMENDED that Council adopt the draft Commemorative Policy and refer to it for any town improvements and management plans;

that an initial list of items which people can purchase be drawn as part of the Council's asset review.

RECOMMENDED that a series of 100x10 post cards or similar artefacts, at a cost of approximately £186, be produced and stocked in the TIC featuring photographs of local 'bee gardens' and including an invitation to participate in the bee gardens/bee town initiative;

that the bee gardens project be run for another 3 years and to aim to have a centre-spread publicising the 2017 event in the February 2017 edition of Nailsworth News.

RECOMMENDED that local residents be consulted on future management of the woods from 2018 onwards and that the results of this consultation be fed into the new Management Plan as appropriate.

that quotations be sought from the existing contractor plus two additional contractors to renew the Management Plan for Norton Wood, and that NTC land at Bunting Hill be included in the Plan.

RECOMMENDED that councillors make detailed notes of any public spaces in the parish considered appropriate for the utilisation of the Leyhill Work Party and that Cllr Millett be delegated to liaise with SDC to co-ordinate the project.