



Weldon Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of Parish Maintenance Working Party Meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2024

Councillors Present	John Cooke, Peter Dowsett, and Colin Shepard (Chair) arrived at 18:37 Angela Page, Mike Page
Also Present	(Clerk) Claire Ducker, (Caretaker) Nigel Cox

Meeting started at 18:38, Cllr Shepard (Chair) was running late due to printer issues.

PMC. 519 Apologies were received from Cllr Vickers (sports training), Cllr Clowery (NCALC training) - apologies accepted by Cllr Shepard.

PMC. 520 No declarations of interest were raised.

PMC. 521 The following work has been carried out since the last meeting. Cllr Shepard had not prepared a report prior to this meeting due to annual leave. Nigel Cox informed the following works had been carried out:

- Maintenance at Gander Field
- Fitted new security door at Unit D1
- Repairs to Henderson up and over door at Unit D1
- Fire extinguishers installed at Unit D1 and received training on use
- Cut back of the bushes along Kettering Road
- Quotes obtained to install alarm and security to Unit D1 to be compliant with insurance

PMC. 522 Weldon in Bloom Update including sponsorship - Results from Weldon in Bloom judging day will be held on 25th September 2024 in Melton Mowbray where Cllr Shepard and 2 volunteers will be attending the event.

PMC. 523 Tasks for the Caretaker - Nigel Cox

Cllr A Page asked Cllr Shepard if these had been shared with Nigel Cox, Cllr Shepard replied 'yes' where Nigel Cox shook his head, indicating that he hadn't seen them prior to the meeting. Cllr Shepard was reminded that these need to be shared prior to meetings so Nigel Cox and Clerk Ducker can hold a meeting to discuss and agree before the monthly maintenance meetings.

1. Carry on mowing and strimming in the Pocket Park and the Leys paying particular attention to cutting down all the Russian Comfrey to try to prevent it seeding
2. Shred the growth removed and other twigs and branches already cut and piled up in the Pocket Park. Wood chips to be spread along the grassed path to the



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- pond. Some also need to be spread in the bed under trees at the Stamford Road end of the Village Green to help retain moisture and suppress weed growth.
3. Remove this year's basal growth on one of the trees on the piece of land opposite the hairdressers and Lime trees in the pocket park
 4. Cut down the new growth from the elderberry stump by the bench in Church Walk at the entrance to The Leys.
 5. Repair the gate to the allotments
 6. Monitor the state of the Gander Field to keep it tidy
 7. Empty litter bins in the the Pocket Park and at Larratt Road
 8. Remove the safety barriers by 15 Church Walk to store now that the damaged hedge has been replaced
 9. Install new posts and gate at the War Memorial once these have been ordered by the British Legion. Nigel to make contact with Des Wallington.
 10. Lay replacement paving slabs on The Leys side of the footbridge into the Pocket Park
 11. Repair wooden footbridge across the pond outlet stream in the Pocket Park. The sleepers have been lost due to flooding. (Cost to replace the missing sleepers approx. £32 + Vat each. If concreted into position to prevent recurrence total cost will be double)
 12. Water all flower beds on a weekly basis and top up the black planters as required.
 13. Refurbish the bench on Water Lane
 14. Repair the pond dam in Pocket Park with help of volunteers
 15. Help with the autumn bulb planting

Tasks in conjunction with Weldon in Bloom volunteers

1. Help Nigel Cox with point 2 above, any actual machine work to be undertaken by Nigel Cox.
2. Weed all planters & flower beds, removing dead material as plants die back for autumn
3. Trim lavenders as flowers heads die off
4. Continue to clear and plant the area at the Stamford end of the village green
5. Plant Yellow Rattle seed in The Leys on the bank below the houses overlooking it
6. Help with litter picking in areas of the Parish deemed to be in need
7. Plant the bulbs once received from Boston Bulbs
8. Cost the new flower bed for the old bus shelter site in the High Street
9. Next Weldon In Bloom Meeting - Monday 14th October 2024

Tasks for community Payback Team

1. Help tidy up the Pocket Park including digging up Russian Comfrey

Issues discussed from the above lists. It was felt that there are not enough Weldon in Bloom volunteers, so significant recruitment is required. Quote received from Ross Wallace for 1 day of spraying £312. Cllr M Page requested that copies of Cosh



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certificates and risk assessments are submitted before spraying can be done. Cllr M Page asked where the maintenance plan was? Cllr Shepard to share these.

- PMC. 524 Gander Field** - Nigel Cox and Ross Wallace are willing to maintain the Gandy Field once a month, additional cost from Ross Wallace would be £216 per day, Nigel Cox requested an additional 5 hours were added to his contract. There is room within the budget as funding was provided from Francis Jackson to upkeep Gander Field for 10 years. Ross Wallace has submitted a quote for brambles to be cut down to ground level £576. Nigel Cox and Ross Wallace to paint posts in a variety of colours and the train in a water based paint.
- PMC. 525 Watering** - Possibility that a new pump is required approx cost £100, Nigel Cox to check the flow of the hand held pump that we currently have, this is to be considered in the 2025/2026 budget. Feedback from Weldon in Bloom judges were that the flower beds were too dry. Nigel Cox currently waters for 2 hours per week. Cllr Shepard to ask WiB volunteers to help more with the watering.
- PMC. 526 New flower bed on the old bus shelter site by Londis** - Cllr Shepard shared a picture of a hand drawn version of a flower bed to be placed on the concrete base situated where the old stop used to be. Also shared a breakdown of costs for this to be installed of £908.59. Nigel Cox suggested that the same planters that are along the High Street are used instead. Put it out to a competition and get the schools involved to design something? Cllr Shepard to seek possible sponsors for this planter as funding would be needed. A letter has been received from the owner of the shop in agreement of a planter, Cllr Shepard to speak with the house owners as this would be next to their property. Cllr Dowsett to establish who owns this piece of land.
- PMC. 527 Electric Supply to Village Green** - Cllr Shepard had no update.
- PMC. 528 Hills & Hollows** - Nick Sansom happy to continue to cut this area for the same price.
- PMC. 529 Report from Tree Warden** – Cllr Shepard had nothing to report.
- PMC. 530 Report from footpath warden** - Nigel Cox informed that the paths on Oundle Road heading towards the Woodlands are being looked at.
- PMC. 531 Next year's maintenance budget** - Cllr Shepard shared the current year's budget spreadsheet prior to the meeting but this point was not discussed at the meeting.
- PMC. 532 Date of next meeting** - Monday 14th October 2024 @ 18:30 via zoom

This being all the business Cllr Shepard closed the meeting at 20.05

Claire Ducker

updated 10th October 2024