

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11TH JUNE 2024 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT Councillors Hamblin, Scott, Hodson, Jackson, Speksnyder and McCarthy.

POA/52/2024 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

None

POA/53/2024 TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

To approve the minutes of the Parks, Open Spaces and Allotment minutes from 27th March 2024 – **AGREED.**

POA/54/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

Declared interest of agenda item 11 – Councillor Scott.

POA/55/2024 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

POA/56/2024 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

POA/57/2024 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Cllr Speksnyder raised a question regarding point 6 under Delegated Business relating to who carries out the independent annual inspection report and when, it was also raised that Throstle Park should be mentioned in Annex One under Parks and Barton Laws 2 to be removed. It was mentioned that it could be useful for the park staff supervisor to attend POA meetings where possible to provide updates etc. It was then raised to remove “The minutes of the committee are to be reported to and received by the full council at the next meeting.”

POA/58/2024 MEETING DATES

The following meeting dates were decided upon:

26th September 2024

23rd January 2025

1st May 2025

POA/59/2024 BUDGETS

Concerns were raised regarding St Mary’s Church and works needing carried out on the churchyard, however, it was mentioned that the Council have not been approached regarding this and likely won’t in this financial year.

POA/60/2024 ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Scott to confirm whether someone would be interested in keeping bees on plot 51 or 52 at the Longthwaite site as they are currently vacant. Cllr Hamblin mentioned Burnfoot allotments are looking well and that the fencing to the back of plot 5 could possibly need rectified soon.

POA/61/2024 PARKS

11.1 Cllr Scott reported that an individual had inspected the mushroom, and their opinion is that it could be patched up – to obtain a price for the next meeting. Wigton Youth Station could paint the mushroom once it had been patched up.

11.2 It was raised that someone had cleared out some of the algae in the pond, which is a concern, however it may have been due to the recent bad weather and flooding. It was then suggested that the pond could be shut at all times and opened for supervised group activities.

11.3 Cllr Speksnyder spoke about the community forest concept (edible forest) by Raise and asked if a consultation could begin this winter. Cllr Hamblin raised questions regarding the benefits to the community and about the costings, where it was mentioned that Raise would cover most of the costs. It was also mentioned that the time scale of this would be a few years.

11.4 It was mentioned that the Town Clerk has spoke with multiple tenders and none are interested in carrying out the work, therefore it will have to go out to tender again. The committee discussed all going to Wigton Park to look at the Dalton Shelter to know exactly what is wanted and needed and it was decided to meet at 10am on Friday 21st June.

11.5 The issues with the noise from ball games at Kirkland Park were raised, as well as the ball going over and disturbing residents.

POA/62/2024 LONG-TERM PLAN

Cllr Hamblin asked the committee to look over the long-term plan ready to revisit at the next meeting.

Meeting ended 7:57pm

Date of next meeting: 26th September 2024