



# BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

**The Clerk to the Council,**  
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## Minutes of Bembridge Village Partnership Green Town Steering Group meeting held at **4.00pm 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015**, Parish Office, 5 Foreland Rd, Bembridge

**PRESENT:** Mrs S Weedall, Mrs B Clough, Mr J Leaver, Mr T Freeman, Mrs E Goldring (Clerk) and Mr P Fellows (East Wight Landscape Partnership)

Cllr John Leaver was elected Chairman of the Green Towns Steering Group following the resignation of Cllr Alice Lee.

### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence  
None received

### 2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To receive for approval minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**RESOLVED:** Approved minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and signed by the chairman

### 3. **EAST WIGHT LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP**

- To receive an update from Peter Fellows on the East Wight Landscape Partnership  
The East Wight Landscape Partnership received the decision yesterday from the Heritage Lottery fund that they will receive £1.6million of funding for the programme. This will attract match funding of £900,000 from other partners such as the Wildlife Trust, Spectrum Housing, IWC Rights of Way, Environment Agency, National Trust, RSPB, Parish and Town Councils etc. and will run until 2020.

The scope of the projects has been drafted however they will be some room for manoeuvre. They are looking to increase skills and employment within the younger age range and this may be something that could be explored in connection with a new apprentice Lengthsmen.

The restoration of the Palmer Memorial is a project to be delivered under the Caulkhead Heroes programme and can commence ASAP. This will be one of the first projects to be delivered and will be a good start for EWLP. Finance needs to be organised by Pete for the whole project over the next 3 weeks or so. The school and heritage centre need to be contacted and the project organised to commence.

Access to the River Yar is another project which includes the clearing and resurfacing of BB21 from the Windmill across Brading Marshes. Ramblers, ROW, landowners and the RSPB are involved. A large project that will need an army of volunteer support. The Parish Council has a good track record with footpaths and would be able to assist. Need to have a site meeting and a round table meeting with all partners to plan the project and allocate project management. Weather is a factor. ROW is drafting the proposals now. The restoration of the milestones is included. Styles are to be replaced by gates. Some of the area is a SSSI so a license will be required to dump spoil extracted from the site. Access is poor. Planning is key.

A small grants scheme will also be available to organisation to help deliver their projects over the next 5 years.

Fiona Hanna is no longer the EWLP Project Officer as she has left the authority. Therefore Peter Fellows is the Lead Officer and they may look to divert some of this resource elsewhere within the programme. The AONB unit funding has been pulled by IWC so this is a crucial decision to receive. IWC will be looking to Parish and Town councils to take over the services after the EWLP has completed this work in 2020. Parish Councils are going to be the lifeblood of the AONB unit going forward.

- To consider the restoration of the Palmer Memorial Project

The project delivery needs planning. Includes restoration of the memorial, new information board, leaflets and a grand opening including demonstrations of traditional skills by Wightstonemasons. The heritage society and primary school need to be involved. Agenda item for the next meeting to project plan.

#### 4. **IN BLOOM 2015**

To receive an update from Bembridge in Bloom and Wight in Bloom 2015 Bembridge were successful with the Wight in bloom awards. £200 has just been secured as sponsorship. Barbara Clough and Arthur Robinson are attending the Best Kept Village Awards tomorrow. Thank you to Barbara for all of her hard work with Bembridge in Bloom.

#### 5. **RIGHTS OF WAY**

- To note the BB22 Steyne Wood footpath improvement project Bembridge Parish Council is working in partnership with IWC to resurface BB22 through Steyne Wood 2 meters from the fence. Works will commence next week.

- To review rights ways for future footpath improvement projects ROW would like to look at a partnership approach to improve the footpath at Sandhill's that joins with Peacock Hill in the spring. The other side of BB36 could be a future project as it's always very wet. The junction has already been done. Windmill to Brading Marshes BB21 to be done via the EWLP. BB7 is being moved and cleared by ROW as per the consultation.

#### 6. **AUTUMN LITTER PICK**

To arrange the autumn litter pick  
The beach cleans have been successful. The autumn litter pick will take place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am to commence from Steyne Park. Draft poster and include the logo for keep Britain tidy. Share on the community noticeboard Facebook page.

#### 7. **LINCOLN WAY POND**

To discuss the water levels and pond warden scheme  
The fire brigade are happy to run a training exercise and fill up the pond. It's unclear how long this would last. Concerns have been raised about potential flooding. The aim of the pond needs to be established as the pond warden scheme would seek conservation which would prevent it being cleared. Unsure if the pond was always full of water. No money in the budget for drainage reports and is it a priority for the amount of people that benefit from it. Some residents are dumping grass cuttings there.

**RESOLVED:** Ask Footprint trust if they could carry out an assessment of the health of the pond

#### 8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Nothing

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Confirmed date and venue of next meeting as Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00pm in the Parish Office.

Signed: ..... Dated:.....