

The notes from the meeting of the Open Spaces Project Group held in Gurnard Primary School, Gurnard on Monday 6 June 2016 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: Fuller

Community Representatives: Martin Bilson (Chair), Steve and Terry Benstead. Ellis and Trevor Gant

68 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Jenny Schofield, Georgina Austin, Dani Norbury and Doreen Grant

69 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Fuller declared a Pecuniary Interest as an IW Councillor with an executive role for Open Spaces.

70 MEETING NOTES

The notes of the meeting held on 11 May 2016 were approved and signed by the chairman.

71 REVIEW OF THE ACTION POINTS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) Councillor Fuller advised of the comments presented by the Parish Council when they objected to the removal of the footpath along the edge of the new development next door to the site. As Chair, Martin will also make comments.
- b) Martin took his grandson pond dipping, and only found some beetles and fresh water scrimps. The walkway is still unsteady so will require work before the pond can be open to all.

72 FUNDING APPLICATION

Councillor McKean had given her apologies but advised by email that she had completed the application form but it required a copy of the lease document.

ACTION: The Parish Clerk to forward electronically a copy of lease to Councillor McKean and that the application be made even if the deadline date has passed.

73 MEETING WITH CAROL FLUX

Martin met with Carol Flux and Matthew Chatfield from Island 2000 Trust (Gift to Nature) at their offices. Carol is suggesting that the Open Spaces Project Working Group becomes a Friends of Cockleton Meadow. This will allow the group to volunteer on the site, provide input into any action plans, but the management of the site and dealing with the Parish Council would pass to the Gift to Nature.

They are also suggesting a pedestrian gate and locking the main gate to avoid people taking cars in. It was thought that a better access would be from a gate at the top of the pavement which is being installed as a requirement of planning for the school building site, and to keep the main gate to allow access by tractors etc. for filed cutting. There is a problem with people parking their cars in the entrance even though there is a sign on the gate. With a locked gate this would possibly encourage this.

Gift to Nature will assist in any future funding applications, and arrange for the IW Ranger to regularly visit the site. They can also assist in two events. Members felt that a summer picnic and an autumn apple event were the best to start with.

GURNARD PARISH COUNCIL

An action plan from Gift to Nature was circulated to members.

74 NEXT STEPS

It was agreed:-

- a) Martin has approached Mr. Terry Butchers who is happy to continue to cut the outside hedge and the flower meadow although he cannot bale it.
ACTION: That the flower meadow is cut late summer and that Green Gym are then employed to rake off the clippings.
RECOMMENDATION: That the funds set aside for another rotivator session are vired for the Green Gym visit on Wednesday 14 September, which will cost £50.00.
- b) To save the use of too many green sacks, the new Gurnard in Bloom team has requested that they can build a composting area and open that up to residents for grass clippings. The Parish Clerk contacts Steve Porter Transport for some pallets to use to build the composting area. An area above the "Community Growing Area has been allocated for their use.
- c) The Gurnard in Bloom team can use the four small raised beds which were discovered by the previous Green Gym session to raise any bedding plants.
- d) Members are still keen to install some picnic tables in the top right hand corner. Councillor Fuller will obtain some prices for "Durawood" ones which would require no maintenance as they are made from recycled plastic. It was suggested that a notice is put in the Gurnard News to see if there is any interest in local residents funding memorial picnic benches. Martin will write a report for the Gurnard News to determine and interest.
- e) That an agenda item is added to the next meeting to formally discuss the proposal to become a "Friends of" group through the Parish Council once all members of the group have been informed.
- f) Trevor will obtain a quotation for a bigger sign for the gate.
- g) Martin will check about banking arrangements for a Friends group.

75 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 4 July at 7pm at Gurnard Primary School.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

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Chairman