



North Hinksey Parish Council



Mrs Sharon Henley, Clerk to the Parish Council

Tel: 07494 054581

E-mail: clerk@northhinksey-pc.gov.uk

Parish Office, First Floor, 5 Church Way, Botley, Oxford OX2 9TH

A Meeting of the Environment & Wellbeing Committee held on Thursday 4th March 2021 at 7.00pm

Those Present: Cllr Church (Chairman), Berrett, Dowie, Jones, Kay, MacKeith & Potter (part of meeting)

In attendance: Sharon Henley, Clerk

Members of Public: 1

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Bastin and Blase.
2. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda: There were none.
3. Questions from Members of the Public: There were none.
4. Matters Arising (no decisions to be taken under this item): All items were covered within the agenda.
5. Items for Consideration
Cllr Potter joined the meeting during item (a).
 - a) Terracycle recycling point: Cllr Church updated that the Co-Op had confirmed they already had three drop bins but it was Cllr Berrett's understanding that the request was to recycle items not currently covered by these. Cllr Berrett to pass on details of the initial enquiry for Cllr Church to obtain further information.
 - b) Report on Green Spaces survey: Cllr Church was in the process of analysing the results but ran through some initial findings with a final report to be available for the rescheduled Green Spaces Meeting. The raw data to be circulated in PDF form to the committee. Following discussion on the initial results, Cllr Church confirmed that the newly-formed Footpaths Working Group planned to make contact with the District Footpaths Officer and would undertake a post-Covid walkabout to look at footpaths that required restoring. Cllr MacKeith had a contact at the Ramblers Association who might be able to assist and Cllr Church to make contact.
 - c) Progress on 'Climate and Nature Emergency action plan for North Hinksey Parish Council: Cllr Church reported that Covid impacts had delayed some actions. A revised date of 22nd March had been circulated for the Green Spaces Workshop and Cllr Berrett to update the website. Registration to be on Eventbrite to obtain a Zoom meetings link.
Cllr Church noted that some items on the plan overlapped with the work of the Recreation and Amenities Committee and this to be discussed with the R&A Chairman, Cllr Potter.
Cllr MacKeith outlined ideas for the Memorial Garden including a sensory garden.
Cllr Church noted the National Trust's post-Covid commemorative planting project for blossom trees which might be suitable for the Upper Field. Cllr Potter highlighted that

the Working Group for the Louie Memorial Fields were looking at suitable projects and would bring ideas to the Green Spaces Workshop.

- d) Tree Planting: Cllr Church had passed on some trees to the group organising planting at Hinksey Heights last weekend. He had 50 oak whips available for future projects.
 - e) Air Pollution Update – deferred from previous meeting. Cllr Jones was not present so the item was again deferred.
 - f) Environmental improvements in the West Way development: The Clerk had contacted SDC Clerk to request details and had been advised that information was available as part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan and other environmental impact assessments/studies had been produced in support of planning application so were available on-line. Cllr Berrett to research these documents and reference them on the NHPC website. She noted that the Westway Public Art Project contained some environment aspects.
 - g) Botley in Bloom: Cllr Church reported that the ongoing uncertainty around the pandemic meant the RHS were not running a formal Britain in Bloom UK in 2021. They were instead running the ‘RHS Community Awards’ to ‘shine a light on the most innovative, inspiring and impactful projects’ under various categories. He recommended that last year’s ‘Botley in Bloom’ front gardens project was repeated and this had previously been held in association with the Sprout Magazine. A budget similar to last year’s to be made available for publicity, posters and prizes. Money to be given to The Sprout for prizes. Following discussion Cllr Church proposed to run Botley in Bloom with maximum budget of £200 in association with the Sprout Magazine. This was seconded by Cllr Potter and Cllr Dowie requested a named vote. All voted in favour except Cllr Dowie who abstained so the proposal was APPROVED.
6. Any other items for information: Cllr Church advised that the Oxfordshire COP26 Climate Alliance would be inviting all Oxfordshire parish councils to join their group. The alliance would make representations to government for inclusion at the UN climate conference in the UK in November this year. No invitation had been received as yet but the matter to be considered at full Council in due course.
7. Date of next scheduled meeting: Thursday 27th May 2021 at 7pm, venue tbc

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.45 hours.