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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 Emergency Committee to be held on Tuesday 1st March 2022 starting at **6.30pm**.

Due to the current COVID situation the Council has taken the decision to hold an online pre-meeting via Zoom, so that items on the agenda can be discussed without the need to congregate inside in person. Decisions will be ratified under the Scheme of Delegation. Please follow the link below to join the pre-meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82585310779>

Meeting ID: 825 8531 0779

If you are a resident of Nailsworth parish and you wish to join the meeting, please contact the Town Clerk for the passcode before 4pm, Monday 28th February.

Mrs K Kearns
Town Clerk
24th February 2022

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.22/0258/VAR. Old School House, Watledge Road, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: VAR Removal of condition 3 (Tree condition) from the application. S.20/2758/HHOLD.
- b) S.22/0265/VAR. Evergreen Cottage, George Street, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: VAR Variation of Condition 2 of S.18/1199/HHOLD, Appeal A Ref: APP/C1625/W/18/3215012 and Appeal B Ref: App/C1625/Y/18/3215042
- c) S.22/0301/VAR. 16 The Old Crown, Market Street, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: VAR Variation of Condition 2 (Approved plans) of S.20/2064/FUL – change structure to single ply roofing, rather than glazing panels.
- d) S.22/0293/HHOLD. Bay Trees, Moffatt Road, Forest Green, Nailsworth. Application: HHOLD. Replacement of existing conservatory with single storey extension
- e) S.22/0139/HHOLD. Stonewold, Watledge Road, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: HHOLD Erection of extension and additional storey

TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA - None

PREVIOUSLY TRACKED APPLICATIONS

- f) S.21/2906/HHOLD. Ringfield Cottage, Tetbury Lane, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: HHOLD Installation of gable window (Retrospective) Application: permitted. NTC: No observations.
- g) S.21/2963/HHOLD Cypress Cottage, Star Hill, Forest Green, Nailsworth. Application: HHOLD. Demolition of existing garage and construction of replacement garage with studio above. Application: permitted NTC: NTC have no objection, subject to the previous



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conditions applied by SDC Planning; that this shall only be used for domestic purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the host dwelling, and shall not be converted to or used as an independent unit or accommodation or used for any separate industrial, commercial or business use.

- h) S.21/3005/FUL. Flat 1, Spring Hill House, Spring Hill, Nailsworth. Application: Full Change of use from a dentists surgery (Class E) and a conversion to form a flat (Class C3). Application: permitted NTC: No observations.
 - i) S.21/3007/FUL. Flat 2, Spring Hill House, Spring Hill, Nailsworth. Application: FUL Change of use from a dentists surgery (Class E) and a conversion to form a studio/bedsit (Class C3). Application: permitted. NTC: No observations.
 - j) S.21/2727/HHOLD. Rock Cottage, Rockness Hill, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: HHOLD. Erection of side extensions to property and extension of existing garage. Application: permitted. NTC: Object. NTC objects to the garage (but not the side extensions) as being out of scale and unnecessarily large; there is already a large garage accommodating two large cars plus parking space for two large cars. The garage is out of character and of poor quality design which urbanises a rural lane.
 - k) S.21/2595/HHOLD Yewdales, Spring Hill, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: HHOLD Erection of single storey rear extension and renovation works including roof works. Application: permitted NTC: No observations
 - l) S.22/0003/LBC. 1 Walkley Wood Cottages, Shortwood Road, Walkley Wood, Nailsworth. Application: LBC Replacement of window frames and front and side casement windows. Application refused. NTC: No observations.
 - m) S.21/2950/LBC. Inglenook, Brewery Lane, Nailsworth, Stroud. Application: LBC Replacement/repair of windows and a door unit with original style hardwood casement units. Application permitted. NTC: Support.
 - n) S.22/0175/TCA. 1 Dunkirk Bank, Theescombe, Amberley, Stroud. Application: TCA Various work to trees T1 - T8 within property curtilage. Application permitted. NTC: Noted
- 5 To confirm minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 15th February, and the Personnel Committee held on Tuesday 22nd February.
- 6 To consider Personnel Committee recommendations:
- To **recommend** NTC enter a 3 year agreement for just Employment Law and HR Support with WorkNest. In addition that legal expenses insurance at £15.00 and £3.50 per employee (total £111) be included. The total cost of this provision is £2,146 p.a.
- 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*



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Full Council
DRAFT

Discussions held virtually at **6.30pm** and ratified under the Scheme of delegation
on Tuesday 15th February 2022

Present:

Clr Mike Kelly (Chair)
Clr Jonathan Duckworth
Clr Robert Maitland
Clr Ros Mulhall
Clr Colleen Rothwell
Clr Paul Francis
Clr Steve Robinson
Clr Shelley Rider
Clr Angela Norman
Clr Natalie Bennett

Minutes:

Clerk

Apologies:

Clr Patsy Freeman

2021/200

Verbal Introductions

Those present identified themselves.

2021/201

Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensations

There were none.

2021/202

Consideration of Planning Applications received as follows:

CONSULTATION

- a) S.22/0112/FUL. Clissold Court, Brewery Lane, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire.
Application: FULL. Replacement of all windows & doors
Comment: No observations.
- b) S.22/0199/HHOLD. 47 Colliers Wood, Nailsworth, Stroud, Gloucestershire.
Application: HHOLD. Loft extension with rear dormer.
Comment: No observations.
- c) S.22/0213/FUL. The Weighbridge Inn, Avening Road, Nailsworth, Stroud.
Application: FUL. Permanent storage container
Comment: No objection, however NTC request that a condition be placed to limit the use of the storage container to three years, after which a more appropriate permanent structure be put in its place, in consideration of the pandemic and in support of a local business through this difficult time.

NTC note that the container has been in place for two years already, within the AONB and is unsympathetic in appearance to the area and buildings.

TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA



- d) S.22/0175/TCA. 1 Dunkirk Bank, Theescombe, Amberley, Stroud. Application: TCA Various work to trees T1 - T8 within property curtilage
Comment: Noted
- e) S.22/0229/TCA. Iron Mill Cottages, Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, GL6 9AL. Application: TCA. T1-7 Ash - Remove. T8. Western Red Cedar -Remove
Comment: Noted.

2021/203**To confirm minutes of the Full Council meeting and Recreation & Amenities Committee held 1st February 2022**

Both agreed

2021/204**To consider Recreation & Amenities committee recommendations:**

To **recommend** hiring company 2 at a cost of £1,290.00 to carry out fire risk assessments for all NTC buildings.

Agreed.

To **recommend** obtaining quotes from contractors for the repairs and maintenance work that needs to be done following the annual inspection of Hazelwood bungalow.

Agreed.

To **recommend** instructing the contractor to replace the felt roof of the Town Hall kitchen extension with a fibreglass roof, with 'warm roof' insulation in the timbers, new coping stones and lead flashing with a budget of £15,000.

Agreed.

2021/205

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. No decisions can be made on these items.*

There was a discussion about when to return to face to face meetings, and the current Scheme of Delegation. It was agreed that, for the safety of cllrs, members of the public and staff, the Scheme of Delegation be kept in place, with an aim to have face to face meetings in April. The practicalities of different meeting venues were discussed, with options being the Town Hall (main hall for extra space) or the Mortimer Room. Some present have difficulties hearing in the main hall, and microphones were discussed.

Following discussions at the previous meeting about two Planning Appeals, it was confirmed that it is exceptional for others to be present when the Planning Inspector conducts a visit. It was decided NTC would not seek to attend the Planning Inspector's visits.

2021/206**Accounts**

To agree payments in accordance with the budget as listed in the attached reports.
All agreed.

2021/207**To review and approve the Asset Register (as part of Assertion 5 & 6 of AGAR Section 1 Annual Governance Statement)**



It was confirmed the Asset Register is updated throughout the year and is stored on NTC's finance software.

It was noted that 13 self-watering railing troughs, having recently been identified as belonging to NTC, be added to the Asset Register.

The updated Asset Register will be brought to the next meeting for approval.

2021/208

To appoint GAPTC as Internal Auditors for Governance and Ian Crowe as Internal Auditor for financial processes

The report having been read by cllrs, it was **agreed**

1. To appoint GAPTC to carry out an Internal Audit of NTC's Governance to ensure compliance for the External Audit at a cost of £390 plus mileage
2. To appoint Ian Crowe to carry out an Internal Audit of NTC's financial processes, Governance to ensure compliance for the External Audit at a cost of £600

All agreed.

2021/209

To consider a response to the Boundary Commission's secondary consultation on the proposed new map of constituencies

The proposals and their implications were discussed. It was noted that if Nailsworth were to change to be in the Cotswold constituency, Cirencester would move to North Wilts constituency, and the Nailsworth MP's office would be Stow on the Wold and not Cirencester. It was noted NTC's objections to moving to a different constituency are not political. It was further agreed that representation be made from a NTC cllr who is not also a cllr for another local authority.

It was **agreed** that

- Cllr Angela Norman research NTC's previous responses to similar changes, and that written representation be made to the Boundary Commission by the Clerk.
- Cllr Shelley Rider attend the public hearing to represent NTC.

2021/210

To consider a report on tourism promotion for Nailsworth and a proposal to allow £5,000 to be used for general tourism promotion

On consideration of the report,

it was **agreed:**

to authorise the allocation of £5,000 for joint tourism work with the other market towns.

2021/211

To consider purchasing a plaque for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to receive an update on plans for the Jubilee weekend

The additional installation costs, to prevent future damage, were explained. It was clarified that the plaque is for the official Oak tree planting in KGV playing field, as part of the national Queen's Green Canopy event on Friday 11th March. Tree planting planned by Nailsworth in Bloom is not part of the event on this day, but that many other trees can be planted as part of the Queen Green Canopy throughout the year.

It was **agreed**

to purchase a RBL plaque and installation for the Queen's Green Canopy at a cost of approximately £500.

2021/212

To consider replacement Town Shields and awards for the Town Meeting



It was clarified that up to four Bristol Blue Glass awards will be given as permanent keepsakes every year (a possible ongoing annual cost).

It was noted that replacement shields should be of good quality and well made.

It was **agreed:**

1. To purchase two new shields to replace the full Youth and Arts award shields at a total of £160.
2. To purchase a new shield to replace the now full Town Shield/Silver Jubilee Shield at a cost of £200.
3. To name the new Town Shield the Platinum Jubilee Shield in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
4. To purchase up to four engraved awards for each recipient to keep at a total cost of £244.
5. To produce certificates for each award winner to keep.

2021/213

To receive an update on Market Street markets and to consider ownership of the Market Street equipment and stalls

There was a discussion about ownership of the new market stalls where both ownership and storage by NTC and ownership and storage by the independent traders were expressed. Following a vote, the majority were in favour and

It was **agreed:**

Market Street stalls and equipment to be purchased by the new independent Market Street group.

NB: to be funded from the Build Back Better Fund.

2021/214

To consider a grant request from NCAN for £750

It was confirmed there is now just £73 remaining in the NTC grant budget for 2021-22. There is one further grant application outside of the usual NTC grant timetable (for new Nailsworth festival flags), but the Clerk suggests this is considered under covid recovery measures and in conjunction with the Festival of Flags.

After a discussion about NCAN's grant application,

It was **agreed:**

To grant NCAN £750 towards publicity for the Transport Fair.

2021/215

Financial summary and bank reconciliations

Noted.

2021/216

To review NTC's Covid-19 Risk Assessment.

It was noted that the Annual Budget and precept was agreed in the Town Hall and not the Town Hall car park, and for this to be amended in the risk assessment.

2021/217

Report from Town Mayor

Noted.



It was noted from the Mayor's tour of Stokescroft, the building is being let as separate units to nine or ten separate small businesses, mainly in the creative field. The building owners have expressed interest in being involved in Nailsworth's Heritage Open Day, Saturday 10th September.

2021/218

To receive an update on NTC activities and support during Covid-19.

The Clerk highlighted the number of positive activities NTC are involved in, and that the report is a fraction of current activities.

There was a formal vote of thanks for Artsparks' Window Wanderland project and to NTC staff and hall users for their involvement. It is hoped this event is repeated.

2021/219

To receive a report from the CYP (Children & Young People) working party

There was a discussion about a proposed new register of home schooled children.

NB children's services are the responsibility of the County Council.

There was a discussion about proposals for a Community Development Worker for Nailsworth which, it was noted is beyond the remit of the Children & Young People working party.

It was noted that separate meetings have been held to discuss a bid to the SDC Community Wellbeing Fund for a Community Development Worker. Clarification was requested on what role SDC, NTC and the Youth Club and others have in the bid and this work. It was confirmed that responsibility for the previous organisation's work monitoring was SDC as the funder. In response to a question about what control mechanisms will be in place from SDC to monitor the new post, it was suggested that a steering group take on this role. It was noted that performance monitoring will be key to success.

After further discussion it was expressed that not all present had had the opportunity to learn about the proposals.

Cllrs Natalie Bennett and Steve Robinson were tasked with writing a full report to council about the proposals and to include what will be expected of NTC.

Cllr Steve Robinson undertook to send a copy of the bid to the Mayor.

2021/220

To receive a report from NTC's representative for NCAN (Nailsworth Climate Action Network)

IT was noted that despite the pandemic, NCAN has been going from strength to strength, with many activities continuing and planned.

2021/221

To ratify all decisions made at this meeting via the Scheme of Delegation

All the above decisions were ratified by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Deputy Clerk under the Scheme of Delegation.

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

.....
Date



NAILSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Personnel Committee

Meeting held at 6.30pm in the Mortimer Room, Old Market, Nailsworth on Tuesday 22nd February 2022. The meetings of this Committee will be confidential and not open to the public.

Present:

Cllr Ros Mulhall
Cllr Jonathan Duckworth
Cllr Angela Norman
Cllr Colleen Rothwell
Cllr Mike Kelly (Mayor)

Minutes:

Clerk

Apologies:

Cllr Shelley Rider
Cllr Patsy Freeman

Verbal Introductions

These were made.

Election of Chair

Cllr Jonathan Duckworth was elected unopposed as chair.

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were none.

To review the Terms of Reference of the Personnel committee

There was a discussion about the Personnel Committee's Terms of Reference;

- The Personnel Committee follows a significant period of change over the past 5-6 years, and is a critical committee overseeing all that council does.
- Currently six members (plus the Mayor) have been nominated, however the Terms of Reference state five members. This is the majority of council and the committee should consider if that is appropriate.
- The Clerk outlined the process under which the council operates, where – similar to a corporate body – issues are raised with/about the council rather than with individual cllrs

There was a discussion on appropriate ways to introduce feedback for/about cllrs to promote a supportive council culture for cllrs and staff.

The Clerk was tasked with researching, through GAPTC and others, how this has been done in other councils.

There was a discussion about both the similarities and differences between councils and corporate bodies, the role of GAPTC, the role of cllrs, and how complaints are handled.

To consider provision of NTC's HR, Employment Law and Health & Safety support

There was widespread support for the proposal to engage an external company for informed support. There was a discussion about different companies offering similar support and the clerk was tasked with gathering more detailed references for the preferred company from other parishes.

The Clerk was tasked to find out if support covers volunteers.



There was further discussion about the combined package to include Health & Safety support and the Clerk was tasked with gathering further detail on what specifics are offered. The Committee were broadly in support, but wished to know more about H&S support before committing to this.

It was **recommended** that NTC enter a 3 year agreement for just Employment Law and HR Support with WorkNest. In addition that legal expenses insurance at £15.00 and £3.50 per employee (total £111) be included. The total cost of this provision is £2,146 p.a.

All agreed.

To consider introducing Volunteer Agreements for the TIC volunteers and the Archive volunteers

It was explained that Cllr Angela Norman and the Deputy Clerk recently met with the current TIC volunteer coordinator to introduce the proposal for volunteer agreements and raise relevant issues. There is a recognition of a need for additional training and awareness from NTC volunteers. TIC volunteers work in tandem with GCC Library volunteers, who have comprehensive arrangements in place for their volunteers. The Deputy Clerk was congratulated for bringing together TIC volunteers and through 'fact finding tours'.

After further discussion, some amendments were suggested;

- To remove the sentence: *Moderate my language and not use profanity* as it was felt this was covered by: *Treat colleagues and visitors to the Town Council facilities, fairly and with respect...*
- To strengthen the bullet point covering expenses to read: *volunteers must have prior approval and authorisation from the Town Council to reimburse any reasonable expenses incurred whilst volunteering.*
- For future discussion to determine the roles of volunteers and NTC as named contacts, possibly with at least two roles; NTC as person in authority, and a volunteer coordinator.

It was agreed to bring the amended documents to the next Personnel Committee meeting on Friday 25th March.

To agree a schedule of meeting dates

It was noted that Personnel Committee meetings can be held during the day.

The following dates and times are suggested:

Friday 25th March, 4pm – Lower Room, Town Hall
Tuesday 26th April, 4pm
Tuesday 24th May, 4pm
Tuesday 28th June 4pm

Further locations to be confirmed.

.....
Chair of Personnel Committee
Nailsworth Town Council
Civic Centre, Old Market, Nailsworth, GL6 0DU

.....
Date



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 on Tuesday 1st March starting at 7pm.

Due to the current COVID situation the Council has taken the decision to hold an online pre-meeting via Zoom, so that items on the agenda can be discussed without the need to congregate inside in person. Decisions will be ratified under the Scheme of Delegation. Please follow the link below to join the pre-meeting:

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Meeting ID: 825 8531 0779

If you are a resident of Nailsworth parish and you wish to join the meeting, please contact the Town Clerk for the passcode before 4pm, Monday 28th February.

K Kearns
Town Clerk
24th February 2022

1. Apologies
2. Verbal Introductions
3. To consider the management of a mature Ash tree next to the slide at Shortwood Green

Reports for information (no decisions required):

4. To receive a report on tree planting initiatives in partnership with GCC and Walking the Land (paper available)
5. To receive a report on the consultation and tree planting at Nymphsfield Road Common (paper available)
6. To receive a report on the Carter's Way land consultation (paper available)
7. To receive a report on annual pest control in Norton Wood (paper available)



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 3

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 1st March 2022

Subject To consider the management of a mature Ash tree next to the slide at Shortwood Green

Author Clerk

Status Action

Summary

To review

Detail

There is a mature Ash tree on Shortwood Green next to an embankment slide. There has been a complaint that bird droppings and leaves fall on the slide, and a request for work to be done to the tree to reduce these problems.

NTC's tree contractor has visited the tree and made observations on how to reduce the problem. NTC's Open Spaces policy is that tree work is only done to prolong the life of trees in the council's care, and this also follows NTC's Climate Emergency policy.

The tree contractor has observed that to reduce the issues on the slide, would mean dramatically reducing the bottom quarter of the Ash tree. In order to balance the tree, (to protect against it being uprooted in strong winds), the other side would also need to be reduced. This would leave the mature Ash tree in the shape of a column.

Large wounds caused by the tree work will make the Ash tree more vulnerable to airborne infection. The Ash tree so far shows no signs of Ash dieback, although it may be affected in a few year's time, in which case it may need to be felled in a few years if disease shows. The tree may be one of the lucky 10% of Ash trees which can survive the disease.

Before the pandemic NTC were preparing to carry out a consultation on improvements for Shortwood Green, including possible renewal of the play equipment. The original slide was installed to take advantage of the natural slope next to the Ash tree. If the slide was moved or the play equipment changed, there would no longer be issues with bird droppings and leaves. The Ash tree will also be able to keep its natural shape and not need additional work done to it. The Ash tree offers valuable shade for users of Shortwood Green.

The Environment Committee is asked to consider recommending the slide is repositioned or replaced as part of a consultation on improvements to Shortwood Green, to be carried out later this year.

Climate Emergency Impact

Carbon Reduction: NTC's Tree Policy promotes tree maintenance to prolong the life of trees, improving carbon capture.

Health & Wellbeing: Local involvement in community projects can offer outdoor exercise and strengthen communities. Trees can help tackle air pollution and offer shade.

Nature Restoration: Increasing tree cover, biodiversity and habitat.



Nailsworth Town Council

Resilience: Creating landscapes and streets that are more suited to withstand hotter Summers and wetter Winters. Replacing lost tree stock.

Options

1. To recommend the slide is repositioned or replaced as part of a consultation on improvements to Shortwood Green.
 2. To remove the Ash tree
 3. To do nothing
-

Recommendation

1. To recommend the slide is repositioned or replaced as part of a consultation on improvements to Shortwood Green.
-

Costs

To be confirmed as part of the consultation.

Funding Source

N/A

ENDS.



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 4

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 1st March 2022

Subject To receive a report on tree planting initiatives in partnership with GCC and Walking the Land

Author Clerk

Status Information

Summary

A summary of discussions with other organisations on tree planting and community engagement.

Detail

At the Environment Committee meeting on 6th July 2021, NTC agreed a community engagement approach to tree planting (Minute 2021/058). Since then there have been discussions with Walking the Land, Stroud Valleys Project (SVP) and GCC about how to work together to develop this approach.

Walking the Land are developing a website which includes mapping tree planting events (past and future); recording individuals' involvement in tree planting, so that they and their families can trace their links with the land; hosting a tree forum or 'tree moot'; artistic responses to the land and trees.

SVP have acquired a piece of land near Salmon Springs which has been planted with young trees. They are developing tree nursery beds so they can store and draw on their own supply of young trees as planting events happen. This is to solve one of the issues which has emerged in the past couple of years with tree supplies being too small, too expensive or nurseries not being able to provide enough trees for planting schemes.

NTC have also created a 'healing in' bed in King George V woodland, for temporary storage of young trees and plants.

GCC have recently recruited a Sustainability and Development Officer (Kelly Osborne) who started in September, and a Tree Planting Project Officer (Sara Noons) to deliver GCC's ambitious tree planting plans. They have already received funding to plant 40,000 trees and NTC has benefitted from this through the Ash dieback Replanting scheme and the Treescape Fund, receiving 860 trees to the value of around £2,300.

GCC are currently working on a Community Database to map groups involved in waste and sustainability initiatives across Gloucestershire to try and foster greater connections between these groups. They have a group of 'flying volunteers' to carry out tree planting across the county.

Discussions between NTC, GCC, SVP and Walking the Land have focussed on how to help people to join in with tree planting events, run their own events and look after the trees once they are planted. We have discussed the need for tree events at different times of year, to highlight the need to water and care for the trees after planting. We have discussed the barriers to parish and town councils getting involved and what expertise we can all share to help get what we all want from tree planting projects and how this links with climate action. We have discussed the potential for the approach being trialled with a group of parishes, including Nailsworth, to build community engagement.

Further discussions will cover how best to work across parish, district and county levels, and how to make sure involvement is kept local, to connect residents with trees and help needed on their doorstep.



Climate Emergency Impact

Carbon Reduction: Encouraging long term tree planting and tree care to capture carbon.

Health & Wellbeing: Local involvement in community projects can offer outdoor exercise and strengthen communities. Trees can help tackle air pollution and offer shade.

Nature Restoration: Increasing tree cover, biodiversity and habitat.

Resilience: Creating landscapes and streets that are more suited to withstand hotter Summers and wetter Winters. Replacing lost tree stock.

ENDS.



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 5

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 1st March 2022

Subject To receive a report on the consultation and tree planting at Nympsfield Road Common

Author Clerk

Status Information

Summary

The results of a consultation on tree planting on Nympsfield Road Common land.

Detail

The four residents who overlook The Green at Nympsfield Road have been consulted on tree planting. The land is Common land, owned by NTC. Previously residents have been in favour of tree planting on the Common land. As part of NTC's Tree Planting Plan, the land has been checked for underground services and is suitable for tree planting.

There was one response from the recent consultation and this was very positive, prompting a conversation about tree species. The resident (a landscape architect) is happy to help care for the trees when they are planted, and interested in other community projects in Forest Green.

Stroud Valleys Project can now go ahead and plant the seven Japanese cherry trees (Prunus Umineko) on The Green.

Climate Emergency Impact

Identifying areas where trees can be planted and maintained is part of NTC's Climate Emergency Action Plan and supports the good management of public open spaces.

ENDS.



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 6

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 1st March 2022

Subject To receive a report on Carter's Way land consultation

Author Cllr Patsy Freeman/Clerk

Status Action

Summary

A summary of community engagement so far, on the Carter's Way land proposal.

Detail

Here is a brief summary of the first public meeting held in Miles Marling field on Sunday 20th February 2022, attended by the Clerk and I.

Around 20 local residents in all came out to hear more about the Carters Way community garden proposals. The interest was certainly there, and several questions were raised. A couple of local residents informed us that about two weeks previously, a digger had been spotted on the land and that someone has tipped a substantial amount of soil and stones at one end of it.

We then went round to look at the disused land. A substantial amount of dumped soil and large stones has been flattened out. It may come from a nearby garden – who apparently removed their fencing in order to dump the soil. I have yet to verify this from a nearby house with a CCTV camera.

The landowner has been contacted and advised of the flytipping which is about 20 tons of soil/subsoil. He has been asked if he will secure the land to prevent further flytipping and nuisance. The dumping may also have interfered with the badger sett. As the land is private, NTC has no powers to act on this.

Initial comments from the consultation on Miles Marling Field include;

Wildlife:

- Concerns about disturbing wildlife, including slow worms and badgers
- Concerns that there might be a badger sett on the land
- Observations that badgers pass through the land, sometimes breaking fences to get through
- Thoughts about how to work with wildlife to provide space for both people and wildlife

Security and privacy:

- A suggestion that the land is used as a private, locked community garden

General comments:

- Like the idea; the land is currently a waste of space and it would be nice for the community to use it, especially after covid.
- We need to think about the purpose of the land; what we want to use it for, and then we can develop a structure for that purpose to be achieved.
-

Questions:

Q: What will happen if the rubbish on the land is contaminated?

A: if NTC go ahead, this will be dealt with by contractors



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Q: What about wildlife:

A: One of the first things NTC will do is ask GWT to conduct an ecological survey.

Q: Why doesn't the land owner want to sell it?

A: NTC understand the landowner was always hoping to do something with the land.

Q: Why wasn't a play area built when the housing was first built?

A: play areas need two entrances to allow children to escape if needed. The land wasn't considered suitable for this use.

Q: What will protect the garden from being taken back by the landowner when they work has been done?

A: NTC won't act unless there is a legal agreement – a lease – in place.

So far, leaflets have been posted through doors of houses near Carters Way land; there has been an article in Nailsworth News (delivered to all houses in Nailsworth) and posters have been put up in the town centre (Town Hall, Civic Centre) and in Forest Green.

The second consultation will take place on Wednesday 2nd March at 6.45pm at the Arkell Centre.

Climate Emergency Impact

What are the Climate Emergency benefits or impacts?

Health & Wellbeing: Providing a place for local people to meet outside, enjoy gentle exercise, grow plants and enjoy nature.

Nature Restoration: Improving the biodiversity of a piece of unused land, clearing it of waste and making places for wildlife.

Resilience: Small community projects such as local community growing and gardening can increase a community's resilience, building new friendships and sharing resources.

ENDS.



Nailsworth Town Council

Agenda Item 7

Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting date Tuesday 1st March 2022

Subject To receive a report on annual pest control in Norton Wood

Author Deputy Clerk

Status Information

Summary

Pest control is undertaken every year in Norton Wood to reduce damage to trees.

Detail

As part of the management plan for Norton Wood, pest control is carried out annually to limit the risk to the public, and damage to trees. Grey squirrels pose a threat to the sustainable management of woodlands through the damage they cause to trees by bark stripping. Bark is often stripped high in the tree canopy, killing branches and making the woods dangerous. Such damage may lead to a loss of particularly vulnerable tree species (beech, sycamore and oak) within the canopy of woodlands.

Norton Wood is surrounded by residential properties and has high visitor numbers, increasing the risk of danger to members of the public.

The most effective time of year for this work to be carried out is late winter to early spring when the availability of natural foods is lowest and with the aim of reducing squirrel numbers from May to September when trees are most vulnerable damage.

ENDS.