

**JERSEY FARM WOODLAND PARK JOINT
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Met at 7.30pm at Sandridge Village Hall on
Monday 1st July

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

Present:

Parish Councillor Jenny Roberts – in the Chair
Parish Councillors Geoff Churchard, Claudio
Duran
District Councillor Clare Julien
Mark Carter (Warden)
Public Members Tony Farnfield, Pat Forward,
Carrie Sherriff

Apologies:

Parish Councillor John Newton-Davies
District Councillor Frances Leonard
Public Member Sue Riley

Absent:

Public Members David Burrows, Jamie Burrows,
Clyde Martindill

Officers:

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

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

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

451 TO ELECT A CHAIR

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Jenny Roberts be nominated to continue as Chair for the ensuing year and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED

That Councillor Jenny Roberts is elected as the Chair of Jersey Farm Woodland Park Joint Management Committee for the ensuing year.

452 TO ELECT A VICE CHAIR

It was proposed and seconded that Pat Forward be nominated to continue as the Vice Chair for the ensuing year and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED

That Pat Forward is elected as Vice Chair of Jersey Farm Woodland Park Joint Management Committee for the ensuing year.

453 APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC MEMBERS

Tony Farnfield, Pat Forward and Carrie Sherriff re-affirmed their willingness to continue as public members on the Jersey Farm Woodland Park Joint Management Committee and they returned their signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms. The Deputy Clerk Emma Hostler will follow up with those public members absent at the meeting.

454. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Jersey Farm Woodland Park Joint Management Committee held on 1st April 2019 having been previously circulated, were taken as read and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Jersey Farm Woodland Park Joint Management Committee held on the 1st April 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

455. MATTERS OF REPORT

- The Bees and Trees Event, which took place on 18th May as part of the Sustainable St Albans Festival, was a success attended by approximately 20 people. Our thanks to Steve Gibson (coppicing) and Tom Meadows (bees) for giving of their time and expertise to support this event.
- A new beekeeper, Andy Crossly, a member of the St Albans Beekeepers' Association, is now looking after the hives on the Woodland Park with Tom Meadows and attended the Summer Event on 29th June.
- The Green Flag Award judge visited the Woodland Park on 24th April for a walkabout and inspection, accompanied by Councillors Jenny Roberts and John Newton-Davies and the Projects and Amenities Officer Rebecca Pannese. This went well, with just a couple of points raised regarding keeping evidence of dog fouling to a minimum and increasing engagement with the wider community. The committee awaits the final report which is expected around the end of July. Councillor Claudio Duran kindly offered to make his flagpole available from which to hang a second Green Flag Award flag, once a new flag becomes available.
- The Project and Amenities Officer has received two quotes, and awaiting a third, for top dressing the bridlepath between St Helier Road and Highfield Road as part of the Management Plan. Currently these quotes are exceeding funds allocated in the Management Plan. The committee agreed to review the matter at the September meeting, and decide whether funds can be allocated from elsewhere within the budget or undertake the works on a piecemeal basis.
- Sandridge Parish Council has received a complaint from a householder regarding fencing erected on the service road at the top of St Helier Road thus restricting access to adjacent land. Having inspected the fencing at the earlier walkabout, the committee agreed that this was not an immediate concern for the parish council as neither the service road nor the adjoining woodland are owned by the parish. However, District Councillor Clare Julien agreed to contact the householder with a view to investigating the matter further. *Since the meeting, District Councillor Frances Leonard took on this action as it relates to her ward.*
- Following the recent encroachment on nearby Bernards Heath by the travelling community, committee members agreed to remain vigilant to any such occurrence on the Woodland Park and ensure access points remain restricted to authorised vehicles only.
- The Project and Amenities Officer Rebecca Pannese informed the committee that she has written to the owner of land adjacent to the Woodland Park concerning the rubbish on the site. No further action can be undertaken at this stage.
- Mark Carter reported on cutting back of foliage at the Chiltern Road entrance to the Woodland Park and has reported daytime sightings of a kestrel and fox.

456. ORIENTEERING EVENT SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Information provided by Helen Errington, the Events Coordinator for Herts Orienteering Club regarding the forthcoming orienteering event on 7th September was circulated to the committee. Members of the committee continued to express their support for the event and asked the Project and Amenities Officer Rebecca Pannese if a copy of the club map for the event could be obtained and shared, potentially with a view to holding a parish orienteering event at some future date.

457. POND ON JERSEY FARM WOODLAND PARK

Committee members inspected the recently dug out pond adjacent to the Millennium Stone and saw how dried out it had become due to lack of rainwater and seasonal warm weather. Members agreed it would be worth seeing if the pond is sustainable if a lining is installed. The Project and Amenities Officer Rebecca Pannese will provide costings and circulate to the committee. It was also agreed that she would put up a small notice informing members of the public curious about what is currently a hole in the ground that it is a work in progress.

458. JERSEY FARM WOODLAND PARK SUMMER EVENT 29TH JUNE 2019

The Project and Amenities Officer Rebecca Pannese reported on the recent Summer Event, which it was generally agreed was a success in all respects apart from the weather, being extremely hot, and may have deterred some people from attending. The hot weather also resulted in the dog show being cancelled. Councillor Claudio Duran suggested providing an additional marquee or other form of shelter at the centre of the site as well as additional seating points around the grounds. The committee thanked Rebecca for her hard work leading up to the event, as well as other parish officers.

459. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

The committee noted expenditure of the Jersey Farm Woodland Park Joint Management Committee from April to 25th June 2019 and considered this against the 5 year management plan.

460. ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING

Following the walkabout, Mark Carter asked the committee to consider bringing forward the scheduled blackthorn flailing, usually undertaken every three years, from 2020 to 2019 due to its vigorous growth. Whilst the committee agreed in principle, due to associated costs, members agreed to finalise this decision at the September meeting.

The committee agreed to schedule a volunteer ragwort pull event on Wednesday 24th July at 7pm. Public member Carrie Sherriff kindly agreed to provide a trailer for the event.

461. SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates for future meetings in 2019/20 were noted:

Monday 2 nd September 2019	meeting at 6.30pm at Woodland House
Monday 13 th January 2020	meeting at 7.30pm at Sandridge Village Hall
Monday 6 th April 2020	meeting at 6.30pm at Woodland House

462. MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Review costs for top dressing the bridleway between St Helier Road and Highfield Road
- Review terms of reference
- Plans to bring forward scheduled blackthorn flailing from 2020 to 2019
- Plans to plant more wildflowers (discussed at 1st April meeting)
- Venue for future meetings of the committee

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 2nd September meeting outside Woodland House, Jersey Farm Woodland Park at 6.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman

Date