

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

Date of Next Meeting - TBA

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON
MONDAY 18TH JANUARY, 2021 AT 1.00PM

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

F&P/14/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Stapley

F&P/15/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATHS AND PARKS COMMITTEE HELD ON 17th SEPTEMBER 2020

Minutes Approved

F&P/16/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

None

F&P/17/2020 TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION CONCERNING THE WATER SUPPLY AT THE ALLOTMENTS, HARRY SCOTT WAY, AND TO RECOMMEND A WAY FORWARD TO FULL COUNCIL

The clerk had supplied a brief outline of the situation which explained the allotments were fed from the metered water supply belonging to WCF. This had been overlooked by both parties at the time of the transfer of the land.

After a discussion of various options, it was AGREED to proceed with obtaining a quote from United Utilities for a separate measured connection to the water main, and obtain quotes for the installation of a trough and the disconnection of the standpipes.

Meeting Closed 13.20pm

Date of Next Meeting – 8th February 2021, 1PM

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON
MONDAY 8TH FEBRUARY, 2021 AT 1.00PM

PRESENT Councillors Clark, Ferriby, Robbins, Hamblin & Jackson.

F&P/18/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Stapley

F&P/19/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATHS AND PARKS COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH JANUARY 2021

Minutes Approved

F&P/20/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

None

F&P/21/2020 TO DECIDE WHETHER TO INSTALL A SEPARATE METERED WATER CONNECTION AT THE BURNFOOT ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk advised members of updated information received since the report was circulated. A further estimate had been received regarding the disconnection of the standpipes and the laying of a service pipe should a new supply be commissioned. In addition, United Utilities have yet to issue a formal quote for the work they would undertake. Potential Costs of £1k from United Utilities were expected and up to approx. 2 -2.5k for the installation of a trough, including the disconnection of the standpipes. The installation of a private sub meter could also be considered but this would need costing, and of course be subject to agreement with WCF. Members agreed that the costs involved appear to be excessive for 9 allotments. After some discussion it was agreed that once the costs are formally received, then the Clerk contact WCF to negotiate a way forward.

F&P/22/2020 TO CONSIDER A METERED WATER CONNECTION FOR THE ALLOTMENTS AT THE CROFTS.

Due to the cost involved (circa 1k plus) members agreed with the submitted report that it was financially unviable to install a supply to serve 2 allotments. It was AGREED to reduce the rent accordingly – from £44 to £40 per allotment.

F&P/23/2020 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM A TENANT OF THE BURNFOOT ALLOTMENTS TO MOVE HIS PIGEONS BACK

Members considered the report prepared by the Clerk. The main issue raised by some councillors was that the tenant had moved to Maryport, and that the Council would not normally let to anyone living outside the Parish. Another issue being that there is no rules yet in place for the site. There is no waiting list for the site. Cllr Clark had looked at the allotment in question and was not clear of its demarcation line. Cllr Hamblin was of the opinion that the site needed to be cultivated. Cllr Ferriby was of the opinion that rules cannot be applied retrospectively, and suggested that future rules need to be considered, alongside consultation with the tenants. It was then proposed that the

tenant be allowed to move his pigeons back for a period of up to 2 years, and that a demarcation line be made. Vote Taken – 4 For, 1 Against. The clerk was asked to write to the tenant accordingly.

Cllr Clark asked that the fence/wall condition at allotment numbers 8 & 9 be placed on the next Agenda.

F&P/24/2020 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CLERK CONCERNING THE CONDITION OF ALLOTMENT NO 2 AT BURNFOOT

There was some confusion amongst some members as to which allotment this agenda item referred. The allotment has been unworked for several years and is full of debris, bricks, stones, branches etc. Cllr Clark suggested that it would split into 2 or 3 allotments. It was agreed that the site be left as it is for now due to time and financial implications

Cllr Ferriby requested that the rules, regulations and rents be reviewed, with the aim of them being simplified and specific at the next meeting

Meeting Closed 14.10 pm
Date of Next Meeting – TBC

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON
MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY, 2021 AT 2.00PM

PRESENT Councillors Clark, Ferriby, Robbins, Hamblin & Jackson.

F&P/25/2020 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Stapley

F&P/26/2020 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATHS AND PARKS COMMITTEE HELD ON 8TH FEBRUARY 2021

Minutes Approved

F&P/27/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

None

F&P/28/2020 DATES FOR ALLOTMENT INSPECITONS

Provisional Dates AGREED – 5th May, 14th July and 15th September

F&P/29/2020 BURNFOOT ALLOTMENT 8 & 9

Members discussed the current situation with regard to the fence that runs along the beck from allotments 8 and 9. The bank and fence has partly fallen into the beck after the recent floods. The Clerk reported that Stephen Farish did not think it would be a good idea to replace/remove anything from the beck at this time due to the beck being very narrow at that part. It was **AGREED** that we contact the EA for advice.

F&P/30/2020 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Councillors discussed the two sets of rules and regulations that we currently use. It was **AGREED** that these be condensed into 1 rules book for all sites.

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Clark would amend the rules from No. 3 General Conditions and Cllr Ferriby would draft and send out.

Item for the next Agenda – Burnfoot allotment prices

Meeting Closed at 1.45pm

Date of Next Meeting – TBC

