

2023-03-07 NTC_agenda	2
2023-01-09_NTC_minutes DRAFT Personnel	4
2023-02-17_NTC_minutes DRAFT Personnel	5
2023-02-21 NTC minutes draft	7
2023-03-07 NTC Item 8 Cleaning costs	13
2023-03-07 ENV_agenda	14
2023-03-07 Env Item 3a overgrown hedges	15
2023-03-07 Env Item 3b overgrown hedges	16
2023-03-07 Env Item 4 footpath work	18
2023-03-07 Env Item 5 Norton Wood and Orchard	19



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Civic Centre, Old Market, Nailsworth, Glos. GL6 0DU

Tel: 01453 833592 email: clerk@nailsworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Clerk to Council: Katherine Kearns

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Nailsworth Town Council to be held in the Town Hall, Old Bristol Road, Nailsworth on Tuesday 7th March 2023 starting at **6.30pm**.

Mrs K Kearns
Town Clerk
2nd March 2023

All residents of the Parish are welcome to attend and a 15 minute period will be set aside for members of the public to raise questions.

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Verbal Introductions and Safety Briefing (fire and covid-19)
- 3 Declarations of interest and applications for dispensations
- 4 Consideration of Planning Applications received as follows:
CONSULTATION
 - a) S.23/0237/PIP Land North Of, Windsoredge Lane, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. Application: Permission in Principal. Between 2 and 4 custom build houses
 - b) S.23/0245/HHOLD Rock Cottage, Rockness Hill, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Householder Proposed single storey side extension.
 - c) S.23/0341/HHOLD. Lake View, Harley Wood, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Householder Alterations to fenestration and raising level to provide level access to driveway. Erection of decking and play structure.
 - d) S.23/0358/FUL. Land At The Berry House, Bunting Hill, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. Application: Full Erection of two dwellings
 - e) S.22/0876/FUL Cheldon And The Meadows, Stroud Road, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Full Demolition of bungalow and creation of 4no. serviced residences (Resubmission of S.20/1759/FUL - The Meadows) and the demolition of house and annexe & creation of 10no. residences.
TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA
 - f) S.23/0286/TCA Wellington House (Renishaw PLC), Inchbrook Trading Estate, Bath Road, Woodchester. Application: Trees in a Conservation Area. (1) 3 Alder- Fell to near ground level. (2) Maple - Remove large dead branch over the roof. (3) Dead ivy clad twin stemmed Elm - Fell to near ground level. (4) Sugar Maple - Remove major deadwood. All trees are Ash unless otherwise stated. Trees 1646, 1647, 1648, 1649, 1650, 1651, 1652 (Whitebeam), 1653 and Group 3 (15 Ash). Fell to near ground level.
 - g) S.23/0415/TPO Beaudesert Park School, Box, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Application: Tree Preservation Order. T1859 Corsican Pine. Fell to near ground level
 - h) T1249 Wych Elm. Fell to leave a 3m section for habitat creation T1038 Common Beech. Reduce in height by up to 5m and spread by up to 4m. T1852 White Poplar. Fell to leave a 5m section for habitat creation T1853 White Poplar. Fell to leave a 5m section for habitat creation. T1845 Common Beech. Formative prune to influence future structure, size and shape of crown T1850 Common Beech. Prune from the building by 2.0m.
PREVIOUSLY TRACKED APPLICATIONS
 - i) S.23/0041/TCA Westcroft House, Old Bristol Road, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Trees in a Conservation Area. Ash tree (T1) to be reduced by 4m all round. Ash tree (T2) pollard back to previous cuts. Application permitted. NTC: No observations



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Civic Centre, Old Market, Nailsworth, Glos. GL6 0DU

Tel: 01453 833592 email: clerk@nailsworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Clerk to Council: Katherine Kearns

- j) S.23/0303/DISCON Land adjacent 74 Norton Wood, Forest Green. Discharge of condition 3. Application granted S.19/1813/FUL
 - k) S.22/2503/HHOLD Tudor Cottage, Harley Wood, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Householder. Erection of single storey side extension and associated works. Application withdrawn. NTC: Possibility of noise transmission from the new balcony however this is sensitively and carefully designed.
 - l) S.22/2647/TCA Mortimer Gardens, Fountain Street, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. Application: Trees in a Conservation Area. Mature Hornbeam (T1): annual crown reduction of 1m. Silver Birch (T2): remove dead secondary branches. Application granted. NTC: No observations
- 5 To confirm minutes of the Full Council meeting of Tuesday 21st February and Personnel Committee meetings of 9th January 2023 and 17th February 2023 .
- 6 To consider Personnel Committee recommendations:
- It was **recommended** to adopt the Volunteer Policy.
 - It was **recommended** to adopt the Information and Data Protection Policy
 - It was **recommended** that the reviewed policies are adopted in line with the AGAR and best practice.
- 7 Matters of Urgency: *important items that have arisen since the meeting summons (agenda) and cannot wait to be addressed with a written report at a future meeting, due to inflexible deadlines*

Reports for information (no decisions required):

- 8 To note an increase in cleaning costs for the Town Hall (paper available)



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Personnel Committee

Meeting in Town Hall at 5pm on Monday 9th January 2023. The meetings of this Committee will be confidential and are not open to the public.

Present:

Cllr Jonathan Duckworth (Chair)
Cllr Ros Mulhall
Cllr Shelley Rider
Cllr Colleen Rothwell
Cllr Angela Norman

Minutes:

Clerk

Apologies:

Cllr Mike Kelly (Mayor)
Cllr Patsy Freeman

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were none.

To consider the recruitment process for a new Deputy Clerk

The Job Description was discussed; this is the new Job Description which has been altered since the recent job evaluation. There was a discussion about the Job Description and Person Specification and some minor changes were made.

Changes were made to the recruitment timetable to give a longer time for advertising the post. The application form will be changed to an accessible version. As well as the application and interview the candidates will be asked to carry out a test exercise.

The interview panel was agreed as Cllr Mike Kelly (Mayor), Cllr Jonathan Duckworth (Chair of Personnel Committee) and the Clerk. The interview panel will consult on the questions to be asked at the interview.

It was also agreed to carry out an exit interview with the present Deputy Clerk.

ENDS.



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Personnel Committee
DRAFT

Meeting in Town Hall at 2pm on Friday 17th February 2023. The meetings of this Committee will be confidential and are not open to the public.

Present:

Cllr Jonathan Duckworth (Chair)
Cllr Ros Mulhall
Cllr Shelley Rider
Cllr Colleen Rothwell
Cllr Patsy Freeman

Minutes:

Clerk

Apologies:

Cllr Mike Kelly (Mayor)
Cllr Angela Norman

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were none.

To consider a Volunteer Policy

The Committee was happy that the Volunteer Policy reflected common volunteer policies currently in use. The construction of the Policy, with questions and answers, was praised.

It was **recommended** to adopt the Volunteer Policy.

All agreed.

To consider the adoption of an Information and Data Protection Policy

The contents of the Policy were noted and that 'data' and 'information' refer to all forms of written communication.

It was **recommended** to adopt the Information and Data Protection Policy

All agreed.

To consider the annual review of NTC's Policies

The reviewed policies were noted. There was a discussion about what a review of policies means for a council;

- Up to date policies ensure a council passes the annual audit
- Keeps in line with legislation
- Maintains public information in line with the Transparency Act
- Helps the proper running of the council
- Helps the understanding of staff, cllrs and members of the public of the regulations guiding the council

Policies are reviewed every year and the next review is due by March 2024.

The following policies were reviewed and no amendments were made;

1. Attendance Policy
2. Co-option Policy
3. Complaints Policy
4. Disciplinary Procedure



5. Environmental Policy
6. Equality and Diversity
7. Expenses Policy
8. Grants Award Policy and Application Form
9. Grievance Policy: this is included in the Staff Handbook.
10. Health and Safety Policy
11. Internet Banking
12. Lone Workers Policy and Risk Assessment
13. Open Spaces Policy
14. General Privacy Notice
15. Procurement Policy
16. Publication Scheme
17. Risk Management Policy
18. Safeguarding Policy
19. Sickness (return to work form)
20. Social Media Policy
21. Vexatious complaints Policy

It was **recommended** that the reviewed policies are adopted in line with the AGAR and best practice.

All agreed.

The following Governance documents and Policies will be reviewed at the next meeting;

1. Code of Conduct: SDC have just produced a unified Code of Conduct including a version adapted for use by town and parish councils. It has been recommended by GAPTC to adopt this version.
2. Financial Regulations: these to be reviewed in line with updated Standing Orders.
3. Standing Orders: to be reviewed using most up to date NALC version (2022) with Section 18 (Public Contracts) updated.

To consider a draft Staff Handbook in line with current practices and policies

There was a discussion about the length of time since the Staff Handbook was produced by NTC's HR and Employment Law service, and its consideration by the Personnel Committee (since July 2022).

It was agreed to use the Frome TC section from their handbook to allow for flexibility to attend healthcare appointments, it was agreed to use wording similar to that used in Frome TC's Handbook.

The Staff Handbook will be discussed with the staff team to ensure they understand its contents, then it will be recommended for approval by Full Council.

To consider progress on the recruitment for a new Deputy Clerk

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 21st February. The process was discussed.

ENDS.



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Nailsworth Town Council
DRAFT

held at the Town Hall, Old Bristol Road, Nailsworth GL6 0JF
on Tuesday 21st February 2023

Present:

Cllr Mike Kelly (Chair)
Cllr Colleen Rothwell
Cllr Shelley Rider
Cllr Steve Robinson
Cllr Patsy Freeman
Cllr Ros Mulhall
Cllr Jonathan Duckworth

Minutes:

Deputy Clerk

Apologies:

Cllr Robert Maitland
Cllr Paul Francis
Cllr Angela Norman

2022/192

Verbal Introductions and safety briefing

Those present identified themselves.

2022/193

Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensations

There were none.

2022/194

Consideration of Planning applications as follows:

CONSULTATION

- a) S.23/0204/HHOLD. Playing Place, Box, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Application: Householder Replacement of single storey extension and garage with two storey extension and new garage. Remodelling to replace dormers, external finishes and amendments to fenestration.
Comment: This is not in Nailsworth parish and so no comments were made.
- b) S.23/0234/LBC Calder Cottage, Spring Hill, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Listed Building Application. Removal of existing outbuilding
Comment: No observations
- c) S.23/0217/HHOLD 13 Colliers Wood, Nailsworth, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Application: Householder. Two storey side extension/first floor extension, garage conversion, front porch extension & new dropped kerb.
Comment: No observations
- d) S.22/0564/FUL Land At Windsmeet, Dark Lane, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. Application: Full 2no. new dwellings & associated access & parking. STR26855 pre planning consultation reference.
Comment: This was commented on previously (NTC objected) and permission has been given. The Section 106 Agreement favours Rodborough Common Special Area of Conservation. NTC will receive CIL to use as the council sees fit.



It was noted that there have been amendments to S22/0876/FUL Cheldon and The Meadows with 10 days' notice for further comments. The amendments include a 36 car covered car park and timber walkway.

The Clerk undertook to check with SDC Planning that NTC will be given the opportunity to submit further comments.

It was reported that pre-application consultation is going ahead for a 5G mast at the junction of Northfield Road and Spring Hill. The proposed location is next to the Youth Club and within 50 metres of a Listed Building (Spring Hill Court). District Cllr Steve Robinson has called a meeting with residents on Wednesday 22nd March in the Youth Club.

TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA

- e) S.23/0197/TCA Dunkirk Farmhouse, Dunkirk Mills, Inchbrook, Stroud.
Application: Trees in a Conservation Area. Remove basal growths on large Alder. Fell Sycamore and Willow. Fell approx 6 Alder. Cut back regrowth on Sycamore. Fell to near ground level the other Sycamores and Hawthorn.

Comment: No observations

- f) S.23/0226/TPO 19 Whitecroft, Forest Green, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: Tree Preservation Order. Remove all ash trees. Reduce sycamore trees by 3 metres.

Comment: No observations

2022/195

To confirm minutes of the Full Council meeting and the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on Tuesday 7th February 2023

Full Council meeting 7th February 2023

All agreed.

Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting 7th February 2023

All agreed.

To consider Recreation and Amenities Committee recommendations:

It was **agreed** to:

investigate costs and options for all high priority items on the property improvements list for 2023-2024 as follows:

- Main Hall redecoration
- Convert all lighting to LED and upgrade light fittings in upper landing
- Redecoration of Town Archives room using funds from the Mortimer Bequest
- Main Hall windows replacement for energy efficiency

All agreed.

It was **agreed** to:

Carry out the following repairs to sports and play equipment at King George V playing field and Shortwood Green:

- To tarmac four areas in the KGV skate park at a cost of £746 plus VAT
- To install Gravel boards to four areas in the KGV Boules piste at a cost of £543.40 plus VAT
- To remove and replace 3 rotten sleepers in the tunnel area at a cost of £598 plus VAT
- To install timber cladding to the front of the KGV tennis court hut at a cost of £581 plus VAT



- To replace the rotten slats on 3 benches within the play area at a cost of £480.30 plus VAT
- To remove and replace 22 rotten sleeper steps at Shortwood Green at a cost of £2,353 plus VAT

Total cost £5,301

It was clarified that the list which appeared on the agenda was for all options and that the list above is the list of recommended repairs.

All agreed.

It was **agreed** to:

Hire contractor 1 at a cost of £2,275 plus VAT for the fence work at the King George V Playing field (Extension Field).

All agreed.

2022/196

Matters of Urgency: important items that have arisen since the meeting summons (agenda) and cannot wait to be addressed with a written report at a future meeting, due to inflexible deadlines

The Deputy Clerk, Kirstie Trueman is leaving for a new position. Kirstie Trueman was thanked for her hard work, modesty and good humour and the Council wished her well. Interviews were held today for her replacement and the position will be offered to one of the candidates.

Accounts

To agree payments in accordance with the budget as listed in the attached reports
Agreed

To consider agreement in principle to investigating EV charging points in the Town Hall car park

There was a lengthy discussion about this item during which the following points were made;

- If someone parks in the charging spots without an electric car, how will this be dealt with? What if someone parks there overnight? Signage.
- There were concerns that NTC's office will deal with more complaints
- The Town Hall car park is very busy; there have been incidents where people coming to NTC meeting (and hirers) couldn't find a space. The EV chargers will take up three car park spaces for use by all vehicles.
- Having chargers in town is a good solution, however there were concerns that previous points raised in a meeting were not addressed;
- There were concerns that the location (Town hall car park) is not appropriate. There aren't as many long or medium stay spaces in town, so these will be reduced. The centre of town has more space and is very visible.
- It had been suggested to approach private businesses to ask if they have plans to introduce EV chargers.
- With different standards, ways of paying and different plugs, the technology seems as if it needs time to standardise.
- EV chargers need to be near a substation and have three-phase supply.

It was noted that the District and County Councils are planning to install EV chargers and these will possibly be fast chargers. These are currently being mapped.

There were concerns raised that NTC's risk assessment currently shows three high risk areas related to staffing and recruitment. If this is agreed, it will increase the workload at a time when the council is being advised it is a high risk. All communications – including



consultations – are handled by the NTC office. There will also be work to put in place a lease for the EV chargers.

Nationally bus services are being devastated and a lot of people are having quite difficult times because of this. What have NTC been doing to campaign about this for the town? There were concerns that this is a project for people who can afford EVs.

There were concerns expressed that consulting at the Transport Fair will produce a very biased result. Consultation needs to be varied and not just approaching people who will say yes.

It was clarified that 'feasibility study' does not constitute a project agreed by NTC and that the results of consultation and feasibility will guide a future decision whether to proceed.

A further proposal was put forward;

1. To investigate provision of EV chargers in Nailsworth; to encompass all possible locations including on SDC, GCC and private land.

All agreed

There was a vote on the original proposals;

2. To approve a feasibility study by the EV charging company and for the results to be reported back to NTC
3. To consult the public on EV chargers to establish evidence of need/demand

Agreed with one against.

It was understood that any communications, including consultations must go through the office. As evidenced in the NTC Risk Assessment, there are many pressures on the team, and so it was agreed to not to stick to the timetable of consulting at the Transport Fair.

2022/197

To consider adopting the Town and Parish Council Working Together Charter with SDC

The Working Together Charter was considered a positive move and that all NTC cllrs to be given the opportunity to sign up to the new SDC Hub.

It was **agreed** to adopt the Town and Parish Council Working Together Charter with SDC

It was **agreed** that all NTC cllrs be given access to the Hub.

2022/198

To form a KGV Buildings working party at the recommendation of the Recreation & Amenities Committee

This was discussed in depth a few years ago however covid-19 stopped progress. The Terms of Reference were reviewed.

It was **agreed** to form a working party with the following terms;

Terms of Reference for the KGV Buildings working party;

- *To consider the current and future uses of the two buildings (changing rooms and pavilion)*
- *To investigate removal of the derelict pavilion, replacement storeroom and alterations/replacement of the changing room*



- *To feedback the working party's progress regularly, and to bring an action plan to the Recreation & Amenities Committee for consideration.*

It is recommended that the first action of the working party is to arrange a site meeting.

It was **agreed** that Cllrs Ros Mulhall, Steve Robinson and Jonathan Duckworth be appointed members of the working party and for a site visit to be arranged.

2022/199

To agree an increase in the price from £2,656 to £3,329 courts due to low water pressure, for cleaning the tennis

Extra equipment is needed to provide the right water pressure for the tennis courts to be cleaned.

It was **agreed** to approve the price increase from £2,656 to £3,329.

2022/200

Financial summary:

- a) Income and Expenditure report**
- b) Budget comparison report**
- c) Main bank account reconciliation report**
- d) Premier bank account reconciliation report**

These were noted.

2022/201

To review NTC's Risk Assessment

This was noted and some of the higher risks highlighted were discussed e.g. staff changes and positive news on TIC changes.

2022/202

Report from Town Mayor

This was noted.

2022/203

Report from Deputy Mayor

This was noted.

2022/204

Report from the District Councillors and County Councillor

It was noted that NTC's 20mph were due to be installed today however GCC have delayed the work until after 1st April. Disappointment was expressed at the delay and it was noted that the contribution from NTC (£12,500) was paid at the start of the 2022 financial year.

Bus route cuts; GCC has reported Stagecoach to the Traffic Commissioners of Bristol due to cuts in bus routes.

Meals on Wheels: GCC will cease meals on wheels services from 31st March 2023. The alternative will be for people to pay for carers to visit to microwave meals.

GCC's Public Right of Way budget has increased. County Cllrs will also be allocated funds for grit bins in their Wards. There will also be funds for youth service preventative work.

SDC's universal Code of Conduct has now been agreed and a town and parish council version will be circulated soon.

2022/205

To receive an update on NTC office activities



Progress with staff recruitment was noted.
There was a discussion about solutions for the Friday Market while the library is closed.

2022/206

To receive a report from the Police for October 2022 to December 2022

This was noted.

.....
Town Mayor
Nailsworth Town Council
Civic Centre, Old Market,
Nailsworth, GL6 0DU

.....
Date

DRAFT



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 8

Meeting of Full Planning

Meeting date Tuesday 7th March 2023

Subject To note an increase in cleaning costs for the Town Hall

Author Admin/Clerk

Status Information

Summary

NTC has been notified of an increased hourly rate from the Town Hall cleaning contractor. The price will increase from 1st April 2023.

Detail

Each year the Town Hall cleaning contractor raises the hourly rate they charge. The increase in April 2022 was 50p per hour. From April 2023 the hourly rate will increase by 80p per hour. In real terms this is an annual increase of £50.46 per month based on current cleaning requirements.

NTC use a contractor rather than an individual because they have the resilience to cover holidays, sickness and additional requirements for deep cleans during the summer holidays. The contractor has increased the hourly rate from £15.75 to £16.55. Commercial contract cleaners typically cost £20 - £30 per hour. An individual rate for a cleaner (domestic) in this area is currently £15 - £20 an hour.

NTC have always received a great level of service from the Town Hall cleaning contractor and have never been let down even under difficult circumstances. All equipment and cleaning products are supplied as part of the contract.

The cost of living crisis is having an impact on companies as they aim to give a living wage to their employees as well as meeting rising costs of the cleaning supplies.

ENDS.



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Civic Centre, Old Market, Nailsworth, Glos. GL6 0DU

Tel: 01453 833592 email: clerk@nailsworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Clerk to Council: Katherine Kearns

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Environment Committee** to be held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 7th March 2023 starting at 7pm.

K Kearns
Town Clerk
1st March 2023

1. Apologies
2. Verbal Introductions
3. To consider creating a leaflet advising residents of overgrown hedges (paper available)
4. To consider additional funds for footpath work across the parish (paper available)
5. To receive a report on Norton Wood and the Orchard Group (paper available)



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 3a

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 7th March 2023

Subject To consider creating a leaflet advising residents of overgrown hedges

Author Clerk

Status Action

Summary

A proposal to produce leaflets advising residents of overgrown hedges.

Detail

Following a spate of complaints from residents a couple of years ago, Stroud Town Council produced a leaflet advising residents of overhanging hedges and vegetation from their land. The leaflet was approved by GCC Highways. STC designed the leaflet themselves and it can be printed as needed. STC cllrs can collect copies of the leaflet from the Town Council office to post through letterboxes while out doing ward work.

The Environment Committee is asked to consider a similar scheme. Most complaints about overhanging hedges come in August after hedges have had a season to grow.

NTC can design and produce the leaflet inhouse and by printing on demand, costs are minimal. Stroud TC's leaflet is attached for reference.

Climate Emergency Impact

What are the Climate Emergency benefits or impacts?

Health & Wellbeing: Keeping pavements and footpaths accessible and safe encourages walking.

Options

1. To recommend NTC designs a similar leaflet on overgrown hedges which can be printed on demand
 2. To not produce the leaflet
-

Costs

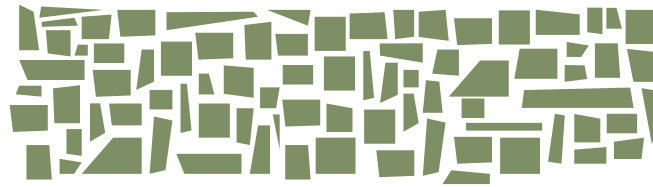
n/a

Funding Source

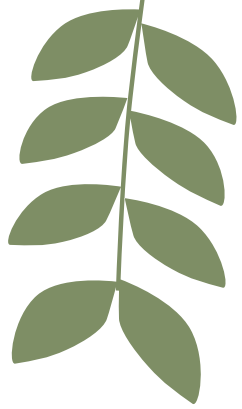
n/a

ENDS.

As a landowner or occupier, it is your responsibility to ensure that your trees, hedges, and other vegetation don't impact or obstruct users of pavements or roads.



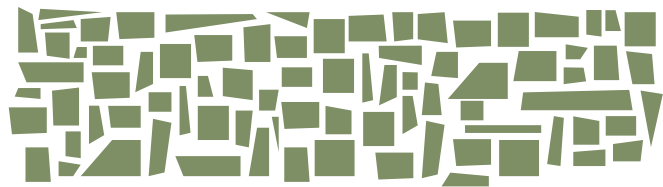
Highways Inspections are undertaken by Gloucestershire Highways throughout the year. Where vegetation is found to be causing a hazard or obstruction, you will be formally requested to take action within 14 days. This is in accordance with the Highways Act 1980.



Overgrown Hedges and Vegetation

STROUD TOWN
COUNCIL
IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH
GLOUCESTERSHIRE
HIGHWAYS





HOW ARE YOUR HEDGES?

You are receiving this leaflet as it has been identified that you may have some overgrown vegetation which is causing a nuisance.

REGULAR CHECKS

Please check your hedges, overhanging trees, bushes and shrubs regularly to ensure they do not encroach on the highway or pavement.

Vehicles on roads need around 5.5m clearance and people need to be able to pass safely without being hit by vegetation.

Any work to hedges or trees should be done between October and February so it doesn't disturb nesting birds.

Please be aware of regulations which protect nesting wildlife.

Support your community by keeping your hedges and trees tidy.



AREAS TO CHECK

Pavements

Please check that pavements are clear for everyone to use.

Look out for fast growing plants such as brambles and nettles.

Check that vegetation isn't blocking light from streetlights or signs.

Ground-cover plants

Please make sure that ground cover plants are not growing over the pavement.

They can destroy the pavement surface and cause a hazard for visually impaired pedestrians.

Branches

Please check that branches are not growing too low and causing a problem for vehicles.

Leylandii hedges need regular maintenance throughout the year to stop them becoming unmanageable.



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 4

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 7th March 2022

Subject To consider additional funds for footpath work across the parish

Author Clerk

Status Action

Summary

The Cotswold Warden has led a team of volunteers to make improvements to footpaths across the parish in 2022-23.

Detail

The Cotswold Warden has been working with Nailsworth Health Partnership (NHP) and volunteers to carry out footpath improvement work across the parish over the past year. The footpath working party identified and prioritised footpaths around Nailsworth which required improvements, and most of these have now been completed. NTC committed £800 towards this work.

The Environment Committee is asked to recommend a similar budget for footpath work across the parish in 2023-24 and for the work to be identified by the working party.

Climate Emergency Impact

What are the Climate Emergency benefits or impacts?

Health & Wellbeing: Nailsworth have footpaths which attract a wide variety of people from those who want an energetic walk through to those who just want a leisurely stroll. Improving the footpath infrastructure will encourage a more diverse group of people to utilise the paths thereby improving their health and wellbeing.

Nature Restoration: Well managed footpaths encourage people to keep to the paths, protecting wilder areas from erosion.

Options

1. To recommend £800 is allocated to footpath work for 2023-24
 2. To not allocate funds to footpaths.
-

Costs

£800

Funding Source

Budget heading 4050 Bunting Hill Nature Reserve (2023-24 budget £4,000)

ENDS.



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 5

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 7th March 2023

Subject To receive a report on Norton Wood and the Orchard Group

Author Clerk

Status Information

Summary

Norton Wood Orchard group plans to plant hedgerow whips and new trees in Norton Wood.

Detail

Norton Wood Orchard Group working with Stroud Valley Project are planning to planting around 200 hedgerow plants (whips) and 30 trees in Norton Wood. This follows an assessment for new tree planting possibilities in line with the countywide Ash Dieback Replanting Scheme.

The Orchard Group plan to plant the hedgerow whips along an existing dead hedge which separates the wilder part of the orchard from the public area. This will create more habitat for the amber and red listed birds which now feed and nest in that part of the wood. Other hedgerow whips will be used to create a better boundary at the bottom of the orchard, to define the path and enclose the orchard.

The 30 trees will be planted in gaps in the woodland, replacing mature trees lost through Ash Dieback, storm damage and disease.

The Orchard group have restarted their regular work days from Sunday 5th March.

Climate Emergency Impact

What are the Climate Emergency benefits or impacts?

Health & Wellbeing: Volunteer workdays help residents to maintain good physical and mental health. The Orchard provides an attractive, productive area for people to walk through and to collect fruit.

Nature Restoration: Managing part of the wood as an orchard has increased habitat and sitings of red and amber listed bird species.

Resilience: The orchard and the Orchard Group encourages people to grow and eat locally grown fruit.

ENDS.