

Sandridge Parish Council



Mr. Simon Thwaites
Parish Clerk

Marshalswick Community Centre,
The Ridgeway, St. Albans,
Herts, AL4 9TU
Tel: 01727 831871

www.sandridge-pc.gov.uk
Email: clerk@sandridge-pc.gov.uk

9th January 2024

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 15th January 2024** in the Committee Room at **Marshalswick Community Centre**.

Emma Hostler
Deputy Clerk

A G E N D A

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

2. Disclosures of interest and requests for dispensations

To receive declarations of interest from Members on items on the agenda and to receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th September 2023

4. Matters of Report

- The Committee welcomes a new Public Member Johanna Houlahan.
- New wooden security posts have been installed opposite Woodland House and the Chiltern Road entrance with timber sourced from a nearby felled oak tree. All works undertaken by Cllr Wells, Cllr Twidell and Mark Carter.
- Mark Carter has felled the deceased Chestnut tree adjacent to the war memorial. This has produced a number of short/wide timber posts available for repurposing and currently stacked

in the community garden. All ideas welcome.

- Mark Carter has also felled two deceased ash trees from the South-West Plantation.
- Mark Carter continues to clear the drain at the bottom of FP 29 following ongoing problems with water run off onto St Helier Road.
- The Parish Council is in discussions about a D-Day 80th Anniversary event on the Woodland Park on 24th June which will involve a beacon lighting ceremony.
- The Parish Council has started planning for a Summer Event 2024 on the Woodland Park – a provisional date of Saturday 1st June has been set.
- The privately owned woodland compartment opposite the North Plantation and the Hazel Coppice did not sell at a recent auction. The Parish Clerk has written to both the owners and the auctioneers proposing a meeting to discuss future management of this portion of the Woodland but has not received a reply.
- Cllr Ternouth is liaising with local residents regarding a rights of way application for the footpath that runs through the above private woodland to be included on the HCC definitive map.
- Parkrun made an early transition to the winter course due to wet weather conditions. The race director has also been provided with a barrier key for use in emergencies.
- The PACE Officer will be submitting the Green Flag Award application for 2024 imminently.

5. A Joint Proposal for a Woodland Management Plan prepared by Anne Thomas and Mark Carter

Members have received a copy of a joint proposal prepared by Anne Thomas and Mark Carter for a Woodland Management Plan which aims to increase biodiversity and climate resilience and identify and nurture future veteran tree growth. Members are asked to consider the proposal, including suggested action plan, time frames and associated costs. Following which, it is;

Proposed

That the Committee adopt the recommendations contained within the Woodland Management Plan, including timeframes and associated costs, which will be incorporated into the current 5-year management plans for the Jersey Farm Woodland Park.

6. A Proposal for a Memorial Tree Avenue prepared by Cllr Maurice Wells

Members have received a copy of report from Maurice Wells which contains two proposals: for the planting of an avenue of trees in the Woodland Park; that the trees can be adopted as memorial trees by local residents upon payment of a fee, replacing the current memorial bench scheme which has now reached capacity. Members are asked to consider the report following which, it is;

Proposed

That an avenue of trees is planted on the Woodland Park subject to agreement on location, species, size and spacing. It is further;

Proposed

To allow individual trees within the avenue to be adopted by local residents, upon payment of a fee, to be agreed, as a memorial via a discrete link to a dedicated page on the Parish website.

7. An Audit of Woodland Park Interpretation Boards

The Project, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer (PACE) has undertaken an audit of all the notice (interpretation) boards on the Woodland Park, looking at the location and condition of

each board and whether some form of refurbishment (updating of artwork/replacement woodwork) or replacement is required. A copy of the report has been distributed to the Committee for consideration. Members should note that there is a £2,000 allocation in the 2024-5 budget and £600 in the 2025-26 budget for these works.

Recommended

That the Committee agree a schedule of refurbishment for each of the notice boards, including extent of works for each board and allocation of budget accordingly.

8. A List of Blue-Sky Ideas for Future Consideration

Given the time limitations of the recent meeting organised to provide opportunity for members to discuss ideas for the future of the Woodland Park in a more informal setting it was suggested that we continue to review these ideas at future meetings. To facilitate this a list of those ideas briefly discussed at the meeting, and others that were not, has been compiled and distributed to the Committee. Members may wish to make review of this list a regular agenda item and agree in advance which idea will be discussed at the next meeting. Members will be asked to provide a written report with recommendations attached in order that discussion is informed and focused. The preceding agenda item 6 from Cllr Wells is an example of this in practice.

9. Review of Annual Management Plan and Current Expenditure

The Committee with input from Mark Carter is asked to review progress of works and expenditure against the current 2023-24 annual plan and budget.

Spend to date totals £17,849 against the annual budget of £20,335.

10. Suggestions and/or Matters for Consideration at the Next Meeting

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the JFWP Management Committee will take place at 7.30pm on 25th March 2024 at Marshalswick Community Centre.