

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON
TUESDAY 26th AUGUST 2020 AT 1.30PM

PRESENT Councillors Clark, Hamblin & Jackson.

Also present: Mr N Robson

F&P/1/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Robbins & Stapley

F&P/2/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATHS AND PARKS COMMITTEE HELD ON 4th FEBRUARY 2020

Minutes Approved

F&P/3/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

None

F&P/4/2020 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO PLANT A HEDGE AT THE EAST END PLAY AREA

Members discussed the proposal for a Leylandii hedge to help screen and reduce noise from the play area for the benefit of the residents in the vicinity. Following a discussion of the costings and benefits, it was proposed that native species such as Birch be considered as an alternative. It was AGREED to move to the next item on the Agenda and include this item as part of the Working Groups remit.

F&P/5/2020 WOODLAND CREATION/TREE PLANTING

Areas have been identified at the Allotments on Longhwaite Road and next to the Cycle Path that will benefit from tree planting. After a discussion it was AGREED that this be explored further by the Working Group. The members of the Working Group are Cllr Jackson, Cllr Clark, Cllr Hamblin and Mr Robson

F&P/6/2020 SPEET GILL

Mr Robson discussed his notes from his site visit with Peter Leeson of the Woodland Trust which had been circulated to members. The working group will devise a management plan and put forward to the committee for agreement

The Clerk reminded members that the Finance Committee will begin work on the Budget for 2021/22 in the next few weeks, and any requests for project funding will need to be put forward to them

F&P/7/2020 ALLOTMENTS

7.1 To agree a letter be drafted and placed on the notice boards that Judging is not taking place this year – AGREED

7.2 WCF Allotments – To discuss next steps. The Clerk was requested to endeavour to determine who the current tenants are

Meeting Closed – 2.30pm

Date of Next Meeting – TBA

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON
THURSDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT Councillors Clark, Hamblin, Ferriby & Jackson.
Also present: Mr N Robson, Alison Dodd

F&P/8/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Robbins & Stapley

F&P/9/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATHS AND PARKS COMMITTEE HELD ON 26TH AUGUST

Minutes Approved

F&P/10/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

None

F&P/11/2020 TO ARRANGE PUBLICITY REGARDING THE TRANSFER OF ALLOTMENT LAND AT BURNFOOT FROM WCF TO WTC

It was agreed to draft a press release with regard to the transfer, and to include a thank you to West Cumberland Farmers for their generosity in gifting the land for the benefit of Wigton Residents. Some photographs will be taken by the Clerk

F&P/12/2020 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIR FOLLOWING THE RECENT SITE VISITS UNDERTAKEN AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Speet Gill – Councillors were joined by several individuals interested in clearing some areas and improving the site. The recommendation from the committee to full council is to tidy and cut back the area at the entrance near Wigton Baths, renovate the signage (Cllr Hamblin has offered to undertake) , look at installing a log seat, plant wildflowers and improve the paths. Boulders can be provided free of charge which can be used to enhance the “paddling” section of the stream used by youngsters. Poplar seedlings will need removing. Nick Robson is setting up a volunteer group to undertake this work, along with Himalayan Balsam removal. Cllr Stapley will undertake the relevant risk assessments

Cllr Jackson noted that the unofficial path to the rugby club had been taped off, but not brought to the attention of the Rugby Club. Councillors agreed the path is dangerous with a steep drop due to erosion. A Dodd advised the Town Council would tape it for now, and look at a possible diversion.

Contaminated land at Longthwaite Road Allotments – The recommendation from the committee to full council is that this area be planted with a mix of Birch, Hazel, and Hawthorn etc. to create a woodland area. It will be planted by volunteers and take approximately 4 weekends with trees being sourced free of charge. Tree guards and stakes would need to be purchased (59p each), although funding may be available.

Field adjacent Barton Laws – The recommendation from the committee to full council is to plant clumps of trees and create a woodland cycle path to provide a new facility for children. Trees again would be free of charge, and would be planted by volunteers. The clerk is to contact Mr J Cowell to see if aerial photographs can be provided

F&P/13/2020 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CLERK REGARDING USAGE OF THE BOWLING CLUB

Councillors considered the report from the Clerk that had been circulated with the agenda. The recommendation to Full Council is to consider the following options:

1. Do nothing – continue to subsidise for a very small number of members, and budget for repairs/replacement of machinery and buildings which are nearing the end of their useful life.
2. Approach the Club with a view to an asset transfer to them
3. Identify another use for the site

Meeting Closed – 19.04

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