



# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

LG1, SALISBURY GARDENS

9AM

4 NOVEMBER 2024

Members present:-

Councillors: Mark Jefferies (Chair), Steve Cooper, Ian Bond, Steve Milford, Julie Hutchison

Clerk: Katherine Baldwin

Officers: Catherine Hammond

MINUTE SUBJECT

DRAFT

46/24 PUBLIC FORUM

There were two members of the public.

Tony Gillingham, Tree Officer, Isle of Wight Council spoke in relation to item 4 of the agenda. Glyphosate in certain instances is more ethical in environmental impact. There are not any alternatives to glyphosate for invasive species which can cause damage if not addressed. The Tree of Heaven is highly invasive in North America where it is spreading rapidly. It originates from China. The species is spreading in the UK. If it is cut down and treated the stump, it is still difficult to kill the suckers. The Tree Officer noted that there are further invasive species in the same woodland area that they would like to treat with Glyphosate. The use of Glyphosate would be targeted and follow the COSHH rules on use by painting it onto the stumps and not spraying it.

Cllr James Toogood asked about the cameras for the Community Orchard and whether the cost would be within budget. Cllr Jefferies confirmed that this would be discussed.

47/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies of absence received.

48/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mark Jefferies declared an interest in respect of item 6 on the agenda.

49/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 7 OCTOBER 2024

The Minutes of the Environment and Transport Committee meeting of 7 October 2024, having been previously circulated to Members were taken as read.

Cllr Bond wished to raise a matter in respect of 43/24 which referred to the item on park signage. Cllr Bond noted that the agenda item had not been explicit that it would include a discussion on dogs on leads in the park. It was noted that discussions about park signage took place in 2022 which led to signage asked for dogs to be kept under strict control. Cllr Cooper wished to make a correction and note that no further signage is required. Cllr Bond noted that a third board would be useful to show directions to the main areas in and around town.

**It was unanimously resolved to:**

Accept the minutes of the Environment and Transport Committee meeting of 7 October 2024.

50/24 TREE OF HEAVEN, VENTNOR PARK

It was noted that spraying glyphosate had previously been an issue. The treatment of the Tree of Heaven would be targeted use rather than spraying.

**It was unanimously resolved to:**

Approve the use of glyphosate for the purpose of treating the Tree of Heaven in Ventnor Park woodland.

**51/24 COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

Cllr Cooper asked why only £1000 had been set aside in the budget for the Community Orchard and could not recall this amount being agreed. The Town Clerk would look into this matter.

**A) TREES**

The Business and Voluntary Sector Officer gave an overview of the options for trees.

**It was unanimously resolved to:**

Approve by email the trees and associated items to be purchased. The costs would be allocated to the Community Orchard budget.

**B) SIGNAGE**

It was suggested that the option to design and deliver the signage would be the best option rather than the option which included installation. The costs would be allocated to the Sustainability and Biodiversity budget.

**It was unanimously resolved to:**

Approve by email the design of the information board and place an order for delivery only.

**C) CCTV**

There was a discussion regarding the options for CCTV and wildlife cameras and it was noted that the location would need to be carefully considered and would require permission. The Town Clerk would liaise with the Isle of Wight Council about the removal of any fly tipping.

It was suggested that the schools are approached to be involved in the Community Orchard project.

**It was unanimously resolved to:**

Put the matter of installing CCTV at the Community Orchard on hold for the time being.

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**52/24 CHRISTMAS EVENTS**

The organisers of Light up Ventnor would like to use the Putting Green for the Carols in the Park on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December and Spring Hill Gardens for busking on the same day.

**It was unanimously resolved to:**

Approve the request for Light up Ventnor events to take place at the Putting Green in respect of Carols in the Park and Spring Hill Gardens in respect of busking.

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**53/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 09.00am

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The meeting closed at 10.00 am

SIGNED BY THE CHAIR

DATE