

MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE HELD AT UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL ON TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 3.30 PM

Present: Councillor M McGuffie (Chairman)
Councillors M Barr, C Booth, C Govier, M Lithgow and J Lloyd
In attendance: David Farrow (Town Clerk), Alice Kendall (Deputy RFO)
1 Member of the press
2 Members of the public

349 APOLOGIES

No apologies had been received.

350 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

351 MINUTES

RESOLVED to confirm and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 26 September 2022 as a true record.

352 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The members of the public did not wish to speak at this point.

353 FOOTPATHS UPDATE

Steve Saunders, PPLO, gave a general update on the work of the Footpath Volunteers. Councillors thanked him for all the work they do. He was pleased to report that the rail crossing is due to re-open soon.

Councillor Barr asked if kissing gates could be replaced with more accessible options on the path near Rockwell Green School. The Clerk reported that works to these paths will lead into works to make the Green Corridor land more accessible.

354 GREEN CORRIDOR LAND

- a) Green Corridor Steering Group - Notes from a recent meeting were circulated with the following recommendations being made
 - i) Storage Container for Fox's Field
RECOMMENDED to Full Council that a grant of £4,500, from the Green Corridor budget line, be given to Transition Town Wellington for the purchase of a storage container with all details of design and location to be agreed at a future committee meeting before installation.
 - ii) Drone Film
RESOLVED to commission of a Drone Film of the Green Corridor Land to raise awareness of the land to inform the consultation process at a cost of £1,750 to be met from the Green Corridor Budget line.

355 CARBON NEUTRAL STRATEGY

The Clerk gave a verbal update, he reported that the move to paperless meetings is under way with the order being placed for the Councillor's tablets. The employment of a new Projects Officer is now underway, and this will help further implement the Strategy.

356 TREE PLANTING STRATEGY

RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow a member of the public to speak.

RESOLVED to re-instate Standing Orders.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the draft strategy be accepted.

357 NOTICE BOARDS

A report was circulated, and it was **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that three new notice boards be purchased and installed at a total cost of £8,799.93. Funding to be drawn from the Green Corridor and Community Services & Priorities budget lines as detailed in the report.

358 PLAY AREAS

A report was circulated with a general update on play areas. The Deputy RFO reported that the damaged item should be installed at Tonedale that week which will enable the surfacing to be laid (depending on dry whether). She further reported that a change of method for building the path was approved internally to try and alleviate the problem of the wet ground. Although this will be at an extra cost, there have been other changes that have been implemented on site that will result in an overall saving of £2,000.

Councillor Lloyd reported that she had received a schedule of works to SWT play areas over the next 18-months, she will circulate it after the meeting.

359 LOCAL CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN UPDATE

The Clerk reported that desk-based working was underway for the cycling review.

RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow a member of the public to speak.

RESOLVED to re-instate Standing Orders.

It was further reported and noted that this work will also link in with that being done in Langford Budville.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.35 pm

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Councillor Michael McGuffie
Chairman