



North Hinksey Parish Council



Mrs Sharon Henley, Clerk to the Parish Council

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Seacourt Hall, 3 Church Way, Botley, Oxford OX2 9TH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment & Wellbeing Committee held on Thursday 10th December 2020 at 7.00pm via video conference

Those Present: Cllr Church (Chairman), Cllrs Bastin, Berrett, Blase, Dowie, Jones, Kay, MacKeith & Potter

In attendance: Sharon Henley, Clerk

Members of Public: 1

1. Apologies for Absence: There were none.
2. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda: Cllr Dowie declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Seacourt Hall Trustee and Allotment plot holder.
3. Questions from Members of the Public: Please explore the possibility of setting up a Terracycle recycling point in the Seacourt Hall. Cllr Berrett received an email via Seacourt Hall from a parishioner who was waste management consultant and would like to help set this up for difficult to recycle items. Cllr Berrett outlined that any drop off point required an administrator to arrange collection with UPS. Suitable locations were discussed. Cllr Church Proposed to speak to the Co-Op and Terracycle to explore the possibility of setting this up. This was Seconded by Cllr Berrett and unanimously APPROVED.
4. Matters Arising: There were none.
5. Items for Consideration. Item (c) was discussed first by the Committee and then the remaining items (a)-(g) in agenda order.
 - (a) Green Spaces and Biodiversity work in the parish – report on meeting of committee chairs (as per action plan) and suggestions for action arising: report by Cllr Church. Cllr Church ran through the report of the meeting in which cross-cutting issues across committees had been discussed. He highlighted the following:

Listing & review of public green spaces: This would move ahead, looking first at council-managed spaces and then others. Cumnor and Eynsham PCs are doing some good work on this and Cllr Church to circulate a link to the website. Cllr Church would explore using the County Council green spaces mapping tool and would contact interested parties and other key stakeholders. Cllr Church would create a public survey on-line to feed into the workshop.

Footpaths - There are few formally registered footpaths in the parish – an updated map would be desirable.

The following actions were agreed:

- NHPC to progress the Green Spaces Review and to organise a workshop for those interested during February, possible date 20 Feb 2021. Proposed by Cllr Church, Seconded by Cllr MacKeith. Cllr Dowie requested a named vote. All Committee members voted in favour, except Cllr Dowie who voted against so the resolution was APPROVED.
 - Commission short on-line survey of our green spaces before the workshop. Proposed by Cllr Church, Seconded by Cllr Berrett. Cllr Dowie requested a named vote. All Committee members voted in favour, except Cllr Dowie who voted against so the resolution was APPROVED.
 - To set up small workgroup to consider footpath issues. Proposed by Cllr Church, Seconded by Cllr Kay. Cllr Dowie requested a named vote. All Committee members voted in favour, except Cllr Dowie who voted against so the resolution was APPROVED.
 - Cllr Church to join the working group together with Cllrs Kay, Bastin and Church and Cllr Church to invite the Ramblers Assoc to join.
- (b) Progress on 'Climate and Nature Emergency action plan for North Hinksey Parish Council by Cllr Church. Cllr Church noted that a member of the public had asked in The Sprout magazine the reason for having this plan when Low Carbon West Oxford were already doing similar work? He explained that organisation had been in touch congratulating NHPC and confirming that their work only covered the City of Oxford and not Botley. The following was agreed:
- The draft Green Guide – Cllr Church to circulate and invite comments and additions and advised that there was a budget for layout and production. He would liaise with the Comms Committee about editing etc. Cllr Potter asked about the inclusion of graphics to make the guide more attractive to read. Cllr Church to investigate this as the budget may cover this aspect. He hoped The Sprout might help circulate the guide.
- (c) Review Draft submission on the Oxfordshire Growth Board's 'Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire' for approval by full Council (Paper 1). Cllr Church outlined that anyone could respond and one reason for commenting as a Council would be to be recognised as a stakeholder. The draft NHPC Paper supported the Strategic Vision but asked for the Vision to be clearer on goals, otherwise it risked becoming just a wish list. Cllr Bastin requested an amendment to paragraph 4 to ensure it was grammatically correct. Cllr Church Proposed to submit the draft submission for approval by full Council with this single amendment. This was Seconded by Cllr Kay and unanimously APPROVED.
- (d) 2021 – UK 'Together on Climate Change' programme. Cllr Church outlined that this initiative was for potential liaison with other PCs and he had not progressed it other than the OALC had expressed an interest in NHPC's Climate Plan. Some other parishes are considering engagement on this. Cllr Church Proposed to send the Action Plan to the OALC with an explanatory letter. This was Seconded by Cllr Berrett and unanimously APPROVED.
- (e) Air Pollution Update – Cllr Jones (deferred from previous meeting): As Cllr Jones was absent, Cllr Church updated on the proposed Green Wall between Botley School and A34 which was not going ahead. The Dept of Transport had not considered it appropriate to fund the scheme as the pollution monitors did not show the pollution being severe enough. He outlined that if the safe limits listed in the Oxford City Council Air Quality Action Plan were applied to Botley then the whole of A34 would be considered unsafe, so it depended on the safe level set. Cllr Church to request an update from Cllr Jones to circulate for info.

- (f) Environmental improvements in the West Way development (deferred from previous meeting). Cllr Berrett reported no progress but that Swift boxes were in the specification for the residential building. The Clerk was asked to contact Peter Sandercock at SDC and ask for a list for review at the next meeting.
 - (g) Botley in Bloom – towards 2021? (deferred from previous meeting). Cllr Church thought it may be difficult to organise the full event given current speed of Covid vaccinations but Cllr MacKeith pointed out that it had taken place during full lockdown 2020. Cllr Berrett reported the Facebook page was still active. Cllr Church would like the parish to get into Regional Britain in Bloom so agreed to make enquiries and report back.
6. Any other items for information: Cllr Church had facilitated the planting of around 500 trees the previous weekend at Tilbury Fields and the Rugby Club. He would chase the Rugby Club for further photos of the event and was informed that the Oxford Mail attended at Tilbury Fields. Cllr MacKeith highlighted that The Sprout magazine would welcome photos for publication. Cllr Church thanked all councillors and parishioners who took part.
7. Date of next scheduled meeting: Thursday 4th March 2021 at 7pm via video conference, venue tbc

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.47 hours.