



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council,
5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN
Tel: 01983 874160 Email: clerk@bembridgepc.org.uk



Minutes of Bembridge Village Partnership Green Town Steering Group meeting held at 4.00pm 9th December 2015, Parish Office, 5 Foreland Rd, Bembridge

PRESENT: Mr J Leaver (Chairman), Mrs S Weedall, Mr T Freeman, Mr I Graham & Mrs E Goldring (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence
Apologies received from Mrs Barbara Clough.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

To receive for approval minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 4th November 2015

RESOLVED: Approved minutes of the Green Town Steering Group meeting held on 4th November and signed by the Chairman.

3. BB21 WINDMILL TO BRADING MARSHES PROJECT

To discuss the BB21 Windmill-Brading Marshes Project

Quote provided to Pete Fellow from Aaron Rogers Grounds Maintenance for 3 men for 10 days work. Plus the 2 Parish Lengthsmen would be working with them to clear the vegetation at the Bembridge end before the nesting season 1st March 2016.

They would like to do the work in 2 weeks which is 11th-15th January and 18th-22nd January. Rights of Way to advertise a closure during this time. For whatever reason if the works are delayed due to bad weather they will be complete the following week 25th-29th January. The Green Towns Group will then organise the volunteers to go in February to do some 'tidying up'.

Access and burning license/exemption to be confirmed. Bembridge Parish Council to consider a contribution of £1,000 towards the project at its Full Council meeting on 15th December. Down to Coast would fund the rest from contingency.

ACTION: Arrange meeting ref access and confirm burning license/exemption.

4. PALMER MEMORIAL PROJECT

To discuss the Palmer Memorial project

The Clerk is to meet with Sandra Groocrock Deputy Head Teacher at Bembridge Primary School on 7th January. Project suited more for key stage 2 children and not key stage 1. Ideas for the school children to visit the Palmer Memorial, Heritage Centre and Palmers grave in St Luke's Cemetery. They could then assist with the design of the leaflet and attend the grand unveiling in May.

Wightstonemasonry Ltd has been appointed and has ordered the new stone that takes 8-14 weeks to deliver. They will conduct the restoration of the cornices and weathervane plus inscribe the new stone. They will also provide a traditional skills demonstration at the grand unveiling which would benefit the school children who attend.

Information board to be constructed to be placed in the heritage centre. They will open especially for the school children's visit. Full length photo to be found. Full size card board cut outs to be purchased. Information board content to be designed by Nick Ryde and Shelley Signs.

Grand unveiling to be organised for May with an afternoon tea type event. The originally invite to the unveiling of the memorial will be replicated for the grant unveiling.

The Green Towns Steering Group to make suggestions of improvements to the surrounding area. Does the hedge need cutting? The long trough needs planting? Approach Island Roads to see if they could bring forward the new pavement and also HJ Bennetts if they could improve the unmade access road.

ACTION: Meeting with Head Teacher, information board for heritage, cardboard cut outs to be ordered, information to be sent to Nick Ryde and quote from Shelley Signs, approach Island Roads re pavement and HJ Bennett's re access road improvements.

5. **WHITECLIFF BAY POND**

To discuss Whitecliff Bay Pond

The pond belongs to Stanwell Farm and is a natural pond. Much community interest has been expressed on the Bembridge Community Noticeboard Facebook page to restore the pond. The previous owners used Stanwell Farm as a working farm and had domesticated ducks that they looked after and put away every night. Back in the 70's the traffic was much slower too as the pond sits alongside a main fast road. The plaque on the other side of the road part of Bembridge trail could do with TLC.

Parrots feather, which is an invasive weed, has consumed the pond as its not been cleared for over 10 years. What liabilities would there be if the pond was cleared? What depth is the pond and could you use waders in it? The communities desire to see it returned to a duck pond is probably unachievable.

ACTION: Write to the owners of Stanwell Farm to understand the history and complexities with the pond. Agenda item for the next meeting to review the Bembridge Trail information boards that require maintenance.

6. **BB38 FOOTPATH**

To discuss BB38 Footpath Bottom of Brooks Close to Farm Lane

This is not an official footpath and therefore not BB38. The area is situated at the end of Brooks Close and goes through to Farm Lane. It's an area of scrub land and has a small winding footpath that goes through and connects to the coastal path. The land is approx. 10 metres wide. Do a land registry search to ascertain if there is a land owner. If the land is unregistered would it be claimed and dedicated as a footpath. Understand the process to do so. Could make an application to Rights of Way to designate the footpath officially on the definitive map that would require approx. 30 witness statements to say that the path has been used for over 20 years. Brambles need to be cut back and lay shingle on the path itself as its wet underfoot.

ACTION: Conduct a land registry search and report back the legal options/processes.

7. **RECYCLING**

To discuss Recycling Exhibition

Amey Cespa is the new waste provider. Sheila Weedall has been co-opted onto the Community Forum. The company is recycling only and not landfill therefore they will not provide grants that Biffa did as that was to offset the landfill. The aim is for the Island to increase to 90% recycling. New bits for the recycling bins will be issued to keep paper separate. Black waste bins would also be provided for the black sacks next financial year. Bottle banks will not be required and they could remove the one from outside the library.

Keen for the Green Towns Group to run a recycling exhibition outside the Village Hall to inform the community on a Saturday morning. Amey has an information van that could sit in the High Street. Could run the Big Bembridge Recycling Exchange and make an event out of it. Looking at March/April time when the changes come into effect.

8. FUNDING

To discuss Local Access Forum Funding £12,000

The second round of funding is April/May and third round September/October. 3 grants are awarded in each Tesco area which is just the Isle of Wight for us. £12,000, £10,000 and £8,000 are awarded to the top 3 voted projects.

Communities across England, Wales and Scotland can apply for up to £12,000 for local green space projects thanks to a new grant scheme launched with the proceeds generated from the sale of carrier bags by Tesco.

The grants programme will be open to voluntary/community organisations, registered charities, health bodies, parish/town councils, local authorities and housing organisations. **It will fund capital improvement projects such as parks, play areas, community gardens and other green spaces. The projects should provide a community benefit and have free and open access to all members of the community for a minimum of six days a week, during daylight hours.**

It is anticipated that there will be two funding rounds per year over the next three years. The first funding round opens on **19 October 2015** and will close on 30 November 2015.

The scheme is managed by environmental charity Groundwork.

Projects that would typically receive funding include:

- parks, pocket parks and urban green spaces
- green corridors – river and canals, cycle ways
- formal and informal play areas
- open access sports facilities within public parks and recreation grounds – e.g. football pitches, tennis courts and cricket pitches
- informal outdoor recreation facilities e.g. gym equipment, trim trails and woodland walks
- nature reserves, community woodland, ponds and village greens
- churchyards
- seafronts
- community allotments, community gardens, orchards and city farms

Please refer to the Groundwork website and the Tesco local community scheme

<http://www.groundwork.org.uk/News/tesco-local-community-scheme>

<http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme>

The duck pond may be a project. Or the trim trail, nature trail around the outside of the old school field and Steyne Park. A hard all weather surfaces would be useful for a wider range of users. Natural log benches could be strategically placed around. Think about a project that could be developed to suit this funding opportunity.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The telephone box has been fixed opposite the pilot boat. They all need cleaning approach BT. If the phone boxes and bus stops are not clean the Green Towns group would revisit in February as it needs to be done before the Best Kept Village competition in May.

The brick build bus shelter on Foreland Road used to belong to the Parish Council but Island Roads took it over on 1st April 2013. No seats within the shelter.

Janet Shuter has approached the Clerk about the BASHA beach cleans. The Green Towns Group would be happy to take over the beach cleans and ensure one takes place before the Easter break and the Harbour family fun weekend. Agenda item for the next meeting to agree the dates. There are large metal items that need to be removed from the beach but would require equipment.

Footpath BB40 interviews have been taking place. Has to go to and Isle of Wight Council Committee meeting likely to take another 6 months to be resolved.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 27th January 2016 4.00pm Parish Office

Signed: Dated:.....