

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLVEY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN WOLVEY BAPTIST CHAPEL ON
WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 2017 at 8.00pm

Present: John Hardman (Chairman); Parish Councillor Adrian Warwick, Ruth Buswell, Pete Hopkins, Linda Lakin and Clare Nixon

In attendance: Jackie Essex - Clerk
1 member of the public

Apologies: Councillor Richard Hawcutt and Chris Kenrick

At the start of the meeting, a minute's silence was held as a mark of respect in memory of the victims of the tragic fire in Grenfell Tower, London.

1/17 Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED that John Hardman be elected Chairman for 2017/18.

2/17 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

RESOLVED that Ruth Buswell be elected Vice-Chairman for 2017/18.

3/17 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting.

4/17 Declarations of Interest

None

5/17 Public Consultation

More volunteers were needed to help with the field survey as progress needed to be made with this. Pete Hopkins and Mary Hardman would design a poster asking for volunteers.

Councillor Adrian Warwick agreed to assist with the production of information recording sheets.

6/17 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2017 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

7/17 Financial Monitoring

The Clerk circulated a proposed procedure for financial and budget monitoring, which would be submitted to the parish council for approval.

The latest budget monitoring figures were circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Committee notes the procedure for financial and budget monitoring and Chris Kenrick be nominated to update the Excel spreadsheet on behalf of WEC; and
- (b) the budget monitoring figures be noted.

8/17 Work Schedule

The work schedule for June/July was circulated. Work on the painting of the fence was almost completed, only minor touch-up work was required.

The Chairman thanked all those volunteers who were involved in painting the fence: Ruth and Ted Buswell, Clare and Del Nixon, Sid Hindmarsh and Paul Mallabone.

9/17 Outstanding Matters

- (a) Making health and safety procedures on-line
John Hardman, Clare Nixon and Peter Hopkins would progress this.

10/17 Tree Survey and Associated Works

The Chairman confirmed that the tree surgeon had been on site for three days and works to the trees had been completed. The tree surgeon had confirmed that the trees were now safe, which meant that the woodland walk could be re-opened. Volunteers could help themselves to the wood for burning. A monthly inspection of trees would be carried out by WEG volunteers and the Clerk would ensure that a tree survey was carried out on an annual basis in April.

Two Lime trees at the junction with Leicester Road were diseased – one was terminal, but the long-term effect on the other tree could not yet be determined. The tree was not dangerous and WEG volunteers would remove the low hanging branches over the footpath.

The contractor had carried out pruning works to the Alder by the wetland bridge. Further pruning works would be required next year. The Chairman would contact the tree surgeon for an approximate cost of tree works to be carried out next year as provision for this work would need to be included in the 2018/19 budget.

11/17 Health and Safety

Risk assessments were on file and applied to all tasks.

12/17 Any Other Business

(a) Invasive weed in pond

It was agreed that the letter written by Peter Hopkins, to James Read at the Environment Agency seeking advice on the invasive weed in the pond, would be sent in the Clerk's name.

There was evidence of Great Crested Newts and water voles being present in the pond. Both of these were protected species.

(b) Floral Display

Ruth Buswell asked for permission to include wooden airplanes in the display in The Square in memory of Sir Frank Whittle, who invented the jet engine. This was agreed provided the planes did not pose a safety threat.

(c) Wolvey Christmas Tree Switch-on Event 2017

Ruth Buswell would discuss the extent of WEG's involvement with this event with the volunteers and would notify Councillor Warwick before the parish council meeting which would be held on the following Monday.

(d) Woody Nightshade

Clare Nixon confirmed that the plant sample recently given to her was Woody Nightshade, not Deadly Nightshade. This plant would be removed by WEG volunteers from those areas which were accessible by the public.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm