



Weldon Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Maintenance Working Party Meeting held on Monday 15th May 2023

Councillors Present	Peter Dowsett, Dick Priem, Colin Shepard (Chair) and Anton Vickers
Also Present	Sue Cook (Clerk)

- PMC.366** Cllr Priem proposed that Cllr Shepard be re-elected as **Chair**, this was seconded by Cllr Dowsett. Cllr Shepard agreed to the proposal.
- PMC.367** 2 members of the public had submitted **apologies** which were accepted. **It was noted that other members are not attending on a regular basis nor submitting apologies.**
- PMC.368** Cllr Vickers **declared an interest** in the Gandy Field
- PMC.369** **The minutes of the meeting held on 24th April had not been circulated and will be approved at the next meeting.**
- PMC.370** **The follow work has been carried out since the last meeting**
The detailed layout for the information board has been agreed with Shelley Signs as discussed at the last Maintenance meeting. The broken slat on the bench on the Triangle has been repaired. The bench on Stamford Road by the Cricket Club has been removed for refurbishment. Cllrs Dowsett and Shepard attended the launch event of the Nene Rivers Trust Parish Rewilding project held at Kings Cliffe. Contact has continued with Parish residents who have expressed interest in being part of the Weldon in Bloom project and further volunteers recruited. Contact has continued with the management company for Ploughman's Way to see if it would be possible to plant a hedgerow on the public open space there with a grant from The Nene Rivers Trust. Contact has also been made with Donna Lewis, one of the Ploughman's Way residents concerning this. Ana Pires (Weldon Woodland Park Ranger) has been informed that the PC has no objection to the removal of the dilapidated metal footpath sign by the Hillside Crescent entrance. The ground on The Triangle below the group of trees has been prepared and sown with wild flower seed. Groups of volunteers have been digging up the Russian Comfrey in the Pocket Park to try to establish control. However more still needs to be done Further perennial plants for the oblong beds opposite The George have been purchased, although delivery of some is still awaited. The folder containing the NCC record of the setting up of the Pocket Park has been collected from Brixworth Country Park. Two large fallen branches have been cleared from footpaths in the village. One on Oundle Road the other by The Rams Field. The mowing of the grassed areas for which the PC is responsible has continued. The Hills & Hollows have been cut by Nick Sansom.
- PMC.371** **Land Registry** – the Clerk reported that the forms have been completed, just need to get a photo so that ANOther can verify knowing the Clerk.
- PMC.372** **Weldon in Bloom** -The Clerk agreed to set up a page on the Website dedicated to Weldon in Bloom, it was agreed to mail drop all the properties on High Street informing them of the new Planters. The first meeting of the sub-committee will be held on Tuesday June 6th in the Village Hall Annex, Clerk to book the room. Cllr Shepard to email all the volunteers, and not by word of mouth. It was suggested that the easiest way to contact volunteers would be to set up a WhatsApp group.
- PMC.373** **Watering Plan** - The Clerk has made an offer to Deene & Deenethorpe to purchase their unused Trailer for £500. There are other options available if this offer is rejected.
- PMC.374** **Hills & Hollows - No further progress**
- PMC.375** **Information board** The Leys and the Pocket Park has been paid for



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- PMC.376 Community PayBack Project** - following from information given at the Full Council Meeting it was suggested that they could clear out the far end of the Green ready for planing, the Railings & Posts on the Village Green need painting with possibly siding out Kettering Road and painting Parish Council owned benches. It was also suggested that perhaps the Church could find them some work as well.
- PMC.377 Nature Recovery / Parish reWilding** Both Cllr Dowsett and Shepard had attended the meeting at Kings Cliffe, as mentioned in item PMC.370, which included a walkabout around Kings Cliffe to see what had been done there. They were introduced to Adam Cade who has many contacts and can help in getting funding for replanting the hedgerow on Oundle Road.
- PMC.378 Kissing Gate for the Cricket Field** - Nothing new to report.
- PMC.379 Tasks for the Caretaker** - Cut back the basal growth on the Lime trees in the Pocket Park to the trees' main trunk prior to chipping Shred the growth removed and other twigs and branches already cut and piled up in the Pocket Park Cut back the basal growth on one of the trees on the piece of land opposite the hairdressers in Church Walk. Litter pick - Corby Road, Kettering Road. Stamford Road including the old Stamford Road Collect the rubbish and litter in The Hills & Hollows (including the old water trough) into a single pile ready for removal from site. Continue to remove the Russian Comfrey from the Pocket Park and The Leys before it sets seed. Replace the nut on the latch on the pedestrian gate into Weldon Woodland Park (10 or 12 mm) Continue with grass cutting in the village. Water / top-up all the planters. Refurbish Stamford Road bench. Vegetation around the tree at the bottom of The Gandy Field needs cutting back. The whole area may need some attention. **Other Possible Tasks:** Paint all of the metal benches for which we are responsible when the weather permits. Install the new signboards once they have been delivered. Install new litter and dog bins once they have been delivered. Install new High Street planters after they have been delivered.
- PMC.380 Report from Tree Warden** – The Clerk to contact Nick Sansom, as Churchwarden, with reference to the damage caused to the Ram Field fence when the tree branch fell on it.
- PMC.381 Report from Footpath Warden** – Nothing new.
- PMC.382 For information only**
Cllr Dowsett has had a breakthrough on the Lost Footpath in that the Ramblers Association have located a document that the landowner in 1910 asked for a tax rebate of £20 as the footpath ran through his land.
Cllr Shepard to get quotes for wooden rakes.
- PMC.383 Date of next Meeting was agreed for Monday 19th June starting at 18:30 via Zoom**
- This being all the business Cllr Shepard closed the meeting at 20:00**