

## **Green Corridor Advisory Board**

**Wednesday 8 November 2023 at 7.30pm**

### **URC Hall**

#### **Present**

Councillor Mike McGuffie (Chair), Steve Cole (Wellington and District Sports Federation), Helen Gillingham (Transition Town), Adam Lockyear (Wellington Community Food), Olly Hill (Environmental Agency), Anita Roy (Transition Town), Steve Saunders (Basins Volunteer Group/Footpaths) Rosie Walker (Woodland Trust)

#### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors C Govier and K Wheatley

#### **2. Biodiversity Audit – Hanna Montag and Adam Lockyear**

Hanna Montag of Clarkson Woods gave a presentation on the work they had done undertaking the biodiversity audit they had been commissioned to do. The presentation also outline what changes could be made to improve biodiversity which in turn opens up opportunities for generating income through selling biodiversity net gain units to developers. A copy of the presentation will be circulated when received.

There was some discussion about the proposed changes and whether other options were preferable. It was agreed that this work would need to form a key part of the Management and Development Plans for the GC and that further discussions were required.

It was hoped that the final report would be available in two weeks or so

#### **3. Updates**

- a. Wellington Town Council – Dave Farrow  
To be provided separately by email as time was tight
- b. Wellington Community Food – Adam Lockyer  
With the extended growing space had increased the number of crop shares available from 20 to 60 and should be able to recruit a full-time grower. Had been in discussions with the foodbank about making provisions available. Issue with drainage on the track to the gate by the Basins. DF advised that the land was held by the Crown Estate but asked AL to come up with some proposals to see what could be done. AL wanted to know when a decision would be made on the sports/recreation site. DF said it was always part of the plan to have pitches there so the feasibility study was key to determining what was possible.
- c. Transition Town Wellington – Helen Gillingham  
Container due to be delivered to Fox's Field soon. Need to plant 20m hedge behind it as part of planning conditions  
Elm hedge at Linden Meadow bordering the thatched cottage needed cutting back/down and would be done shortly.

Had been donated 300 tree/hedge plants which could not be sued elsewhere – part of Woodland Trust package.  
New website going live. Members to be asked to check what was going on re their organizations.

- d. Basins Volunteer Group – Steve Saunders  
Nothing to update on
- e. Wellington and District Sports Federation – Steve Coles  
Keen on moving forward the feasibility study for pitches alongside the community farm. Recognise that the priority for now is the Longforth farm site but want to be ready to move in the future if funds become available.
- f. Woodland Trust – Rosie Walker  
Would be liaising with Helen over tree planting.

**4. Management Plan – to discuss recent field walk and proposed maintenance/development plan – all**

A word document summarising the outcome of the field walk was circulated with the agenda. It was agreed that a separate meeting would be required to pull together the field walk work with the final biodiversity audit report

**5. Field Map – Dave F**

Noted

**6. Bridges Across Waterways – Mike M**

Discussed the need to develop bridges across waterways especially the weir at the bottom of Linden Drive to Riverside Meadow. DF advised that the Council's Health and Safety advisers had advised the signs should be erected once it comes into the Council's ownership saying that it was a dangerous structure and should not be used as a crossing or if so, is at own risk.

**7. Matters from last meeting not covered on the agenda. (notes attached)**

All matters had been covered.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

10 January 2024