

Sandridge Parish Council



Mr. Simon Thwaites
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10th June 2025

To: Members of the Jersey Farm Woodland Park Management Committee

The Jersey Farm Woodland Park Management Committee meeting will take place at 7.30pm on **Monday 16th June 2025** at **Marshalswick Community Centre**. All members are encouraged to visit the Woodland Park in their own time prior to the meeting.

Emma Hostler
Deputy Clerk

A G E N D A

- 1. To elect a Chair**
- 2. To elect a Vice Chair**
- 3. Reaffirmation of Public Members**
- 4. To receive and accept apologies for absence**
- 5. Disclosures of interest and requests for dispensations**
- 6. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th April 2025.**

7. Approval of Terms of Reference

It is a statutory requirement to review the Committee Terms of Reference annually. Members are asked to review the enclosed document prior to the meeting. It is;

Proposed

To review and approve the Jersey Farm Woodland Park Management Committee Terms of Reference for 2025-26.

8. Matters of Report

- Mark Carter is holding a woodland walk event on the Woodland Park on the evening of Friday 13th June where he will be talking about aspects of woodland management.
- The Project and Amenities Community Engagement (PACE) Officer has topped up the Woodland Park pond with use of the parish water bowser on at least two occasions over the recent dry weather spell.
- The Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust will be undertaking the ecological survey recently commissioned by this committee on 16th June. This is taking place in the area intended for the new pond installation.
- One of the recently installed leaflet boxes has again been vandalised. Councillor Wells will repair and reposition it where it is potentially less susceptible to damage.
- The excess saplings left over from the recent hedgerow installation have now been planted at various sites across the parish, including the garden at the rear of the parish office.
- Councillors Wells and Twidell have undertaken some vegetation clearance around benches and mowing of the pathways.
- There has been a tent pitched just outside the treeline on the Woodland Park. Signage was left by the parish office requesting that the tent be removed. It now appears to have been abandoned and will be removed as fly-tipping by John O'Conner.

9. Observations of the Woodland Park from a Duke of Edinburgh Volunteer

We will be joined by a DofE volunteer who has been undertaking regular inspections of the Jersey Farm Woodland Park on behalf of the Parish as part of a scheme initiated by the Sports & Recreation Ground Committee to support young people participating in the DofE programme. The volunteer, Liam Corfield, is a wildlife enthusiast and will be sharing some of his observations from his recent visits.

10. Update from Warden, Mark Carter

Mark Carter to provide a general verbal update including on-going management of encroaching blackthorn. Additionally, Mark will present key guidance from a new

resource recently published by The Tree Council to help local authorities better understand and have a strategy for dealing with the impact of Ash Dieback disease. A link to this document was sent to all members on 15th April 25.

11. Update on the Pond Installation

Anne Thomas to provide an update on progress made towards the pond installation on the Woodland Park.

12. Memorial Benches

The Committee has taken the decision not to install any more commemorative benches because there is no further capacity on the Woodland Park. Following a recent exchange of emails between members regarding staying firm on this decision in light of a recent request raised by the PACE Officer, a number of ideas for alternative forms of memorial were suggested. Members may wish to discuss whether there is any merit in these ideas or whether to adhere to the decision that the Woodland Park is no longer able to offer any form of memorial. Ideas suggested are tabled below, including reservations raised against each.

Suggestion	Reservations
Multiple plaques on existing benches	Inappropriate to implement retrospectively
Limited time frame for memorial plaques	Inappropriate to implement retrospectively
Memorial plaques installed at the base of existing trees	Susceptible to vandalism Visually/physically intrusive in a natural environment
Planting memorial trees	Finding appropriate locations Cost of failing/dying trees
Adopting an existing tree with accompanying memorial book/webpage	Unlikely to be appealing as lacks 'tangibles'
Artificial memorials: tree/wall/posts	Creates clutter and evokes atmosphere of a garden of remembrance
Sponsorship of fixtures/fittings	'Sponsorship' not the same sentiment as a memorial

13. Expenditure

To date, just £1,200 has been spent on tree thinning and hedge cutting from an annual budget of £15,000.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the JFWP Management Committee will take place at 7.30pm on 16th September at Marshalswick Community Centre.