

Sandridge Parish Council



JERSEY FARM WOODLAND PARK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Present:

Met at 7.30pm at Marshalswick Community Centre on Monday 4th July 2022 (preceded by a site visit on the Woodland Park at 6.30pm attended by some members)

Councillor Jenny Roberts – Chair
Parish Councillors – Geoff Churchard, Janet Churchard, John Hale, Jonathan Maskell
District Councillors – Elissa Da Costa-Waldman, Lorraine Kirby

Public Members – John Forward, Carol Higgins, Frances Leonard

Apologies:

Mark Carter – Warden, Tony Farnfield, Clyde Martindill, Carrie Sherriff

Absent:

Public Members – Jamie Burrows

Officers:

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

577. TO ELECT A CHAIR

It was proposed by Frances Leonard and seconded by Councillor G Churchard that Councillor Roberts be elected as Chair. It was unanimously;

RESOLVED

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

578. TO ELECT A VICE CHAIR

It was proposed by Councillor Roberts and seconded by John Forward that Frances Leonard be elected as Vice Chair. It was unanimously;

RESOLVED

That Frances Leonard be elected as Vice Chair of The Jersey Farm Woodland Park Management Committee.

579. REAFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS

The Public Members in attendance re-affirmed their willingness to continue as Public Members on The Jersey Farm Woodland Park Committee. Carol Higgins joins the Committee as a Public Member. The Deputy Clerk will seek reaffirmation from those Public Members not in attendance at the meeting.

580. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted for absence from Mark Carter, Tony Farnfield, Clyde Martindill and Carrie Sherriff.

581. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There was none.

582. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th April 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 4th April 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

583. APPROVAL OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

It is an annual statutory requirement that the Committee Terms of Reference, previously circulated, are reviewed. Following review by Members, it was unanimously;

RESOLVED

That the Committee Terms of Reference be approved for 2022-23.

584. MATTERS OF NOTE

- The Parish Council Jubilee Celebrations on the Woodland Park on 4th June were very successful with a high turnout from the local community and lots of positive feedback on social media following the event. It was also noted how quickly the Woodland Park was cleared after the event, including removal of all litter.
- A new Kubota ride on mower has been ordered at a cost of £4695, with a latest delivery date of mid-July. The meadow grass has been cut by John O'Conner in preparation for the summer event above.
- Two unstable trees, reported by a member of the public, have been removed from the Park (between the SW Plantation and recreation ground).
- Councillor Roberts continues to search suitable contractors to relocate the memorial stone on the Woodland Park.
- Concern was raised over the condition of the Princess Diana memorial tree and the Deputy Clerk will ask Mark Carter to investigate.

585. REPORT FOLLOWING THE PROPOSAL TO BUILD BUTTERFLY BANKS ON THE WOODLAND PARK

Councillor Jenny Roberts provided a report, previously circulated, highlighting points requiring further consideration regarding the proposal from the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust and Butterfly Conservation to build a series of butterfly banks on the Woodland Park. Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Roberts, and seconded by Councillor Da Costa-Waldman, to set up a working party to consider the proposal in more detail with a view to providing a recommendation on next steps at the September 19th meeting of the Committee. Councillor G Churchard, Councillor Kirby, Councillor Roberts, and Frances Leonard agreed to join the working party. It was;

RESOLVED

To set up a working party to consider the proposal to build a series of butterfly banks on the Woodland Park in more detail, including those points raised in Councillor Roberts' report, and provide a recommendation on how best to proceed to the Committee at the September meeting.

586. A COMPLAINT CONCERNING CYCLISTS ON THE WOODLAND PARK

Members discussed a complaint from a member of the public concerning speeding cyclists along Bridleway 53 adjacent to the Woodland Park and the Bridleways within the perimeter of the Park. It was noted that as a Definitive Public Bridleway cyclists are permitted to use BW 53, and as a Permissive Bridleway cyclists are permitted to use the perimeter paths. Following discussion, the Committee agreed that it was not possible or desirable to ban cyclists from using the bridleway network in the vicinity of the Woodland Park. It was determined that the most appropriate course of action was to raise awareness of the need to cycle with consideration, and in particular to use a bell as a warning device, through the Parish Council's Facebook site and Neighbourhood News magazine.

587. NEW THREE-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLANS

It was noted that the current management plans for the Woodland Park are completed at the end of 2023 and therefore the Committee should begin to prepare new plans for the following three years from 2023-2026. It was proposed to establish a small working party, led by Mark Carter, to draft new plans with a view to presenting at the April 2023 meeting of the Committee. Councillor Roberts, Councillor J Churchard, and Carol Higgins agreed to join the working party. It was;

RESOLVED

To establish a working party, led by Mark Carter, to draft future three-year management plans for the Woodland Park for presentation at the April 2023 meeting of the Committee.

588. MANAGEMENT PLAN AND EXPENDITURE

Members noted spend to date from the annual budget of £4,695 for purchase of the new Kubota mower.

589. ANY MATTERS ARISING

The Committee discussed an issue raised by St Albans District Council concerning excess water drainage, in part from the Woodland Park, running along Jersey Lane and on to Belsize Close. It is believed to be an issue for Herts Highways and the Project and Amenities Officer will liaise with HCC and SADC, with the assistance of Councillor John Hale.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the JFWP Management Committee will take place at Marshalswick Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday 19th September. A site visit prior to the meeting will take place at 6.30pm meeting outside Woodland House on the Woodland Park.

Councillor Hale notified the Committee of possible Japanese Knotweed presence on Jersey Farm Open Space.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chair

Date