



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

LG1, SALISBURY GARDENS

9AM

7 OCTOBER 2024

Members present:-

Councillors: Mark Jefferies (Chair), Steve Milford, Steve Cooper

Clerk: Katherine Baldwin

Officers: Catherine Hammond

MINUTE SUBJECT

38/24 PUBLIC FORUM

There was one member of the public present.

Cllr Steph Toogood gave an update on the Public Spaces Protection Order consultation held by Ventnor Town Council. At the consultation, members of the public raised the matter of the park signage with reference to dogs being kept under control and not chasing the ducks. The signage in the park is not very strong with regard to keeping dogs under control. Cllr Toogood asked if consideration could be given to dogs being on leads in the lower part of the park.

39/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ian Bond and Cllr Julie Hutchison.

40/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

41/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 3 SEPTEMBER 2024

The Minutes of the Environment and Transport Committee meeting of 3 September 2024, having been previously circulated to Members were taken as read.

It was unanimously resolved to:

Accept the minutes of the Environment and Transport Committee meeting of 8 July 2024.

42/24 COMMUNITY ORCHARD

A) TREES

Cllr Jefferies explained that trees would need to be chosen for planting in November. Cllr Jefferies thought that Charles Ross and Pitmason Pineapple might be good options.

The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer had been in contact with a supplier and the supplier had noted that the site is in a tricky location. The supplier recommended M25 for apples which could grow 8-10 metres in length but would provide better anchors. The supplier did not recommend pears.

The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer suggested that the best apple trees for the site would be Canadian and Swedish varieties. It is possible to buy a variety of one or two year old trees for a cost of £25 each or lower.

Cllr Cooper suggested that three or four year old trees were required.

There was some discussion about maintenance and it was noted that the sycamore tree could be maintained. Cllr Cooper had already been in contact with Community Payback about digging the holes for the trees.

There was some discussion as to the number of trees which could be planted on the site. Cllr Cooper had been told by the Tree Officers at the Isle of Wight Council that eighteen trees could fit on the site. Cllr Jefferies and the Business and Voluntary Sector Officer would conduct another site visit to look at measurements.

It was suggested that five trees are planted on the site this year.

There was some discussion about using cardboard and it was suggested that this is not a good idea due to the substances used in cardboard such as glue. Cllr Jefferies asked if mulch could be used instead. The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer would investigate. It was also noted that wire would be needed for the bases of the trees.

It was unanimously resolved to:

Choose five trees to plant at the Community Orchard site. The decision as to which trees would be purchased would be made via email.

B) SIGNAGE

Cllr Cooper suggested that an historical board be created and installed at the site and could include something on orienteering which is currently one of the Youth Officer's workstreams. It was noted that there had been instances of fly tipping on site. It was suggested that an infra-red wildlife camera is installed at the site with reference to it on the signage.

It was unanimously resolved to:

Create an information board to include the historical details and images provided by Cllr Cooper as well as a reference to the presence of an infra-red wildlife camera.

43/24 PARK SIGNAGE

Cllr Jefferies explained that this matter had been raised at the Public Spaces Protection Order consultation as mentioned by Cllr Steph Toogood in the public forum.

Cllr Cooper suggested that additional signage could be installed about keeping dogs on leads. The Town Clerk explained that the Outfit Gym area was part of the Public Spaces Protection Order where dogs are not allowed.

The Town Clerk would obtain quotes for additional signage.

44/24 FLORAL DISPLAYS

Cllr Jefferies noted that Ventnor Park and the Cascade had received good results in the South in Bloom Awards and suggested that there should be more committee involvement in the floral displays in Ventnor.

The Town Clerk noted that a discussion would need to take place with Ventnor Enhancement Fund regarding plans for the central reservation flowers for 2025.

45/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 4th November 2024 at 9am.

The meeting closed at 9.33 am

SIGNED BY THE CHAIR

DATE