



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council,
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Minutes of Bembridge Village Partnership Green Town Steering Group meeting held at 3.00pm 4th November 2015, Parish Office, 5 Foreland Rd, Bembridge

PRESENT: Mr J Leaver (Chairman), Mrs S Weedall, Mrs B Clough, Mr T Freeman, Mr I Graham, Mrs E Goldring (Clerk) and Mr J Hague (IW Ramblers and EWLP)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence

None received all present. Welcome Ian Graham to the group.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To receive for approval minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 23rd September 2015

RESOLVED: Approved minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 23rd September and signed by the chairman.

3. BB21 WINDMILL TO BRADING MARSHES PROJECT

To discuss the BB21 Windmill-Brading Marshes Project with John Hague from The Ramblers

John Hague is dealing with this project for the IW Ramblers and is also a member on the EWLP. Down to Coast, Meanders and Reflections project is where the footpath improvement project comes within Windmill to Brading BB21. The project plan has been circulated to members from Pete Fellows which is to increase access to river valleys, promoting public access and interpretation.

The project 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 from the Parish Council Lengthsmen, Green Towns Steering Group, Green Gym etc. The Parish Council has a good track record with footpaths and would be able to assist in co-ordinating volunteers. 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.

The Parish Clerk can join John Hague to a meeting of the landowners with support for the project and need to replace the styles with kissing gates donated by Ramblers donate a gate scheme. The Parish Office can co-ordinate lists of volunteers when the clearing of the vegetation commences in April. Risk assessments and volunteer's policy can be provided. Need to have a walk of the footpath and see if the Parish Council could manage the Windmill end. Explore the use of a shredder. Other elements of the project requiring support is a full schedule of photographic evidence is required of the River Yar Trail including signage if any volunteers would be willing to assist here too.

ACTION: Full Council to agree resource and support. Arrange a walk of the footpath. Support John Hague with a landowners meeting.

4. PALMER MEMORIAL PROJECT

To discuss and agree the Project Plan for the restoration of the Palmer Memorial

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. The grant awarding documents have been circulated and will be signed by the Parish Clerk next week for £5,260.

The project delivery needs planning. Includes restoration of the memorial, new information board, leaflets and a grand opening including demonstrations of traditional skills by Wightstonemasonry Ltd. A project plan allocating tasks will be drafted. Wightstonemasonry Ltd has been appointed. Bembridge Heritage Society and Bembridge Primary School have been informed of the project.

ACTION: Sign grant documents and draft project plan for delivery by May 2016.

5. VILLAGE OF THE YEAR AWARDS

To review the results of the 2015 Village of the Year Awards.

A review of the scoresheet took place looking particularly at score below 10. This included the absence of litter/dog fouling. Provision/state of litter/dog bins. Condition of phone boxes and bus shelters. It was noted that the planters needed attention. The public toilets were commendable.

The judging took place on 1st May which was a wet and windy day and prior to the installation of hanging baskets or the weeders session on the planters that took place on the Wednesday. Next year focus on the last 2 weeks of April to install the hanging baskets and planters and litter pick the pertinent areas. Ask BT to remove the telephone box opposite the pilot boat that has no phone inside. Ask Southern Vectis or Island Roads to clean the bus shelters. If they will not organise volunteers to do so. **ACTION:** Telephone box removal and bus shelter cleaning.

6. WOODLAND TRUST COMMUNITY TREE PACK

To discuss the Woodland Trust free fruit trees application

The Parish Lengthsmen still have the 20 trees in the yard that need planning from Natural Enterprise as part of the bid tree plant on the old school field boundary. Wednesday 18th November at 10.00am is a good time for the Parish Lengthsmen. Advertise a poster for volunteer input. Do not ask for any more trees at present.

ACTION: Advertise the big tree plant. Lengthsmen to provide equipment, topsoil and fishbone.

7. LINCOLN WAY POND

To discuss Lincoln Way Pond Management Plan £320 conducted by the Footprint Trust which would include 2 dipping sessions for Children in Spring & Summer.

Ask Ray Harrington-Vail of Footprint Trust for advice and report back to members.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Kingswood was involved with the autumn litter pick. More hi-vis jackets are required. 10 more have been purchased for the Fireworks event that can be used.

Footpath bottom of Brooks Close to Farm Lane is not an official footpath could it be added to the definitive map. Land registry search doesn't show a land owner. Would require 30 witness statements to accompany an application. Need to walk the path. Include as an agenda item at the next meeting.

Amey Cespa is the new waste provider. Sheila Weedall attended a welcome session presented by the provider. No immediate changes other than the process of green waste bags requires 3 days' notice. They are a recycling provider only no landfill. Keen for the Green Towns Group to run a recycling exhibition outside the Parish Office or Village Hall to inform the community. Include an agenda item at the next meeting.

Local Access Forum funding available of up to £12,000 via Tesco. Include as an agenda item at the next meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TBA

Signed: Dated:.....

POST MEETING NOTES

LINCOLN WAY POND

Emma Goldring Parish Clerk' I have spoken to Ray Harrington-Vail of the Footprint Trust and he said that its originally a balancing pond and they would not expect it to hold water all year. There would not be enough environmental advantage to line it and encourage year round wildlife as it would probably only benefit dragon flies. He said frogs and newts would benefit anyway from the winter waters. He doesn't see the need for a management plan and advises that what we are doing now maintaining the surrounding area and clearing the reeds once per year is adequate. He said we should be clearing the reeds in the winter time and not spring or summer to minimise disruption'.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

BB21 footpath walk Thursday 26th November 10.00 Windmill

Green Towns Steering Group Meeting Wednesday 9th December 16.00 Parish Office