

Minutes of the Horticulture Sub- Committee held on 13 September 2018

Present

Cllr A. Olechnowitz
Cllr J. Wright
Community Representative A. Lee

In attendance W. Fradgley – Cllr Elect

1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs K Kirton, Mrs P Matthews & Mr M Platts

2) Matters Arising from the Notes in lieu of meeting, March 18, 2018

2. Benches. Langton Lea – Bench installed; plinth awaiting painting **MP**
3. DCC Grass Cutting. Use of hazard marking proved effective. Intended to use lower level planting in vulnerable areas. Hazard tape and pegs to be stored by JCW in future.
4. A177 Gate Beds. *Decided* Further theft of perennials to be limited by reverting to bedding plants
5. Mini Orchards. Planting completed, dead tree to be replaced at Langton Lea. **MP**
- 8a. Horticulture Budget. *Decided* to absorb underspend. Will impact on current budget in the order of £1.5-2.0 K.
- 8b. Front Garden Judging. *Decided* no award to be made given elapse of time. Finalist to be notified and congratulated. **JCW/KK**

3) Update from the Parish Gardener

September, completion of the school wild flower area in liaison with Deputy Head
Late September Clearance of beds followed by planting mid-October-*Decided* MP
to be consulted on disposal of geraniums. **JCW**

Thereafter general maintenance including the Mine Site. *Note* – this will no longer have a specific budget so will be undertaken as needed.

4) To Report

1. Damaged Garden Bench referred to DCC 13 August. No response. To be followed up **JCW**
2. Invitation to Beautiful Durham Awards - 3rd October. Two seats available.
3. Invoice – Winter Planting - £475 excl VAT. Delivery to be scheduled end-September.
4. Love Lane – Use of Contractor. Agreed to request Ian Bell Garden Services to remove overgrown hawthorn, liaising with neighbouring resident as necessary. **JCW**

5. **SCAN Input**

To include Gardening Event (see below), draw attention to Himalayan Balsam, noting school wildflower project, noting decision re Summer Garden competition. Exhortation to get involved with suggestions for a gardening event. **JCW**

6. **Gardening Event**

Decided to consult with **MP** if any appropriate need for this autumn. If not, should be considered for spring 2019. Alternative ideas included footpath clearance and action in a neighbourhood area such as St Mary's Close with support such as bulb contribution by Parish Council.

7. **AOB**

1. Low Road – Hedge. Incursion to footpath to be notified to DCC on safety grounds. *Noted* a history of limited neighbourhood involvement. In absence of DCC support, to consider unilateral action. **JCW**
2. Village Park – Shincliffe. For future discussion with **PF**, consideration of longer-term involvement in planting and consequent maintenance
3. Outstanding Invoice – Parish Gardener to resend incomplete invoice **MP**

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

15 November – 7 p.m. Whitwell Grange