

Sandridge Parish Council



JERSEY FARM WOODLAND PARK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Met at 7.30pm at Marshalswick Community Centre on Monday 18th September 2023. There was a walkabout prior to the meeting on the Woodland Park from 6.30pm for those able to attend.

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors - Jenny Roberts (Chair), Carol Chalkley, Adam Twidell, Julie Oakley, Maurice Wells
District Councillors – Raj Visram
Public Members - Carol Higgins, Frances Leonard, Anne Thomas

OFFICERS:

Emma Hostler - Deputy Clerk
Rebecca Pannese – Project, Amenities and Community Engagement (PACE) Officer

ABSENT:

Luke Sieger – Councillor
Lorraine Kirby – District Councillor
Jamie Burrows

634. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Mark Carter and John Forward.

635. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There was none.

636. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd July 2023, having been previously circulated, were taken as a correct record and it was, unanimously;

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd July 2023 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

637. MATTERS OF REPORT

- The annual meadow cut has been completed, and arisings removed.
- The new footpath and resurfacing works have been completed.

- The Parish Council was unsuccessful in acquiring land adjacent to the Woodland Park (between the Hazel Coppice and the North Plantation) which recently came up for auction.
- A new memorial bench has been installed in the meadow by the South-West Plantation, close to the St Helier Road entrance.
- New surfacing has been put down around the landing crafts war memorial at the Chiltern Road entrance. It is hoped that this will resolve the problem of muddy ground conditions around the stone, and therefore relocation will not be necessary.
- Cllr Chalkley has tidied the area around the Time Capsule and laid a gravel surface. Cllr Wells to assist with laying a new wood surround.
- Cllr Wells has cut back vegetation around the memorial benches.
- Volunteers have held a Sunday morning session to prepare for hedge laying adjacent to Bill's Wood.
- Mark Carter will lower the hedge line on a stretch adjacent to BW53 near the fallen ash tree to access the view across to Sandridge Village.
- Cllr Roberts attended a ceremony to mark receiving the 2023 Green Flag Community Award.
- New growth has been observed arising from the remains of the Princess Diana tree and will be nurtured in the hope of establishing a new tree.

638. UPDATE ON RECENT WORKS AND EXPENDITURE

There were no further updates from committee members on recent works undertaken to those already referred to in Matters of Note.

Members noted expenditure to date of £725 which includes general maintenance and miscellaneous purchases against an annual budget of £20,335. This figure does not yet include expenditure for the recent meadow cut or footpath works, which have a combined budget allocation of £15,500.

639. SECURITY AGAINST INCURSIONS ON TO THE WOODLAND PARK

Concerns have been raised about the security of the barrier to prevent vehicle incursion onto the meadow grass opposite Woodland House. This barrier currently consists of wooden posts embedded in the ground at regular intervals along the meadow boundary. Members attending the walkabout inspected the condition of the posts, noting deterioration of those adjacent to the barrier and opposite Woodland House which are at points critical to preventing vehicle access. Discussion followed and it was agreed that the PACE officer, in liaison with Mark Carter, will research costs for more rigid installation of new posts potentially from recycled, composite material and report back to the Committee at the January meeting. Members also suggested planting a hedge between these two access points.

Members suggested providing a key to the parkrun director to ensure emergency vehicles can access the Woodland Park if the need arises.

640. REVIEW OF DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024-25

Members reviewed the draft management plan for 2024-25 and associated costs, having been previously circulated. Following discussion over some items, the content of the plan was agreed subject to the following amendments: to increase the budget allocation for installation of the bike racks to £1,000; to add £500 allocation for installation of new security posts (see minute 640).

The Deputy Clerk will circulate dates for the Committee to meet informally to discuss future ideas for the Woodland Park with a view to finalising the remaining management plans including 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28.

641. MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA/SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The PACE Officer and Cllr Wells to present an audit of notice boards.
Mowing scheme for spring 2024.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the JFWP Management Committee will take place at Marshalswick Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday 15th January 2024.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.13pm.

Chair

Date