

STROUD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP

Tuesday, 21st September 2021, at 7.30pm

Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Present

Cllrs Rob Green (Chair), Sue Fenton, Mark Graham, Steven Naumann, Naomi Seffar and Gill Tavner.

In attendance

Kate Montgomery (Deputy Clerk), Chris Woolner (Green Spaces Manager)

1. Apologies

Cllr Liz Child (personal)

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

None

3. Questions from members of the public

None

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the council meeting on 13th July 2021 were **approved** by the members present and will be signed as a correct record by the Chair at the next possible opportunity.

5. Green Spaces Manager's report

The Green Spaces Manager presented the report and answered questions. Highlights included the restarting of regular football matches at Uplands playing field and plans for biodiversity improvements at The Leazes.

Cllr Graham suggested that we could offer H&S training for Friends groups and cover their events under the Council's insurance. Cllr Graham will provide further information should we wish to develop this in the future.

The working group discussed the potential for Green Flag status at the Daisy Bank and cemetery sites.

Cllrs were encouraged to comment on identified priorities in the report. Cllr Green asked that accessibility improvements is added to the list of priorities for all our sites.

6. Budget Monitoring

The report was received by the working group.

7. Update from Climate Action and Nature Recovery Officer (verbal)

The report was presented by the Deputy Clerk in the absence of the Climate Action and Nature Recovery officer.

The Deputy Clerk reported that the core group were meeting on 30th September for a facilitated workshop to help them decide on the future of the ST CAN.

The retrofit fair on 11th September, organised by the Nailsworth Climate Action Network, was well attended by members of the public and provided a good opportunity to network with other groups and organisations.

8. The Grove application for Uplands playing field use

The working group delegated to the Clerk to **approve** the use of the playing field in line with the recommendation.

9. Happy to chat bench location

The working group members discussed the potential location for the bench, and the pitfalls of using a popular bench which may exclude those who do not wish to chat. The Green Spaces Manager was asked to consult with other groups prior to the final location being decided upon. The final decision for the location for the bench was delegated to the Clerk.

10. Remaining funds in Carbon Reduction fund

The Deputy Clerk reported that there is still a significant amount of money in the Council's Carbon Reduction fund which stands at £8,310. The Deputy Clerk encouraged councillors to promote the fund through their community networks.

11. Receive the notes of the Stroud Town CAN meeting from 20th July

The notes were received.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chair

Date