



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council, 5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN

Tel: 01983 874160 Email: bembridgepc@btconnect.com



Minutes of Bembridge Village Partnership Green Town Steering Group held on 7th January 2015 4.00 Parish Office, 5 Foreland Road, Bembridge

PRESENT: Cllr A Lee, Mrs S Weedall, , Mr J Leaver and Mrs E Goldring Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence. Apologies received from Mrs B Clough due to illness.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To receive for approval minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 6th November 2014.

RESOLVED: Approve the minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 6th November 2014. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

3. PALMER MEMORIAL RESTORATION

To discuss the requirements of the project plan for East Wight Landscape Partnership funding.

A project plan was drafted and submitted to Peter Fellow before the New Year. This includes the stone plaques for James Palmer to be reinscribed to match the original due to deterioration; one section of the cornice has weathered and needs replacing and the weather vane needs repainting. A new information board to be created and installed along with informative leaflets for the residents and visitors. The youth of the village will be invited to a workshop/demonstration of traditional skills by Wightstonemasons. The total requested is £5260.00. The lease includes 1metre surround so an information board should be fine with permission of Malcolm Thorpe. The hedge may need to be cut back by the Parish Lengthsmen with the permission of Malcolm Thorpe.

Peter Fellow has asked if the project can be developed more 'involving both Bembridge Heritage and the local school would be fantastic. What would perhaps strengthen the project yet further would be to ensure the school has a more active, rather than passive role in the work. I believe that exploration and understanding of the local area forms part of Key Stage 1 and it might be in this context that we could perhaps link the school with the project? Perhaps the Council knows a teacher who might champion the project within the school? Perhaps this project might also interest some of the local shopkeepers?'

ACTION: Alan Morris would ask Tina Baker Primary School Head teacher if this could be included within the curriculum. Additional information needs to be included within the project plan to cover the points raised by Peter and resubmit.

4. REMEMBRANCE ORCHARD

- To agree planting ceremony date

The last week in January mid-week mid-morning to be arranged in conjunction with the Lord Lieutenants and Vicars schedules.

- To agree invitation list to the planting ceremony

Invite Lord Lieutenant, Royal British Legion, School, Scouts, Jill Cowley (original idea for an Island wide project), Parish Council and Village Partnership. Each tree would be planted by a different person. Suggestions are Lord Lieutenant, Royal British Legion, School, Scouts and

Parish Council. Jill would be invited to explain the project, followed by a member of the Green Towns Group making a speech about the commemoration of WWI. The bench would be fitted to a concrete plinth before the planting ceremony and 5 small brass plaques would be purchased to explain each tree. The 5 trees have been reserved with Deacons. The holes would be pre-dug before the planting ceremony. 2 located up the path and 3 along the rear. A small service would be organised at St Lukes Chapel following the planting that would include a blessing by the Vicar and tea/coffee and biscuits. Invite the County Press. A press release to be drafted and issued following the planting and service.

ACTION: Organise the planting of the Remembrance Orchard.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Biffa grant for £2430 towards the footpath improvement project will be known by early February. If the grant is unsuccessful the Parish Council has agreed to fund the project anyway. It would be likely that works would take place in March by the Parish Lengthsmen.

The Grow Wild grant for £4000 for the creation of a wildlife garden at Steyne Park will be known early February. Deliver is March – October.

Tree replacement at Foreland Road was raised via Barbara's email. The tree mentioned has been replaced by a householder. It was felt that there should be a budget allocated to replacement trees. The Parish Council has commissioned a tree survey of all the trees on Parish Council owned or managed land. The results recommend that 4 trees are felled (2 at Scout Field, 1 at Lincoln Way pond which has a TPO and 1 in the war memorial gardens). The Parish Council will consider the recommendation at Full Council on 20th January. As the report was commission for Health & Safety reasons and to inform the insurance policy it was felt that they are likely to back the recommendations to carry out the felling. Therefore the Green Towns Steering Group recommends that where a tree felled another mature tree should be replanted. Not specifically in the same location or variety but nearby.

ACTION: Ask for budget allocation for replacement trees at the Village Partnership meeting.

A presentation was given by Chris Wood of the Vectis Astronomical Society about the Isle of Wight dark skies initiative to the AONB Forum. It was felt that the GTSG could be promoting darker skies to shop keepers and the holiday camps.

ACTION: Invite Chris Wood to the next meeting for a presentation on dark skies initiative.

The Green Towns Steering Group would organise the spring, summer and autumn litter picks again in 2015. The third week in April was felt to be a better fit around Easter and school holidays for the spring date.

The Green Towns Steering Group would like to have a stall at Bembridge Street Fair again on Monday 25th May 2015. Natural Enterprise has the stock of literature and litter pickers as required.

A newsletter would be drafted to coincide with the monthly e-newsletter and be circulated to the list of volunteers who signed up at the street fair stall.

The clerk would attend the LAF Coastal Access Scheme meeting on 19th February and report back.

Ragwort on land owned by Malcolm Thorpe was discussed. A number of land owners on the Island have handpicked entire fields to remove the ragwort. Clerk to email Malcolm Thorpe to ask if he has any plans to clear it. **ACTION:** Email Malcolm Thorpe ref ragwort.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 18th February 2015 4.00pm in the Parish Office, 5 Foreland Road, Bembridge.

Signed: Dated:.....