

Minutes of Histon & Impington Nature & Biodiversity
7:30pm, Tuesday 5th November 2024
Parish Meeting Room, Recreation Ground, New Road, Impington

Nature & Biodiversity Committee Minutes

Membership: 6 + 2 ex-officio

Appendices: 2 Quorum: 3

Agenda No:	<p>Present: Cllrs: Tom McKeown, Sarah Smith (Chair) Ex Officio Members: Cllrs: Yvonne Murray Clerk: Theresa King HICOP/Hi Trees: Dan Mace</p> <p>3 vacancies</p>	
NB24/022	<p>To Co-opt representatives of Hi Trees and HICOP, and HI Sustainability</p> <p>Dan Mace, HI Trees and HICOP - Proposed Cllr Murray, seconded Cllr McKeown, all in favour. No member of HI Sustainability present. Next agenda item.</p>	
NB24/023	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Cllr Adam (personal), Cllr Stonham (personal)</p>	
NB24/024	<p>MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</p> <p>Cllr McKeown – non-pecuniary interest in item 029</p>	
NB24/025 025.1	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p>Two members of public present.</p> <p>Land at Muncey Walk Cty Cllr Ros Hathorn addressed an issue with a piece of land in Muncey Walk/Narrow Close which has been identified as still belonging to the developer of the area, the site has trees which are causing some residents concern. Cty Cllr Hathorn said developer was willing to undertake work on the area but requested a steer on action from this Committee. RFO to request Tree Advisor to visit site then communicate suggested plan of action to developer.</p> <p>Working with Histon and Impington Green Spaces (HIGS) Jon Pavey, member of HIGS, highlighted that HIGS had agreed a motion to work jointly with Parish Council. Cllr Smith suggested details and ideas to be discussed at a workshop.</p>	RFO
NB24/026 026.1	<p>To Approve minutes of the meeting held 24th June 2024 – (Appendix 1)</p> <p>Spelling mistake in item 15.1 - “stump”. RFO noted item 17 was to note, not for decision, decision removed.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Murray, all in favour to approve with amendments, 1 abstention.</p>	
NB24/027 027.1	<p>Matters Arising from Previous Meetings</p> <p>Discussed as agenda items.</p>	
NB24/028 028.1	<p>To receive reports</p> <p>RFO Report – (Appendix 2) Report noted</p>	
028.2	<p>To agree work to remove stump of Beech tree at the Coppice at a cost of £375.00 plus VAT (information in RFO Report)</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr McKeown, all in favour. RFO to action work.</p>	RFO

<p>NB24/029</p> <p>029.1</p> <p>029.2</p>	<p>Tree works and replanting</p> <p>To consider recommendations for additional tree works as provided by Tree Advisor and agree next steps Tree Advisor had recommended further tree works needed at some sites and was completing reports on other sites. Committee felt these needed reviewing to determine work that should be scheduled. Some sites presented difficulties because of different options that biodiversity experts and tree surveyors would recommend e.g. sick trees being felled for health and safety concern as opposed to being allowed to decay. Cllr Smith suggested discussion of management practices with other woodland managers to see what they are doing, such as the Woodland Trust, National Trust and what their risk management policy is.</p> <p>Delegated to RFO and Cllr Smith to meet with Tree Advisor and discuss work in more detail, then bring recommendations forward, with work to be scheduled before March nesting season.</p> <p>To agree to spend up to £1,000 for the financial year 2024-2025 on new tree planting Some locations where tree works undertaken not suitable for replanting e.g. the Copse where the work had acted as a thinning process. Dan Mace suggested some other locations for possible planting. Item to be taken to Full Council as Committee non-quorate.</p>	<p>RFO, SS, Tree Advisor</p> <p>Full Council</p>
<p>NB24/030</p> <p>030.1</p> <p>030.2</p> <p>030.3</p> <p>030.4</p>	<p>To receive project updates</p> <p>To receive update on M&E Consultant work Cllr McKeown updated committee on summary report from M&E consultant. Report to be shared with relevant parties including Rec Development Group (RDG). Consultant recommended next steps, first step monitoring of heating usage in Pavilion. Cllr McKeown proposed a meeting for interested parties to present results, with a view to planning further carbon reduction projects.</p> <p>To agree recommendation from M&E Consultant to undertake sub-metering of heating circuits in order to accurately assess the peak demand through a typical heating season Spend from Community Net Zero budget line, 6140. Proposed Cllr McKeown, seconded Cllr Smith, all in favour. Forms part of Climate Action Plan. Cllr McKeown and RFO to work to obtain quotations for the work.</p> <p>To receive update on Project 12 in the Local Plan/Local Biodiversity Action Plan Consultant undertaken initial work on local Biodiversity Action Plan, gathering information. Currently at a hold point, as ready to present findings to council. Cllr Smith to organise a meeting to present findings and get people to provide input, include all Councillors, experts in mapping, and members of HIGS.</p> <p>To agree next steps with Biodiversity Action Plan Meeting to be held to present results of work undertaken so far before further plans agreed. Item for next agenda.</p>	<p>RFO/TM</p> <p>SS</p> <p>Next Agenda</p>
<p>NB24/31</p> <p>031.1</p>	<p>Other projects</p> <p>To consider Bulb planting for Autumn 2024 and agree budget, variety, and locations Cllr Murray offered a bag of daffodils donated by her husband. Cllr Smith proposed using up to £200 of Biodiversity//P12 budget line to purchase other bulbs if required and organise planting. Propose Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Murray, all in favour. Delegated to Cllrs Smith and Murray to progress, invitation to help to be extended to HIGS.</p>	<p>SS, YM</p>

031.2	<p>To agree installation of additional litter bin at St Audrey's Close at a cost of £417.75 plus VAT and £4 per weekly empty by SCDC Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Murray, all in favour.</p>	
NB24/032 032.1	<p>To discuss process for creation of Site Management Plans Cllr Smith had received feedback from residents of the Coppice of their interest in plans for this area. Cllr Smith suggested circulating a template Site Management Plan with these residents to receive feedback and refine document than present to Committee.</p>	SS
NB24/033 033.1	<p>2025-2026 Budget setting and three-year plan</p> <p>To review and approve 3-year plan for submission to Finance, Governance and Legal Committee on the 9th December. Noting Year 1 of 3-year plan will be the allocated budget for year 2025/2026.</p> <p>Discussion on budget :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to volunteer groups - ask voluntary groups what they may want, any ideas of funding required. • Some of Open Spaces budget for 24-25 used to cover additional work by Tree Advisor. • Support to volunteer groups 24-25 - further spending for materials for the litter picking group and possible HI Sustainability attendance at Farmer's Market – Cllr Smith to contact group to clarify. • Tree Advisor Consultancy 24-25 budget used quickly because of volume of tree works. Increase budget for future years to £2,600 for 25-26, £4,000 for 26-27 as next round of tree surveys will occur. • Capital projects discussed and timescales changed, replanting projects grouped into one category. <p>Cllr Murray proposed, Cllr Smith seconded, all in favour to accept proposed changes and submit budget to Finance, Governance and Legal Committee.</p>	
NB24/034	<p><u>Communicating the November 24 Nature and Biodiversity Committee Meeting and Request Matters For Next Agenda</u></p> <p>Communication: Publicity on Pat Fleet Bench, possible Public Art workshop; Agreement on budget to take forward M&E recommendation and a presentation for interested parties; Bulb planting, volunteers needed.</p> <p>Next agenda: To Co-opt representatives of HI Sustainability; Climate action Plan; To discuss and consider Section 106 Public Art projects workshop; To agree next steps with Biodiversity Action Plan;</p>	
NB24/035	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 2024</p> <p>Meeting close: 9.26 p.m.</p> <p>Appendix 1: Minutes of the meeting held Appendix 2: RFO report</p>	