

# *Sandridge Parish Council*



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

Met at 7.30pm at Sandridge Village Hall on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (preceded by a site visit on the Woodland Park at 6.30pm attended by some members)

### **Present:**

Councillor Jenny Roberts – Chair  
Parish Councillors – Geoff Churchard, Janet Churchard, Jon Hegerty  
Warden – Mark Carter

### **Apologies:**

Public Members – Tony Farnfield, John Forward, Clyde Martindill  
District Councillors – Frances Leonard, Raj Visram

### **Absent:**

Public Members – Sue Riley, Jamie Burrows, David Burrows, Carrie Sherriff

### **Officers:**

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

### **Attendance:**

Representatives from Wilder St Albans, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust and Butterfly Conservation

## **568. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

Mark Carter disclosed an interest as a self-employed contractor working for Sandridge Parish Council.

## **569. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022, having been previously circulated, were taken as a correct record and it was unanimously:

### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## **570. MATTERS OF REPORT**

- Resurfacing works funded by Herts County Council (HCC) to BW 53 (from Highfield Road) to Jersey Lane have now been completed. This is an extensive stretch of BW and has included improving the access point to the Woodland Park from Jersey Lane by reducing the gradient of the slope.
- A wastewater leak from Woodland House on to the Woodland Park towards the St Helier end of FP 27 has now been fixed by Thames Water.
- The Parish Council has received notice from the Forestry Commission of the treatment plan for the oak processionary moth infestation which has been spotted on Sandringham Crescent within 50 metres of the Woodland Park. The affected tree/s

- will be sprayed twice between April and June.
- The Parish Clerk and Project and Amenities Officer have had a meeting with a hedgehog rescue charity with a view to releasing recovered hedgehogs onto the Woodland Park and other suitable outdoor spaces within the Parish.
  - Mark Carter hosted a busy hazel coppicing volunteer event with a local scout group working alongside our regular volunteers.
  - Volunteers have installed fencing on the Woodland Park to protect the nesting skylarks.
  - The Deputy Clerk has written to a company regarding moving the memorial stone but has yet to receive a reply.

#### **571. BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION PROJECT**

The meeting was attended by Heidi Carruthers (Wilder St Albans People & Wildlife Officer), Tim Hill (Conservation Manager Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT)) and Malcolm Hull (HMWT Butterfly Conservation) who presented plans for building a series of butterfly banks on the Woodland Park. A copy of the presentation was distributed to members and those attending the site walkabout earlier in the evening had the opportunity to view the proposed site of the banks on the Woodland Park itself. There followed some discussion concerning the proposed location, funding, community consultation and on-going maintenance. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that it is intended to fund the project from external sources, specifically through collaborative grant applications from organisations already identified by Heidi Carruthers. All parties agreed to support any community engagement activities considered necessary, including providing information at the 4<sup>th</sup> June Woodland Park summer event. It is believed maintenance could be managed by the parish warden supported by volunteers. It was then, unanimously;

#### **RESOLVED**

To progress plans to develop a series of butterfly banks on the Woodland Park subject to securing funding from grant giving organisations. The Committee agreed to provide £300 to undertake an ecological survey.

(Representatives from Wilder St Albans, HMWT and HMWT Butterfly Conservation left the meeting at this point.)

#### **572. EXPENDITURE AND BUDGETS**

Members were informed that year-end expenditure for the JFWP Management Committee is £5,713.

The budget for 2022-23 is £14,500 which is based on the 2022 and 2023 management plans and any other maintenance needs identified. A copy of the activity plan for the year, and the original 2022 and 2023 management plans, were distributed. Members agreed with the activity plan for 2022-23.

The Committee noted that the current plan does not leave much discretionary spend for the year, as this is dependent on final cost for the new mower and whether any footpath repairs are required during the year. They also noted that costs are not currently allocated to either the relocation of the memorial stone or laying a new hard surface path at the Chiltern Road entrance.

As the current JFWP management plans expire in 2023 the Committee agreed to discuss at the next meeting establishing a working party led by Mark Carter to draft future plans. Members are asked to consider any ideas they have for future management of the Woodland Park.

**573. PURCHASE OF A NEW MOWER**

An allocation of £5,500 for the purchase of a new Parish mower is included in the 2022-23 budget. The Committee was asked to confirm agreement for the Parish Officers to undertake purchase of a suitable mower, with guidance provided from Mark Carter. It was, unanimously;

**RESOLVED**

That Parish Officers should proceed to purchase a new mower at a cost of no more than £5,500 with guidance from Mark Carter and John Forward.

**574. BENCH REQUESTS**

Following discussion at the last meeting concerning the Woodland Park reaching saturation point for the installation of memorial benches, Members were asked to review the Parish Memorial Bench Policy. Following discussion, and a suggested amendment of including a choice of 'black and brown' benches, it was felt that the current policy should continue to be used.

(Cllr Jon Hegerty left the meeting at this point.)

**575. THE WOODLAND PARK SUMMER EVENT**

Cllr Jenny Roberts provided an update on plans for the Woodland Park Jubilee Summer Event on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> and asked Members for support on the day.

**576. 'WALKS AND TALKS' PROGRAMME**

Members were asked to submit any ideas for a 'walks and talks' programme to the Project and Amenities Officer for discussion at the July meeting.

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the JFWP Management Committee will take place at Sandridge Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm. A site visit prior to the meeting will take place at 6.30pm meeting outside Woodland House on the Woodland Park.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Chair .....

Date .....