

ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

Bricket Wood, Chiswell Green and Park Street



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE TREES & WOODLAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (1)
INCORPORATING THE PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN GROUP (PELG)
HELD AT THE
PARISH CENTRE, STATION ROAD, BRICKET WOOD, ST. ALBANS, HERTS
ON 8 MARCH 2018 AT 10.30 am**

Present: Cllr Bell (Chair), Cllr Getley, Cllr Hurford & Cllr Whittaker
In attendance: Carol Hardy (Deputy Clerk) Dianah Ellis (Friends of Hanstead Wood/PELG)

1. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Getley Seconded: Cllr Whittaker **Motion Carried**
That Cllr Bell is re-elected as Chairman
Votes in favour: unanimous

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Parker, John Roy Friends of Hanstead Wood & David Williams Senior Groundsman.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 MARCH 2017

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Hurford Seconded: Cllr Bell **Motion Carried**
That the minutes be accepted as a true record.
Votes in favour: unanimous

5. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

Dianah Ellis asked the Chairman to consider how the Neighbourhood Plan green space policies and proposals could be carried forward within the Council. The Chairman agreed that if the Neighbourhood Plan was implemented that such policies and proposals would be discussed.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

7. TO NOTE INFORMAL MEETING NOTES OF 30 NOVEMBER 2017

Noted.

8. PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL LIAISON GROUP: REPORTS & PLANNING

8.1 Bricket Wood Common

(a) Update

The Chairman stated that there remained issues with professional dog walkers using the Common some with large numbers of dogs. He went on to say that the landowner had approached one dog walker who was walking 15 dogs. St Albans District Council were currently looking at amending the bye laws to limit the number of dogs that could be walked by one person. Dianah Ellis commented that Cllr David Yates had spoken of an existing law that restricted dog walkers to 4 dogs if they were exercising them in a public open space, Bricket Wood being such a place.

8.1 Hanstead Wood

(b) Update

Dianah Ellis stated that the development site had been sold to Linden Homes but that Hanstead Wood and the wider agricultural holding had not been part of the sale. She went on to say that

the memorial bench to Mike and Val Carter would be installed within the wood and a celebration would be held on 15 April 2018

8.1 How Wood

- (c) Cllr Getley stated that he no longer received updates on the work taking place but would provide contact details of someone who could provide the updates.

9. MANAGEMENT: REPORTS & PLANNING

9.1 Blackgreen Wood

a) Work Completed Autumn/Winter 2017

The Chairman said that Holly clearance had taken place by the volunteers at the entrance on Park Street Lane. Work there was to open up the wood and make it more inviting.

b) Work Schedule for Spring/Summer 2018

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes

9.2 Greenwood Park

a) Work Completed Autumn Winter 2017

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes

b) Work Schedule for Spring/Summer 2018

The Chairman said that the volunteers would carry out light management.

c) Poplar, Ash and Birch trees to front boundary

Members referred the information in the agenda notes. Cllr Hurford was concerned at the loss of the budget to fell and replace the trees as several were failing. The Clerk was asked to place this item on the Main Council agenda for reallocation of a budget.

d) Other Trees and Hedging

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes.

9.3 St Julian's Wood

a) Work Completed Autumn/Winter 2017

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes.

b) Work Schedule for Spring/Summer 2018

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes. The Chairman stated that the volunteers would be placing brush along the paths to protect areas of Bluebells.

c) Friends of St Julian's Wood Report

As noted above at 9.3 (b)

9.4 Greenwood Park Meadow

a) Work Completed Autumn/Winter 2017

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes

b) Work Schedule for Spring/Summer 2018

The Chairman stated that a second Butterfly survey would be carried out.

c) Meadow Hay Cut 2018 and Reduction in Grant Funding

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes.

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Getley Seconded: Cllr Hurford ***Motion Carried***
That the meadow continues to be part of the DEFRA agreement to cut and cart. That the quotation to cut and cart the hay in 2018 at a cost of £1800 is accepted.
Votes in favour: unanimous

9.5 Park Street Woodland Embankment

a) Work Completed Autumn/Winter 2017

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes

b) Work Schedule for Spring/Summer 2018

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes. Cllr Getley mentioned cutting of a path through from Frogmore along the railway embankment to form a new access into the park. The Clerk said that this was on the radar but required funding as there were some trees to remove.

9.6 Park Street Recreation Ground

a) Work Completed Autumn Winter 2017

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes

b) Work Schedule for Spring/Summer 2018

Members referred to the information in the agenda notes.

10. TO NOTE THE 2018/2019 BUDGET

The Clerk explained that she did not have access to the budget figures and that this item would need to be deferred until the next meeting.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Noted as already discussed.

Meeting closed at 11.25am

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Telephone: 01923 681443

Fax: 01923 681338

Email: clerk@ststephenparishcouncil.gov.uk

Post: St Stephen Parish Council, The Parish Centre, Station Road,
Bricket Wood, St Albans, Herts, AL2 3JP.

NOTE: These minutes are to be considered as 'draft' until the Committee has approved them.