

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS & ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
THE MARKET HOUSE, TRING ON MONDAY 10th APRIL 2017 AT 8.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: G. Wilkins, in the Chair
Mrs O. Conway
S. Hearn
M. Hicks (ex officio)
P. Hills
N. Nutkins

Co-opted members Mr I. Brownell
Mrs G. Brown
Mr J. Savage

Also present: Cllr Mrs P. Hearn
Cllr J. Bowden
Mr Michael Curry, Town Clerk
Mrs Dawn Slade, Deputy Town Clerk

0 members of the public

18697. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs R. Ransley and Mrs B. Kazer (prior engagements).

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies for the reasons given

18698. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

**18699. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON 28th NOVEMBER 2016**

RESOLVED: To accept the Minutes as circulated

18700. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

None.

18701. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

None

18702. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public present

Part 1 Allotments

18703. ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT

The Deputy Clerk's report was circulated prior to the meeting. There are six vacant half plots. These are currently in a reasonable condition. They will be strimmed as appropriate. It is not possible to access certain plots to rotovate them.

The Deputy Clerk, on a recent visit to the Duckmore Lane allotments, was able to report that there was a lot of activity and the site looked good.

18704. THE TOWN WARDEN'S REPORT

The report incorporated detailing the work done by the Town Warden was circulated prior to the meeting.

There was a major expense incurred to remove the large Lime tree on Pond Close. This was originally part of the avenue of trees leading to Tring Park Mansion. It was agreed that the Clerk would bring a proposal to replace the tree with two new ones to the next meeting.

A new bench had been installed on Pond Close.

18705. ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION'S REPORT

Mr Brownell briefed Members on the following:

- There will be a plant sale on 30th June 2017
- The Summer Show (19th August 12:00 – 18:00) will be larger than last year with more classes and a BBQ.
- A request to extend the period for bonfires by a month each end was made. It was agreed to consider the change following a year without incident.

Part 2 Environment

18706. TOWN WARDEN'S REPORT

See above.

18707. RIGHTS OF WAY

(i) Hertfordshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan

Details of the consultation on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan were circulated prior to the meeting.

It was agreed that Mr J. Savage prepare the Council's response to the consultation.

During the discussions of the plan it was agreed that the indicated sources of funding were very uncertain and the proposed upgrades, etc. was very much a wish list. The potential cost savings from upgrading existing facilities rather than creating new was noted.

(ii) Parish Paths Partnership

The new signage sourced through last year's funding has been installed. The Deputy Clerk has prepared a bid for this year to cover the cost of new leaflets showing circular walks chosen by Mr Savage, who will re-walk the route to ensure the data is accurate.

It was agreed that the bid should proceed on this basis.

(iii) The condition of rights of ways in the Town (including Footpath 41)

Cllr S. Hearn reported on the clearance of the land adjacent to Footpath 41.

The new plantings were well established. Work in/by the feeder would have to be postponed to the autumn. The wildlife activity at Meadow Brook showed that the work there had not been disruptive.

The Canal & River Trust will be contacted at the impending meeting in the Council Chamber. The situation with regard to the removal of three ash trees will be chased.

Disabled access and access for young families to Tring Park was raised. The Woodland Trust would be giving a presentation at the Annual Town Meeting when this can be raised.

18708. TRING IN TRANSITION'S REPORT

A report from Mrs Kazer was circulated to Members

18709. DACORUM ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Cllr Hills was unable to attend the latest meeting. He noted that the minutes indicated the success of a litter pick in Hemel Hempstead in terms of the amount collected, if not in the number of participants.

It was agreed to hold another litter pick in Tring.

Cllr S.Hearn asked that a letter be written to the Highways Authority asking that road kill be removed promptly.

18710. ESTABLISHING A FRIENDS OF MILLENNIUM WOOD GROUP

The Deputy Clerk has prepared a funding bid to the Chiltern Society Community Grants for £250 – half of the estimated annual cost.

It was agreed that the initial membership be a representative of the Council (Cllr S. Hearn), a representative of the Allotment Association (Mr I. Brownell) and a representative of Tring in Transition (tbc).

It was also agreed that the Group role was to provide volunteer support to assist the management of the Millennium Wood working under supervision. It would not be a decision-making body.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman