
NOTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP HELD ON TUESDAY 1ST FEB 2022, 7PM ONLINE VIA ZOOM

1.Welcome

In attendance – Cllr Rigby, Cllr Harwood, K Thomas, Clerk, Apprentice

2.To consider notes from last meeting on 11th January & any matters arising

Everyone approved the notes

3.To provide an update on waste and recycling

Apprentice updated the group with the individual caddy's popularity. Apprentice reported that the two newest caddies have not started off as well as hoped.

Apprentice has promoted the new caddies on Facebook in the hope that more residents will use them.

4.To consider ways to protect local trees.

E Flounders was not present at the meeting to be able to update the group.

5.To receive an update on the Climate Emergency Action Plan

No update given

6. Update on planting & maintenance plan for various sites in Brockworth

Clerk has had a conversation with Cllr Rigby about all our maintenance work with our contractors stating what we need prices for, such as the brook clearance that needs to be completed before March. Winter works are being finished this week. There is a little more work that needs to be carried out at Mill Lane and more at the nature reserve. *The Clerk has sent Cllr Harwood the grassland management & wildflower creation proposal document via email as requested.*

The Clerk stated to the group that all the winter works were underway and would be completed over the next week. The contractors have cut back all behind the back Ermin Park and Maple Drive. The area has been cut back a good 2 to 3 metres and the brambles encroaching onto the footpath has been cleared. The Clerk and K Thomas will be sitting down to look at creating a 3-year grasslands management plan so it can be presented to TBC, so permission can then be granted for maintenance works to be conducted.

Mill Lane - Clerk is awaiting contractors to come back to her on ground prep price. A meeting needs to take place regarding the wildflower planting over at Mill Lane. K Thomas has been over to the site to measure up and will send over the measurements and the type of seeds needed. Grimshaw are coming out at the beginning of March to re-seed the grass area at Mill Lane. It was suggested that the Clerk swaps out the grass seed for wildflower seed to give to the contractors.

Volunteers will sow seeds along Clyde Road area.

Crosshands Meadow - E Flounders and K Thomas are going to produce management plan for the crosshands meadow. The Clerk stated that there is grant funding available for improvement to the meadow condition. Once the plan is created, funding can be found and applied for. The group discussed the outcome of the crosshands meadow work party.

The Apprentice has published the working group party photos on the EWG Facebook.

7.Update on Nature Reserve

Clerk to discuss with E Flounders on 2nd Feb 2022.

8.Update on Horsebere Brook Project

The wildflower plan that has been written can be adapted for the brook plan and the priorities for each year can be stated.

Action: Clerk to go away and look at Wildflower Plan and rejig and send to K Thomas.

9.Update on allotments

The Clerk stated that she is currently getting things to make sure we can sort out the hedging at the allotments and the price. As soon as the price has been given, the clerk will be onto the solicitor.

10.Discuss Planter Cycle Racks

The two designs were discussed in the meeting, and it was decided that the larger planter of the two would be too big for along Court Road shops. However, it may be better suited in a location such as Mill Lane Park. The Group discussed the smaller planter and that it would fit well along Court Road. Planters will need the highways permission and a license before installation. There was a discussion about reusing the brackets on the court road shops, which were used for xmas trees, to be used for hanging baskets. It was concluded that the maintenance would be too big of a task.

11.Discuss ash dieback replanting scheme

It was discussed that there will be an issue with the large trees on the frontage of mill lane that grow in the hedge. There are 6 trees and are all ash showing signs of early ash dieback. It was said in the tree survey that they will need continuous monitoring.

Updates – Cllr Rigby attended Churchdown's repair Café on the 1st of Feb. Cllr Rigby stated there was a good turnout (15+ people) with various skills to offer and keen to get involved. Cllr Rigby took their contact details. Cllr Rigby said that she had a meeting with the library to discuss the repair café & that the library suggested contacting St George's Church to see if they could help us/ be the venue.

Apprentice has set an event on Facebook for the upcoming repair café meeting this Thursday.

NEXT MEETING IS TAKING PLACE ON THE 1ST of MARCH 2022