



**Minutes of the meeting of ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP**  
**Tuesday, 27th September 2022, at 7.30pm**  
Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

**Present**

Cllrs Rob Green (Chair), Sue Fenton, Mark Graham and Megan Sheer

**In attendance**

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

Justin Smith (The CDS Group)

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Liz Child and Naomi Seffar (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 12th July 2022 were **approved** by the members present and will be signed as a correct record by the Chair at the next opportunity.

**5. Presentation from CDS Group regarding a potential new cemetery**

Members received a presentation from Justin Smith of The CDS Group regarding the work involved to create a new cemetery. A recording was taken should any members who weren't present wish to view it.

Cllr Graham gave members an overview of his experience of green burial sites.

HB gave an outline of the history of the new cemetery project and the previous explorations which had taken place.

Members discussed potential ideas and sites which might be suitable for such a project.

**Action: KM to send link of presentation to all members**

Justin Smith from The CDS Group left the meeting

Helen Bojaniwska (Town Clerk) left the meeting

Tim Dowds from Minchinhampton Football Club joined the meeting

The agenda was re-ordered as follows.

## **12. Uplands container**

Tim Dowds, representative from Minchinhampton Football Club presented a proposal for a container to be sited at Uplands Playing Field. The football club have been using the site for their Saturday fixtures for one season and have been welcomed by the local community.

The container will allow them to store sports equipment at the site. A local business has offered to sponsor the purchase and provide funding for the ongoing maintenance of the container.

Cllr Graham noted that if the container was placed in a corner it would likely attract anti-social behaviour behind it. The Working Group asked that this is considered when the final site is confirmed.

The Working Group discussed the proposal and agreed in principle to recommend **approval** of the project to the Town Clerk.

Officers were asked to explore the question of whether a licence, agreement or memorandum of understanding would be the best way to formalise the access and use of the space.

**Actions:**     **KM/CW to draft agreement**  
                  **CW/TD to finalise site for container**

## **6. Green Spaces Managers Report**

The report was received by the Working Group.

## **7. Budget Monitoring August 2022**

The Working Group noted the budget monitoring report.

## **8. Draft Concessions Policy**

The Working Group **agreed** to recommend approval of the policy to Council. Members asked that the policy be reviewed in two years.

**Action:**     **KM**

## **9. Daisy Bank Play Equipment**

The Working Group recommended to Council **approval** of a contract with EIBE for £35,922.

**Action:**     **CW**

## **10. Old Cemetery Nature Reserve**

The Working Group received the report and raised some questions relating to its content. Cllr Fenton enquired about the lack of ward councillor involvement. KM

responded that officers had responded directly to a police request and were keen to move quickly with the outcomes as outlined.

**11. Tree Planting Plan, Park Gardens**

The report was outlined by the Green Spaces Manager for members and answered questions relating to biodiversity and honey-fungus.

**13. Remaining Funds Carbon Reduction Fund**

The remaining funds were note as £17,492

**14. Applications to Carbon Reduction Fund**

Members discussed an application from Transition Stroud and **agreed** to recommend to the Town Clerk a grant of £1,000

Members discussed an application from Middle of the Hill Community Group and the possibility of sharing resources across communities. The Working Group also asked that the equipment is only used by those with appropriate training and that the relevant insurance is put in place prior to its use. The Deputy Clerk was asked to discuss these points with the applicant. It was **agreed** to recommend to the Town Clerk a grant for the full cost of a shredder.

**Action: KM**

**15. Notes from Local Advisory Panel**

The notes were received by the Working Group.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Chair .....

Date .....