

Management of Green Infrastructure Working Group

Minutes of the meeting held on 30th July 2010 in Training Room at Hemnall Street

Present: Laura MacNeill Jo Ellis Phil Hawkins George Haley Chris Neilan
Paul Hewitt

Absent:

Copy to: John Preston, Planning - for information Abigail Oldham

<p>1. Apologies for Absence – Ben Meuli K Durrani S Stranders (Melinda Barham & Robin Hellier to attend alternate, Abigail Oldham will attend for Countrycare)</p> <p>2. Minutes of Last Meeting Minutes of last meeting, held 3rd March 2010, were read and agreed.</p> <p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p>3.1 Use of Natural Resources PH reported auditors had said little of evidence of what we said. Management of open spaces and nature reserves came out good though. PH felt it would still need to be all completed (won't go away) but any future information required needs evidence.</p> <p>3.2 Bobbingworth Tip Shared tractor didn't happen, now not enough money as needed for remedial work. Twice a year cut – PHaw asked to quote but equipment not big enough. Contractor has done it now but wasn't much to cut. As PHew going it may fall on CN and AO to advise KD. AO/Nicola will liaise with volunteers, managing it will be SS (350 per hectre x 6 or 7).</p> <p>3.3 Lindersfield Fence is ours, so we should repair (which has been done). Featherboarding – keep stock.</p> <p>3.4 Theydon Grove Pond PH got AGA report, report circulating desilting etc - £28,000 – no go on this. SS sent out a further report telling us to be careful what we do. Need to know what this is for – no money – land drainage will need to monitor for the future, PHaw has put up warning signs around pond. Meeting with drainage (include CN), LM to discuss further. Tree work done by TF in conjunction with RH (PHaw says thanks for that). Poplars (we reduced one) may need looking at.</p> <p>3.5 Longfields Was discussed at Drainage Meeting, BM will be monitoring.</p> <p>3.6 Centric Parade Trees now in, being watered, four planted (Ginko) looking good.</p> <p>3.7 Chigwell Row Pipe Pipe went in, so hopefully will now be ok.</p> <p>3.8 Broadway TCE GH had given details (one tree snapped) removed. Lee is aware of dead ones.</p> <p>3.9 TPO's Pro printer layer – Rob to speak to Chris N.</p> <p>3.10 Buckhurst Hill – Tree Wardens Arboretum Tom F to ring him (Tree Warden) as they want to be introduced, we have got some planned works down there. GH will speak to Tom. Job spec to give to them so know what to do. Possibly move boundary line to include area just outside the arboretum. Re draw line</p>	<p>CN/AO</p> <p>GH/PH</p> <p>JE/RP</p> <p>GH/TF</p>
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<p>on agt.</p>	
<p>3.11 Commuted Sum Discussion concerns as to what happens when funding runs out – budget implications.</p>	
<p>3.12 High Street Epping Spoke to TB at Highways meeting and he was happy re tree pruning. CN looking at pleaching – TB was concerned about funding pleaching ongoing maintenance? CN felt it would cost less as less maintenance – CN has paid for initial pleaching from his fund. Dispute is what work was done this was done on word of mouth, quoted works on verbal. If we redo, where is funding coming from? £800-£1200 (London Plane) (Highways meeting 9th September). Discuss with Highways before meeting (work needs to be done on a Sunday). Need a spec and photos indicating what needs to be done. CN will do spec (Chris can be available on the day if needed), agreed that they thought that future maintenance would be cheaper. Would need doing every 2/3 years?? Idea to keep off properties, would need to be quoted works each time (may not then need to do them on a Sunday).</p>	<p>PH/GH GH/CN LM</p>
<p>3.13 Section 106 Ongar LM just monitoring.</p>	
<p>3.14 Green Corporate Working Party Minutes Noted</p>	
<p>4. Drainage Chigwell Row Rec Step the ditch ? in future and agreed programme.</p>	<p>AO</p>
<p>5. Biodiversity Action Plan PH has produced plan (attachment – PH will send JE PDF) – attachment not received check with AO.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>6. Tree Policy Document Went to safer, greener, cleaner. Need to add Veteran Tree Project. Felt not so many printed copies would be needed (as it's on website), draft document to go back to panel. Need to be written up by November/December – people to write up their bits (LM had sent out on 18/6 to all). CN will liase with Abbie Oldham, policy from planning – put in a link to other planning. Come back to LM re if can meet November deadline.</p>	<p>PHew/JE</p>
<p>7. Open Space and LNR's PH to send through list of spend to JE (then can OK and do journal). Grange Farm gone quiet from our point of view. Management Grange Fund Trust. The building being constructed at moment. EWT not sure if they will be based there. CN involved from planning aspect.</p>	<p>PHew/PHaw</p>
<p>8. Chigwell Row Wood Motorbikes; smashing down fences, gates. Meeting needs to be held with Countrycare and Tom or Phil. Michael Richardson to try to discuss action.</p>	
<p>9. Roding Valley</p>	
<p>9.1 Lake Funding from E.A. £20k may get further £10k – installation of 2 reed beds to filter the run off from the houses/pipes. Bank reinstatement have used reed beds so looks more natural. Got predator netting to stop geese eating it. E.A. gave some fish, good small fish. Further scheme PH drawing up to be submitted to E.A. Letters gave out to various clubs to see if anyone is interested to run fishing club.</p>	<p>PHew</p>
<p>9.2 BHPC Agt Options 1) We take it back, 2) Take it back and get funding or 3) Do nothing (not really option). Cllrs meeting with BHPC: Cllrs – awaiting outcome – can't do emergency</p>	

<p>works as didn't agree to give us money.</p>	
<p>9.3 Nature Reserve and Essex W Trust On final draft (taken 4 years) waiting for final comments from Grange Farm Centre Trust. P/hew thanked LM for her help. Problems with professional dog walkers – re dog faeces.</p>	<p>LM</p>
<p>10. Section 106 Agts Revamp of section 106 affects projects report LM had sent to J Preston, LM to resend and copy CN in.</p>	
<p>11. Tree Warden Scheme PHew thanked TF for going to meetings. Tree Wardens appreciate him being there.</p>	<p>AO</p>
<p>12. Any Other Business</p>	
<p>12.1 Roughtalleys wood and TPO Properties at r/o Pike Way – Management Plan, Abbie to send it to CN – single application include in the management plan – then got OK for 5 years. Abbie to liaise with CN and also send plan to GH. CN reported he goes to corporate groups (he reps planning).</p>	<p>AO/CN</p>
<p>12.2 Green Infrastructure Steering Group for Harlow Area (Has statutory groups with Natural England) focus on North of Harlow – project group for the Stort Valley – open space funding/tow path etc. Working group for Epping Forest District (but north of EFDC) may be opportunities to pull in funding projects (AO) to go? Rep from us – needs terms of reference – funding will be more difficult to get. CN can circulate details of next Steering Group, Oct and Working Group in Sept.</p>	<p>CN</p>
<p>12.3 Green Arc Steering Group – Natural England May become more practical, possibility to pull money in for district – corporately. CN could circulate minutes, If PHaw wanted to come along (next meeting at Middleton House, Lea Valley). Essex Wildlife Trust – analysing parts of Essex/Living Landscape). EWT don't sit on Green Arc Group.</p>	<p>PHew/AO/ PHaw</p>
<p>12.4 Countrycare Who to liaise with when Phew goes – anything we should know so it gets picked up? Charity report Phew to send us. Lead Officer will be Abbie Oldham. PHew to list areas of work for our info. PHaw to do the same.</p>	
<p>12.5 External funding bids PHew does. Volunteers – work they do (money they saved). The group appreciated Paul's help and all the work etc over the years, wish PH well in his new post.</p>	
<p>13. Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 24th November at 10.00am</p>	