

**GREAT CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the **ART, SPORT & LEISURE COMMITTEE**

held in The Stevenson Centre at 7.25pm on Monday 24th October 2022

**Present:** Councillors M D Newman **Chairman**

 Mrs M Bark A C Bavington T J Keane S M Sheridan Mrs T E A Welsh Mrs J Wilson C G Wright

Council Manager Mrs N Tamlyn

Council Administrator Miss E Skuce

 **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs C J Baker and D Young.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

Councillor Bavington declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matter relating to Thomas Gainsborough School as he volunteers at the school and a family member is employed by the Trust.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY**

**NONE.**

**4. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – FOR NOTING**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** the Items Brought Forward List.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Babergh District Council: Tree Canopy Survey**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** the Tree Canopy Survey results received from Babergh District Council and their tree planting strategy.

A Member noted that it was good to see that the majority of canopy cover in Great Cornard was contained within public owned space such as the Country Park and Shawlands Wood LNR.

**6. TO CONSIDER A QUOTATION FOR TREE WORKS FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL TREE INSPECTIONS**

Members reviewed a quotation from Eastern Landscapes & Fencing for £950 plus VAT to carry out works identified in the annual tree inspections. Members **NOTED** that one of the trees at Stacey Ardley was subject to a Tree Preservation Order and the figure quoted included liaising with the District Council to complete the works on that particular tree.

Members agreed to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it accepts the quotation from Eastern Landscapes & Fencing for £950 plus VAT to carry out identified tree works.

**7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR WRIGHT ON THE WILDLIFE FRIENDLY VILLAGE COUNCILLOR TOUR**

Councillor Wright advised that he and Councillor Mrs Bowman had attended an interesting and well organised tour of the RSPB Flatford Wildlife Garden. As the Council had previously highlighted the importance of education to help reduce incidences of disturbance in the Country Park and Shawlands Wood LNR, Councillor Wright suggested forming a working party to consider how to take this forward with the aim of protecting wildlife and open spaces.

The Chairman suggested that Councillor Wright put together a group of interested parties, not only Council Members, but local residents and experts on wildlife and conservation to form a Great Cornard wildlife and Environment Group, which could be supported by the Parish Council.

A Member also suggested contacting Thomas Gainsborough School and their Environmental Science Department.

A Member had met with the local RSPCA officer who had expressed an interest in working with the Parish Council to address the disturbance of the badger setts at the Country Park.

It was **AGREED** for Councillor Wright to progress the formation of a Wildlife Group and to place an article in the next issue of Cornard News inviting local residents to join.

**8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON WORKS TO SHAWLANDS WOOD LNR**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** Report F08 **(see Appendix A)** and **AGREED** for Councillor Keane, Councillor Newman and the Council Manager to meet with Nick Shimwell from Sudbury Common Lands Charity on Friday 4th November 2022.

**Meeting closed at 7:41pm**

**APPENDIX A**

**Report No. F08**

**Update on works at Shawlands Wood LNR**

**Following the public meeting in April 2022, the Council agreed the following actions:**

1. **To install a litter bin in Shawlands Wood**

The Council Manager has secured a second hand metal bin, free of charge, which will be installed at the end of the Maldon Court Path towards the top of the pit.

1. **To request a quotation from Sudbury Common Lands Charity to extend the fence** **opposite Maldon Court**

SCLC have agreed to extend the fence by up to 16 feet as part of the ongoing contract with the Parish Council, and have scheduled a working party at the end of October to complete the fence extension.

1. **To instruct Sudbury Common Lands Charity to carry out a tree management survey** with a view to recommending a programme of works to thin out the trees.

SCLC have some initial proposals on the tree management and the associated access improvements which may have to be considered in order to carry out the tree management. The Ranger has suggested that another site meeting would be beneficial to discuss their proposals in more detail.