

# *Sandridge Parish Council*



## **JERSEY FARM WOODLAND PARK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Met at 7.30pm at Jersey Farm Community  
Centre on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021

A preliminary site inspection was undertaken  
by Committee Members at The Woodland  
Park from 6.30pm

### **Present:**

Councillor Jenny Roberts –Chair  
Parish Councillors – Claudio Duran, Geoff  
Churchard, Janet Churchard, Jon Hegerty  
District Councillors – Raj Visram  
Public Members – Tony Farnfield, John  
Forward, Sue Riley

### **Apologies:**

District Councillor – Frances Leonard  
Public Members – Clyde Martindill  
Warden – Mark Carter

### **Absent:**

Public Members – Jamie Burrows, David  
Burrows, Carrie Sherriff

### **Officers:**

Emma Hostler, Deputy Clerk  
Rebecca Pannese, Project & Amenities  
Officer

### **538. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Jenny Roberts be elected as Chair. It was unanimously:

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Jenny Roberts be elected Chair of The Jersey Farm Woodland Park Management Committee.

### **539. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Geoff Churchard be elected as Vice Chair. It was unanimously:

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Geoff Churchard be elected Vice Chair of The Jersey Farm Woodland Park Management Committee.

**540. REAFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS**

Tony Farnfield, John Forward and Sue Riley re-affirmed their willingness to continue as Public Members on The Jersey Farm Woodland Park Committee. The Deputy Clerk and Project Officer will liaise with absent Public Members to re-affirm their willingness to continue also.

**541. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no disclosures of interest or dispensations given.

**542. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021, having been previously circulated, were taken as a correct record and it was unanimously:

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**543. APPROVAL OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

As an annual statutory requirement, the Committee Terms of Reference, having been previously circulated, were reviewed. Members noted that the membership of Parish Councillors had been increased from 4 to 5 members at the Full Council meeting in May. It was unanimously:

**RESOLVED**

That the Committee Terms of Reference be approved, including an increase of Parish Councillor membership from 4 to 5, for the year 2021-22.

**544. MATTERS OF REPORT**

- The return of the weekly Parkrun on the Woodland Park has now been postponed until Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July. The Committee agreed to review concerns regarding wear and tear and procedure for cancellations due to weather conditions as needed once the Parkrun has restarted.
- Permission has once again been given to Herts Orienteering Club to hold an annual event on the Woodland Park on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September. They will liaise directly with Parkrun to ensure activities are coordinated appropriately.
- Permission has been given to the Sandridge 10K to run the one-mile Fun Run component of the fundraising event, aimed at younger runners, to take place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September beginning at 9am.
- The Project Officer has been in contact with Julian Thornton, HCC, to request a meeting to discuss potential financial and contractor support for resurfacing and repair of BW 53 and adjacent entrance to the Woodland Park.
- Mark Carter has temporarily fenced off the area around the memorial stone to give the grass a chance to rejuvenate, as agreed at the last meeting.
- The growth of ragwort doesn't appear to be a problem again this year and an organised ragwort pull is not felt necessary.
- Discussions continue with SADC regarding freehold transfer of the playground and adjoining land between Wheat Close and the Woodland Park to the Parish Council. The Clerk is waiting an estimate regarding annual maintenance costs.

**545. RELOCATION OF THE MEMORIAL STONE**

The Committee, having agreed at previous meetings that the LST & Landing Craft Memorial, currently positioned opposite the bench at the Chiltern Road entrance, needs to be relocated due to muddy conditions at the existing site. During the pre-meeting site visit Committee Members viewed the area under consideration, including that of the Burma Star Memorial nearby. Following discussion, two

potential sites for relocation were identified: within range of its existing position but behind the tree line further within the Park; or closer to the Burma Memorial on the opposite side of the footpath. Consideration was also given to whether it would be better to raise the Memorial stone from the ground in its new position. During the visit, concerns were raised regarding the overgrowth of trees and vegetation around the Burma Star Memorial. Members agreed as a first step to ask Mark Carter to undertake a significant tidy up of this area, including cutting back trees as well as general clearance of weeds and grass cutting. The Committee agreed to revisit the site at the next Meeting, with the expectation that having tidied up the area they would be in a better position to decide which of the optional sites identified above would be most suitable. It was:

**RESOLVED**

To ask Mark Carter to clear the area around the Burma Star Memorial Stone and to determine what is involved in moving the Landing Craft Memorial, including whether it can be raised from the ground, and the approximate costs to do so. The Committee will make a final decision where to move the Memorial stone from the two sites identified above at the September meeting.

**546. MEMORIAL TREE PLANTING AND THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY INITIATIVE**

The Committee was asked to consider details of The Queen's Green Canopy initiative launched to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and whether to plant a tree or trees in support of this on behalf of Sandridge Parish Council. Alongside this, Members also continued discussions from the April meeting on whether to plant a tree in memory of the Duke of Edinburgh. Cllr Janet Churchurch suggested using the Jubilee initiative as an opportunity to rename one of the existing plantations, alongside any planting. The Chair asked Members to continue considering ideas with a view to making a final decision at the September meeting.

**547. THREATENING DOGS ON THE WOODLAND PARK**

Members were informed of a recent incident involving a threatening dog on The Woodland Park after which Community Support Officers spoke with the owner and the Parish Clerk was informed. Members were asked to confirm that they are agreeable to the Parish Clerk contacting dog owners following any future incidents of this kind to request that they no longer visit the Park unless the dog is suitably restrained. It was:

**RESOLVED**

That the Committee agree to the Clerk contacting in writing owners of dogs identified as potentially dangerous to request that they do not visit The Woodland Park unless the dog is suitably restrained.

**548. VOLUNTEERS ACTIVITIES**

The Project Officer reported that it is hoped a full programme of volunteer dates will shortly resume following relaxation of Covid guidelines.

**549. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Committee agreed to remain flexible regarding chosen venue for future meetings, depending on the status of Covid guidelines at the time.

**550. FURTHER MATTERS ARISING**

Following circulation of the agenda, Members were forwarded images of drainage issues due to a blocked soakaway causing problems for residents on St Helier Road. It was agreed that the Chair would approach Julian Thornton to discuss the extent to which the granite footpath originally laid by HCC is exacerbating this problem and possible remedial actions.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm. Venue to be determined. There will be a site inspection meeting at the Chiltern Road entrance to The Woodland Park at 6.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....