

Meeting commenced 18:31.

Apologies:

Tom Shepherd, Rob George, Jackie Buckingham.

Present:

Andrew Buckingham, Sue Richmond, Tony Cooper, Pippa Smaling.

Site Maintenance:

PS: Considering tree thinning; removal of further fence sections once they're dry; cleaning ponds out. RoSPA have been out to look at the handle for the sand digger to advise, and have determined welding a new handle is the best way. Nick Leeming still working on a fence proposal to address various fencing issues across the park in a consistent fashion.

Events:

PS: Halloween event 6pm on 30th at the Play Area. Signs will be put up for a trail. Santa run will take place starting the morning of 5th Dec. Possibility of a bulb planting event with the school which needs to take place November; Nick Leeming to advise location for aesthetics on a bulb strategy, most likely starting with the main entrance, TC to chase Nick.

Community feedback:

AB raised on TS's behalf questions about the letting of betting office: letting agency has the say of who moves in; it may default back to Bussey & Armstrong eventually who ultimately own it. TS questioned who has moved into Shepherd; TC replied Wates who have bought Shepherd, and are not involved in West Park development in any way. SR raised a resident's concern about fences; TC replied that it's Highways issue (after handover from Council) and not a Levy issue, although that the original B&A plan was for the fence to be entirely removed although this wasn't welcomed by the residents.

Feedback from Steering group:

Flagpole proposal for displaying the Green Flag flag, priced about £1,000, now subject to planning for the location of the flagpole. Also a move to introduce an entrance noticeboard/signpost, which has been suggested by some residents in the past, not costed up yet or detailed. A review has been made of ongoing costs for the next 10 years, for considering how much to allocate to general running or improvements in each year; versus putting the balance into a sinking fund for future projects; giving a financial plan for the running of the Park.

Any Other Business:

Tees River Trust have been out to assess for a "Living Waterways" project, to encourage more interest in the beck; anybody who is interested should contact Pippa Smaling to become involved. High likelihood that otters are living nearby. The location is from High Grange to Cocker Beck. The Dipping Pond in West Park is the only location which is within that waterway.

TC has been in touch with CDCF to improve the annual Levy pack to describe the Park boundary better and therefore what is covered under the Levy; TC will chase.

Meeting finished, 19:04.

Andrew Buckingham