



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
DRAFT
Minutes of ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
 held at the Town Hall, Nailsworth
on Tuesday 3 September 2019

Present	Cllr Angela Norman (Chair) Cllr Jonathan Duckworth Cllr Mike Kelly Cllr Robert Maitland Richard Erskine Matt Partridge
Minutes	Katherine Kearns (Clerk)
Apologies	Cllr Emma Bonner
Also present	Residents and members of Rockness Trust

	Action
<p>Election of Environment committee chair Cllr Angela Norman was proposed as Chair of the Environment committee.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mike Kelly, seconded Cllr Robert Maitland and elected unopposed.</p>	
<p>Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensations There were none.</p>	
<p>To consider updating NTC's Environment Policy in the light of the Climate Emergency Declaration There was a discussion about how best to rewrite the Environment policy to reflect its purpose and to tie in with NTC's seven strategic 'visions'. It was considered that an approach which allowed open discussion might be more productive.</p> <p>It was suggested that a facilitated training session be used to draft the new policy.</p> <p>The Clerk undertook to call a training session for Council, to include the two NCAT committee members. The facilitated session to be before the next Environment committee meeting.</p>	Clerk
<p>To consider a proposal from Rockness Trust to transfer their land to NTC Rockness Trust's representative explained that the Trust were exploring a number of possibilities, one of which would be to transfer ownership of the land to NTC. These investigations were still in the early stages.</p> <p>The main issue for the Trust is the time taken in running the Trust itself, with the need for committee/trustee roles and annual reporting of the accounts. The committee commended the Trust for their work over the past ten years. The implications of NTC taking on the land was discussed and the following points were raised;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stan's Patch is a tremendous asset to the community - More information would be needed on the risks and liabilities of the land - It's likely that NTC's liabilities and costs would be higher than the Trust's due to the need for the council to comply with more regulations e.g. additional annual ROSPA inspection of the swing - The Trust member would like to keep managing the land themselves 	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There may be future implications if volunteers no longer wanted to manage the land and it was in NTC ownership; in those circumstances the land might need to be closed to the public - Social Farms & Gardens may be able to offer help with management and governance through their Community Land Advisory Service (CLAS) <p>As this was an exploratory meeting it was agreed a site visit would be useful. Clerk tasked with arranging a site visit for Environment committee members.</p>	Clerk
<p>To consider the results of the open space inspection suggested improvements and tree planting opportunities</p> <p>The results of the open space survey and tree planting suggestions were discussed. It was noted that as an Expression of Interest has been lodged with the Urban Tree Challenge Fund this issue is not time sensitive.</p> <p>It was noted that the recommendations should reflect tree planting opportunities on all public land and not just land owned by NTC. The importance of involving community groups such as Nailsworth in Bloom and others was emphasized. It was further noted that Nailsworth town centre should be prioritised as it was felt that this would have a high impact on the community.</p> <p>It was recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To confirm tree planting sites using NCAT landscape experts 2. To involve residents and groups in tree planting working with other town organisations 3. To develop a programme of tree planting for the next five years on NTC land and other public land, with particular attention to the town centre 4. To identify tree planting opportunities on land not owned by NTC, with help from NCAT, with particular attention to the town centre <p>Proposed Cllr Robert Maitland, seconded Cllr Jonathan Duckworth, all in favour.</p> <p>The Clerk has arranged to meet NCAT representatives and it was agreed that this subject return to the committee in November with the results of that meeting.</p>	Clerk

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 Chair of Environment committee
 Nailsworth Town Council
 Civic Centre, Old Market, Nailsworth, GL6 0DU

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 Date