

# Weldon Parish Council

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## Minutes of Parish Maintenance Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 14th September 2021

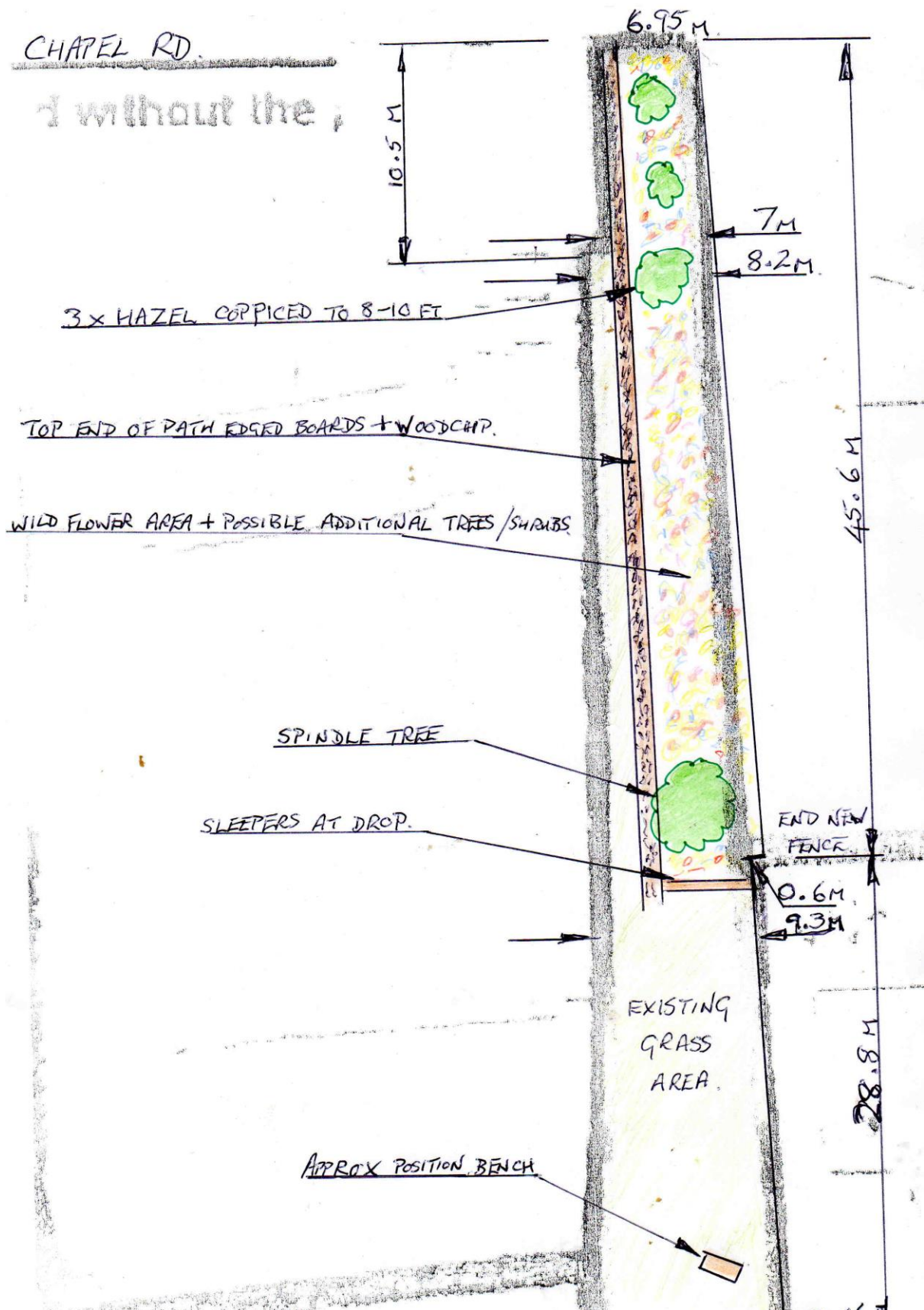
Councillors Present	Angela Page, Dick Priem, Colin Shepard (Chair), and Anton Vickers
Also Present	Nigel Cox, Simon Green, Chris Manning, Joannie Perkins, Prue Wullems and Sue Cook (Clerk)

- PMC.152** **Apologies** had been received from Cllr Dowsett and Mr Watts both were approved.
- PMC.153** There were no **declarations of interest**
- PMC.154** The **minutes** from the meeting held on 15th July were approved
- PMC.155** Mr Simon Green has ordered the **Disclaimer Notices**.
- PMC.156** **Repairs to the Tank** – The timber has been purchased. Cllr Priem hopes to start the repairs in the next couple of weeks.
- PMC.157** **Church Walk Wall** – Nothing further to report. The Clerk did inform the meeting that she has reported the condition of the Kettering Road bridge on Fix my Street.
- PMC.158** **Land Registry** – Cllr Shepard continues to read the old minutes and is noting down every instance that the Triangle is mentioned in preparation to register the land.
- PMC.159** **Funding for Hills & Hollows**- It was resolved at the full council meeting that to move the funding for fencing, kissing gates at the Hills & Hollows and a bridge over the Leys the Parish Council will provide the match funding of up to 11% which will be built into the budget for 2022/23.
- PMC.160** **Maintenance, Landscaping & Planting for the Gandy Field** – details in appendix A. It was agreed that this will form part of the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The Parish Maintenance team will work closely with the Jubilee Committee on this project.
- PMC.161** **Review of benches quotes** – After much decision at full Council it was resolved not to decide on the **2 new Benches** until greener options have been reviewed and compared. Cllr Shepard has contacted Broxap for clarification of supplying recycled slats on the Blackburn bench. The Clerk also informed the meeting that the British Legion are considered funding the repairs to the bench on the triangle and would like to install a brass plaque on it as a dedication to a past member.
- PMC.162** **Planters** – The Parish Council approved of the New Forest Planter in Oak, the Clerk to liaise with Cllr Dowsett to place the order.

- PMC.163      Report from Tree Warden** – several trees/branches have been removed from the Willow Brook and an overhanging tree branch has been removed from along Corby Road.
- PMC.164      Report from Footpath Warden** – there is a large bulge in the footpath by the Kettering Road Bridge, believed to a tree root. A photograph will be provided to Clerk so that it can be reported on Fix my Street.
- PMC.165      Autumn/Winter Tasks** – All the tasks suggested in appendix B were approved.
- PMC.166      Weldon in Bloom** – this project will be 3 years in the making and should include the Parish as a whole. It was agreed to approach both Urban & Civic and Permissions for their input on landscaping their areas. The committee will comprise of Cllrs Shepard and Vickers with residents Simon Green, Joannie Perkins and Prue Wullems.
- PMC.167      Future agenda items/business for future meetings.**
- PMC.168      Date of next Committee Meeting was agreed for Tuesday November 9th starting at 18:30 in the Village Hall Annex**

**This being all the business Cllr Shepard closed the meeting at 8:35p.m**

Appendix A



## HARD LANDSCAPING & PLANTING OF GANDY FIELD

The Gandy field slopes gently from north to south and is exposed to full sun for most of the day. The slope enhances this effect. The soil at the northern end, recently cleared of bramble and ivy is light well drained, almost arid, stony and generally of poor quality. Planting needs to take account of these factors

ITEM	DETAIL	ESTIMATED COST
<b>PATH</b>	Top end of path to end of Mrs Loveday's fence to be defined with wooden boards and surfaced with woodchip	Caretaker's time. Wooden boards in store to be reused. Anticipated cost of woodchip nil.
<b>WOOD SLEEPERS</b>	At end of Mrs Loveday's fence there is a short steeper slope to the field. 2 x 3m long sleepers to be placed on top of one another to terrace this creating a break between the wildflower area and the existing grassed area and provide an informal seat.	UK Timber cost per 3m Oak sleeper £48.99 + vat (£58.79 inc vat) Total cost £97.98 + vat (£117.58 inc vat)
<b>BENCH</b>	Positioned in grassed area near footpath facing south	Cost of bench ? Rough estimate of cost of concrete and fixings £20 Plus Caretakers time.
<b>HAZEL TREES x 3 (Corylus avellana – English native hazel)</b>	1 -1.2 metre high multi – stemmed saplings. To be coppiced on 5 – 8 year cycle to keep height to 8 -10 feet	Mailordertrees.co.uk £39.99 inc vat each Total cost £119.97 3 x bags of compost to improve soil and moisture retention. Estimated cost £15 inc vat
<b>SPINDLE TREE (Euonymus europaeus red cascade – English native)</b>	1.5 – 2 m high specimen. Spindle has an open habit and is tolerant of dry conditions. Tiny white flowers in spring are followed by striking red and orange seedpods. The leaves display good autumn colour. Ultimate height about 8 m (25 ft).	Ornamental-trees.co.uk £74.99 +vat (£89.99 inc vat) Delivery £11.95 + vat (£14.34 inc vat) Total cost £86.94 + vat (£104.33 inc vat) 1 x bag compost to improve soil and moisture retention. Estimated cost £5 inc vat
<b>WILD FLOWER SEED (Flowering meadow mix)</b>	Creation of wild flower meadow area Area to be seeded 260 sq m	Boston Bulbs 2kg @ £55 per kg inc vat & delivery Total cost £110

<b>DAFFODILS</b> <b>(Narcissus</b> <b>obvallaris – Tenby</b> <b>daffodil – native to</b> <b>Britain</b>	To be sown throughout the wildflower area to give early spring colour. These are our native small daffodil. Any bulbs not used in meadow area to be used in village planters.	Boston Bulbs 1,000 bulbs £185 inc vat & delivery
<b>SNAKES HEAD</b> <b>FRITILLARY</b> <b>(Fitillaria</b> <b>meleagris)</b>	To be sown along with daffodils to give early spring interest.	Boston Bulbs 1,000 bulbs £75 inc vat & delivery
<b>ENGLISH</b> <b>BLUEBELLS</b>	To be purchased & sown in year 3 at top end of Gandy field once the Hazel have become established to provide shade within that area.	Boston Bulbs Current price for 250 bulbs £46 inc vat & delivery
	<b>TOTAL COST – current year</b> <b>Note: cost excludes purchase price of bench but includes installation</b>	<b>£751.88 inc vat</b> <b>£601.50 ex vat</b>
Additional and shrubs may be purchased and planted within the wild flower area if it is decided to do so. They will need either to be of limited height or on a dwarfing or semi – dwarfing rootstock. Fruit trees for example, grafted to M26 semi – dwarfing rootstock giving a mature height of 8 – 12 ft when purchased as 1m saplings are about £25 each.		

## THE LEYS ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PLAN

MANAGEMENT TASK	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Remove any remaining old metal posts and wire fencing	Sept - Oct					
Clear bank area adjacent to bushes at Church Walk end	Sept - Mar					
Cut gaps in nettle on bank from grasses area to Willow Brook	May + July	May + July	May + July	May + July	May + July	May + July
Pull up Himalayan Balsam (Should be largely a watch issue after 2021)	June - Aug	June - Aug	June - Aug	June - Aug	June - Aug	June - Aug
Mow grassland area at height of 3 to 4" & remove cuttings if practical to do so May need additional mowing if weather dictates	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct	Mar - Oct
Prune trees as needed	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar
Remove any fallen branches from Willow Brook and mown areas Branches to be burnt or disposed of off-site.	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar
Trim annual growth from base of tress.	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb
Cut back brambles and similar excess growth in other parts of the Pocket Park	Nov - Dec	As Required	As Required	As Required	As Required	As Required

## THE GANDY FIELD - ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PLAN

MANAGEMENT TASK	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Create defined footpath from Chapel Road to end of number 40's fence	Oct - Dec					
Position sleepers at end of number 40's fence to create formal break in layout	Oct - Dec					
Position bench at wide point in existing grassed area facing south west	Dec - Mar					
Random planting of English native daffodils in barren area	Oct - Nov					
Plant 3 Hazels for coppicing, spindle tree and other bushes/trees	Nov - Dec					
Scatter wildflower seed mix on barren area	Oct or Mar					
Weed kill footpath		May	May	May	May	May
Mow grassland area at height of 3 to 4" Note may need additional mowing's if weather encourages excessive growth of grass	Apr -Oct	Apr -Oct	Apr -Oct	Apr -Oct	Apr -Oct	Apr -Oct
Remove of any fallen branches Branches to be burnt or disposed of off-site.	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar	Nov - Mar
Trim annual growth from base of mature trees		Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb	Nov - Feb
Cut back brambles and similar excess growth in other parts of the Gandy Field	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
Litter Pick	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
Plant English Bluebells in shaded area created by coppiced hazels			Nov			
Coppice Hazel Hazel to be coppiced on a regular cycle to keep height to below 8 - 10 feet. One to be coppiced initially followed by others in the following year. Expected to be a 5 - 8 year cycle				Nov - Dec	Nov - Dec	