

NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
 Minutes of a meeting held on 1 September 2015

Present	Cllr SM Reed (Chair) Cllr JL Dennis Cllr SK Millett Cllr DL Powell Cllr MP Robinson
Apologies	Cllr EF Bonner

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 JULY 2015

There were no matters arising.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT ISSUES

Cllr Reed suggested that the Committee maintain a watching brief on any public transport issues affecting the town, such as changes to local bus services.

TOWN INFORMATION CENTRE – MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Clerk reported that the double-glazing to the large front window of the TIC was proving ineffective and appeared to be faulty. She had pursued this unsuccessfully with the builders so would take the matter up with the architect.

TRANSITION TOWNS

Cllr Reed circulated a paper outlining details of a Climate Change Awareness Day, organised by Nailsworth District and Town Councillors and co-ordinated by District Cllr Emma Sims. The event would take place on Saturday 24th October and would include a range of displays and activities, followed by the screening of a film on climate change at the Arkell Centre. Several local businesses and organisations had been invited to be represented at the event and a number of these had already confirmed. The organisers hoped to include a public feedback questionnaire on how to put ideas into action, which could feed into the local Transition Towns movement. Cllr Reed hoped that the event could lead on to local networking activities in the spring and reported that she and Cllr Thorpe planned to meet with Marilyn Miles of the Norton Wood Orchard project to discuss the possibility of linking with similar projects such as the Horsley Orchard group.

Cllr Dennis expressed his willingness to become involved with local initiatives relating to climate change, especially community green energy projects such as aquifer heat storage, which he felt was the way forward for the district.

After discussion, it was **agreed to recommend** to Council that up to £500 be allocated from the Environmental Enhancement budget to fund incidental expenses for the Climate Change event, and that any use of NTC buildings for the event be offered free of charge.

REVIEW OF NORTON WOOD 5 YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN

Cllr Reed summarised the background to and progress of the current Management Plan which was now in its second year. Cllr Reed planned to arrange a tour of the wood with Mr Will Wilkinson of Charlton Abbots Forestry, the Council's contractor, in the autumn.

It was noted that the entrance to the wood near the former Jovial Foresters pub site was somewhat overgrown and therefore difficult to recognise as an access point. Cllr Reed undertook to discuss the matter with the owner of an adjoining property whose hedge

was overgrowing the boundary. It was **agreed** to erect a sign in an appropriate location indicating the access point.

GREEN AT FOREST GREEN

The Clerk reported that she had received a request from a resident of Star Hill that the ground level in the section of the green where the lime tree had been removed should be raised as a safety measure to prevent balls rolling into Jubilee Road and children following them.

The Clerk read an email from a resident of Moffatt Road expressing concern about damage to one side of the triangle of grass abutting the road caused by vehicles parking astride the kerb. In addition to damaging the green, this practice was making it difficult for the grass maintenance team to access this area.

After discussion, it was **agreed to recommend** that quotations be sought from three suitable contractors to a) build up the bank in the section of the green where the lime tree had been removed and b) install an appropriate barrier to prevent vehicles from parking on the triangle of grass at Moffatt Road.

The Clerk reported that a resident had complained about disturbances caused by youths playing late night football games on the green by torchlight. She had advised him to contact the police with any concerns and had informed the Neighbourhood Warden who had agreed to visit the resident to inform him of his options.

SITING OF PLAQUE COMMEMORATING WH DAVIES

Cllr Reed reported that a resident had produced a plaque in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the death of WH Davies which he wished to donate to the town. She understood that the resident was in the process of drawing up a proposal for the possible siting of the plaque which he would forward to the Clerk in due course.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST (GWT) GRANT NOTIFICATION

The Clerk reported that Ros John of the Bunting Hill Group had forwarded details of the availability of GWT grant funding for projects such as scrub clearance at Bunting Hill. Cllrs Millett and Powell agreed to follow this up with Ellen Winter of GWT.

TOWN SIGNS

The Clerk confirmed that there was funding in the budget for the cleaning of the town signs and agreed to contact the company which supplied the signs to pursue the matter.

PROPOSED TOURS OF NTC PROPERTIES AND LAND HOLDINGS

Cllr Reed had previously circulated details of three proposed tours to of land and property under Committee scheduled on 7, 14 and 21 September respectively and details of these were finalised.

BUDGET ITEMS FOR NEXT YEAR

No additional budget items were identified at this time. However, it was suggested that potential items might be identified following the walkabouts.

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Chair

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Date

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS FOR RATIFICATION BY FULL COUNCIL

RECOMMENDED that up to £500 be allocated from the Environmental Enhancement budget to fund incidental expenses for the Climate Change Awareness event on 24 October and that any use of NTC buildings for the event be offered free of charge.

RECOMMENDED that quotations be sought from three suitable contractors to
a) build up the bank in the section of the green where the lime tree had been removed and b) install an appropriate barrier to prevent vehicles from parking on the triangle of grass at Moffatt Road.