

**.PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSETS & PATHS COMMITTEE**

Met at Marshalswick Community Centre  
on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30 pm.

**Present:**

Councillor Jenny Roberts  
Councillor John Foster  
Councillor John Newton-Davies  
District Councillor Frances Leonard  
Pubic Members - Bernard Lusby, Tony Farnfield, Mary  
Ternouth (Marshalswick Horticultural Society), June  
Reid  
Mr. Julian Thornton (Hertfordshire County Council)

**Apologies:**

Councillor Jon Hegerty  
Mark Carter (Warden)  
David Kealy

**Officers:**

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

**766 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

**767 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November, having previously been circulated, were taken as a correct record and it was unanimously:

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**768 MATTERS OF REPORT**

- The Sandridge Parish Council Community Garden is now underway, with delivery of 40 timber sleepers for construction of raised beds at the front of the Marshalswick Community Centre.
- The Project and Facilities Officer was pleased to report that P3 funding for 2020 from Herts County Council has been secured to assist with top dressing of the bridleway at Jersey Farm Woodland Park.
- The committee were informed of plans for the 2020 Jersey Farm Woodland Park Summer Event taking place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June starting at 3pm. Members are encouraged to put the date in their diaries and submit any ideas for activities on the day and give thought to ways in which to publicise the activities of PEAP at the event.

**769 FOOTPATHS/RIGHTS OF WAY UPDATE**

Regarding the ongoing matter of Footpath 26/Nashes Farm, Julian Thornton informed the committee that the landowner has now briefed an agent to progress the Highways Act diversion application. He will make a point of following up with the landowner following the meeting to relay an urgency to get the matter resolved after so much time.

Julian Thornton informed the committee of the imminent felling of the oak tree on Jersey Lane. This was discussed at length by members, and it was agreed that Councillor Leonard will continue efforts to seek clarification from senior officers at Herts County Council (HCC) on protocols and procedures for tree felling in response to instruction from insurance companies. Should the oak tree be felled, the committee agreed to store the wood on Harness Way with a view to repurposing for use within the parish at some future point.

Julian Thornton advised the committee of a change in P3 administration going forward. The parish is encouraged to consider submitting applications for more ambitious projects, or extensions of projects, especially those that underpin the principles of the Local Transport Plan.

Mary Ternouth updated the committee on developments regarding installation of footpaths on the Oaklands Grange Estate and management of adjacent grass verges and the efforts underway to ensure the developer Taylor Wimpey make progress on these.

The committee expressed disappointment in the response from the Arboriculture Officer at St Albans District Council (SADC), regarding the cancellation of TPOs and the lack of safeguarding for trees following the publication of the draft Jersey Lane Green Action Plan (GAP). Councillor Frances Leonard elected to follow up on this with him and will report back to the committee.

#### **770 RIGHTS OF WAY WORKING GROUP**

An update report from the recent 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 meeting of the Rights of Way Working Group was circulated to members. The Project and Amenities Officer informed the committee of more recent developments concerning land ownership of the Fernleys to Jersey Lane path and advised that the modification application is reading for submission. The working group will meet again on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The committee noted that the investigation report from HCC regarding the Jersey Farm Woodland Park to House Lane path has been circulated.

#### **771 VOLUNTEER TASKFORCE ACTIVITY**

The Project and Amenities Officer reported on the successful volunteer day at Harness Way planting trees and hedgerow, and bramble clearance and tree planting in Skyswood. The 2<sup>nd</sup> February volunteer day at the William Bell open space has been postponed to 16<sup>th</sup> February due to problems sourcing suitable trees for planting. It was agreed to ask Mark Carter to undertake planting of native flowers in Harness Way.

#### **772 MANAGEMENT PLANS**

A copy of the recently updated Damson Way open space management plan for 2020-21 was circulated to the committee for review and agreement of the costs attached to the schedule of works. Councillor Leonard raised concerns over whether the pond lining at Damson Way was in any way exacerbating the problem drainage evident at this time of year in the lower playground. The Project and Amenities Officer will ask Mark Carter to investigate and if necessary seek further advice from the Land Drainage team at HCC. The Parish Council Sports and Recreation Committee to be notified of this matter. Following these discussions, it was;

#### **RESOLVED**

To agree the costs for the schedule of works contained in the Damson Way management plan 2020-21.

**773 FINANCE**

The committee noted a breakdown of expenditure to date from the PEAP Committee budget. The officers will establish the extent of other financial commitments before year end and consider whether there are any other works which could be undertaken with the remaining funds.

**774 TERMS OF REFERENCE**

As the standardisation of the committee Terms of reference (TOR) has now been deferred until April 2020, the committee reviewed and agreed the existing TOR without any amendments.

**775 THE PARISH COUNCIL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

At the recent meeting of the Full Council on 11<sup>th</sup> December members agreed to adopt a Sustainability Policy as a means to ensure the council operates with minimum environmental impact, promoting sustainability through its own actions and encouraging the community to do the same. Committee members were asked to familiarise themselves with the policy and ensure that due consideration is given to its key principles when making decisions and planning activities.

**776 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE PEAP COMMITTEE**

The members noted the future schedule of meetings as follows:

- 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020
- 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020
- 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (to be confirmed)
- 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (to be confirmed)

The Deputy Clerk will check and confirm the dates as indicated above.

**777 MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

An update to be provided on the Neighbourhood Plan following feedback from the public consultation, response to feedback and finalisation of the draft plan for submission to SADC.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at 7.30pm**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm.

**Chair** .....

**Date** .....