



## North Hinksey Parish Council



Mrs Sharon Henley, Clerk to the Parish Council

E-mail: [clerk@northhinksey-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@northhinksey-pc.gov.uk)

Tel: 07494 054581

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

### **Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment & Wellbeing Committee held at 7pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in the Seacourt Hall and via video conference**

**Those Present:** Cllr Church (Chairman), Bastin, Berrett, Blase, Dowie, Kay, MacKeith (from item 5) & Potter. Cllr Dykes attended as an observer.

**In attendance:** Sharon Henley, Clerk

**Members of Public:** 3

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** There were none.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** There were none.
- 3. Election of Vice Chairman of the Environment & Wellbeing Committee:** Cllr Potter nominated Cllr Bastin and Cllr Dowie requested a named vote. All voted in favour except Cllr Dowie who abstained so the motion was APPROVED.
- 4. Questions from members of the public:** There were none.
- 5. Green spaces progress (incl grass verges) and next public meeting:** Cllr MacKeith joined during this item. Cllr Church was looking into land ownership following the public meeting in March. A discussion was ongoing on the use of grass verges and Cllr Church had requested advice from the Vale.  
  
The formation of a Green Spaces Group was planned to engage the community and several people had expressed an interest in joining.
- 6. Hedgehogs.** Following the full Council meeting, NHPC has registered with the 'Hedgehog St' initiative and we will work with local people and groups to promote this. Cllr Blase had created some hedgehog holes at his property as had some of his neighbours. Cllr Church to encourage people to report hedgehog sighting at <https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/> via The Sprout.
- 7. Great Big Green Week in September (open ideas session) Paper 1:** The event was planned from 18<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September. Various options for local events were discussed, including a Saturday afternoon event at the Seacourt Hall. Cllr Church to arrange an informal discussion group to work on event ideas.
- 8. 20mph limit update:** Cllr Bastin advised that the planned survey was running on the website with around 70% of current responders being in favour. The poll would finish on 10<sup>th</sup> June and if the

majority were in favour then Cllr Bastin would liaise with County Cllr Judy Roberts to find out how to get a Traffic Order implemented. Cllr MacKeith suggested this could be discussed at the Botley Traffic Advisory Committee meeting in June.

- 9. Botley in Bloom Update:** Posters had gone up but there were only two applications so far. All were asked to encourage people to enter and Cllr Berrett to promote via Facebook.
- 10. Oxclean litter campaign:** Cllr Church proposed to hold a two hour litter picking event along the West Way at 11am on Saturday June 12th and encourage all committee members to participate. The event to be promoted via social media. This was seconded by Cllr Blase and APPROVED. The Clerk to register with Oxclean the following day to meet the deadline.
- 11. Revision of Activity Plan for E&W (Paper 2)** Cllr Church summarised the following:

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b><i>Organisational activities</i></b>		
Draft the agreed leaflet for local people	Launch in Green Week	In progress
<b><i>Reducing our impacts</i></b>		
Set a timetable for the various reviews of current practice as set out in this Plan.	Further discussion to be had with R&A and Allotments. Discussed at the meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy suppliers to be discussed by SHMC and the Pavilion Trustees.</li> <li>• An EPC should be displayed at the Seacourt Hall. Cllr Berrett to follow up with Savills.</li> <li>• Cllr Church to circulate the Big Clean Switch details for changing electricity suppliers.</li> <li>• The possibility of using the roof of the Seacourt Hall for green energy initiatives.</li> </ul>	In progress
<b><i>Community and external activities</i></b>		
Next green spaces meeting	Date to be set	In progress
<b><i>Organisational activities</i></b>		
Produce and distribute leaflet and hold public event	Gathering info for leaflet	In progress
Develop councillor briefing on planning and climate issues and responsibilities.	Awaiting County report late June	In progress
<b><i>Reducing our impacts</i></b>		
Review current energy use	Need to progress	
Review current waste management	Need to progress	

<b>Community and external activities</b>		
Comment on Local Transport and Connectivity Plan	Next stage now late 21	In progress
Start discussion on develop guide to local walks and cycle routes.	Funding being sought externally	In progress
Explore and encourage the formation of a Climate Action Group	Work around Green Week	In progress
Support the Oxfordshire Zero Carbon Homes initiative.	Seminar June 17 <sup>th</sup> ; councillors to be invited	In progress
Oxclean litter campaign	Two hour litter picking event along the West Way at 11am on Saturday June 12 <sup>th</sup> . All committee members encouraged to participate.	In progress
Join Oxford COP26 Alliance		Done
Join Hedgehog St	Done, follow up work to happen	In progress
Pesticides review	Discuss with R&A. Cllr MacKeith raised concerns at the meeting about OCC's weed spraying activities. Cllr Church to contact OCC to find out what plan exists for spraying and their criteria for selection. He would advise that NHPC would like to minimise use of pesticides and copy in the Cabinet member.	
Grass verges work	Vale DC contacted	In progress
Land ownership issues	Identify target areas – article in Sprout	In progress

**12. Tree Planting for Queens Jubilee (to note)** The Queen's Platinum Jubilee was being planned for 2022 with the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy Tree Planting this winter. All were asked to consider where new trees could be planted, with possible commemorative planting when the Covid pandemic had ended, possibly in November or December.

**13. Air Pollution Update - Particulate Monitoring Update:** Botley School were to have a particulate monitor to give live readings for the first time. A green wall installation was being discussed for a bus shelter in Westminster Way.

The Environment Agency had taken Thames Water to court about the spill in 2016. They had admitted liability and would be sentenced in September. Cllr MacKeith had spoken to the Environment Agency and written an article for The Sprout. There was a hotline to report sewage matters and details to be circulated for the website.

Consultation was ongoing about the Flood Alleviation Scheme.

14. **Date of Next Scheduled Meeting:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 8.00pm in the Seacourt Hall, attendance arrangements for members of the public tbc.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.00 hours.