



An ORDINARY MEETING of the CLIMATE & NATURE COMMITTEE was held on WEDNESDAY 21st June 2023 at 6.30 pm at the Brockridge Centre and was attended by the following:

Chairman: Cllr D Goodwin
 Parish Councillors: Cllr T Clark, Cllr A Lankester (Vice Chair)
 Non-voting members: 0
 In Attendance: 0 members of the public
 Climate & Nature Officer - Minute Taker: Daisy Finniear

ITEM	MINUTE	VOTE / ACTION
CN.21/6/2023-1	APOLOGIES	
	Cllr L Williams, Cllr D Hockey, Cllr P Hockey, Cllr M Bolton. Non-Voting member D Hanks. IT WAS RESOLVED that the absences be noted.	Proposed: DG Seconded: TC All in favour
CN.21/6/2023-2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / DISPENSATIONS	
	No declarations or dispensations received.	
CN.21/6/2023-3	ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: Committee to elect a Chairman for the coming year.	
	IT WAS RESOLVED to elect Cllr D Goodwin as Chairman.	Proposed: TC Seconded: AL All in favour
CN.21/6/2023-4	ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: Committee to elect a Vice Chairman for the coming year.	
	IT WAS RESOLVED to elect Cllr A Lankester as Vice Chairman.	
CN.21/6/2023-5	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
	IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 22 nd March 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and be signed accordingly.	Proposed: DG Seconded TC All in Favour.

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CN.21/6/2023-6	OPEN MEETING	
	No members of the public present.	
CN.21/6/2023-7	CLIMATE AND NATURE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE	
	IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the committee terms of reference with no recommended changes.	Proposed: DG Seconded: TC All in favour
CN.21/6/2023-8	CHAIRS REPORT TO COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER	
	It was noted that the Chair shall send a brief report to Communications Officer on behalf of the committee summarising recent projects by 15 th August for the Frome Valley Voice.	
CN.21/6/2023-9	THE PARK CONSERVATION	
a)	IT WAS RESOLVED to approve CPS Grounds to undertake year one of The Park conservation plan at a cost of £2,649 +VAT	Proposed: DG Seconded: AL All in favour
b)	<p>The complaint from a resident regarding a tree overhanging in their garden from The Park was reviewed.</p> <p>The Nature Officer explained that the tree had multiple potential bat roost features that should be further assessed before major tree works completed. Bat surveys must be done by licenced ecologists.</p> <p>Cllr Clark suggested all trees at the Park could be surveyed for bats, depending on costs. Trees near residents' homes to be prioritised.</p> <p>Cllr Goodwin added that a letter should be sent to the resident explaining that the committee are arranging a bat survey on the tree and recommend that the resident has a right to cut the overhanging branches themselves providing no bats are present in the tree.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED:</p> <p>i) to seek quotes for a bat survey to be completed on trees with roost potential at the Park. Spend delegated to clerk from EMR 332.</p> <p>ii) to send an initial letter to residents outlining the bat survey plan.</p> <p>iii) Nature Officer to draft a second letter to resident following the bat survey results to explain that they have a right to trim back overhanging branches themselves, providing no bats present. To send a draft letter to committee via email for approval before delivering.</p>	Proposed: TC Seconded: DG All in favour

c)	IT WAS RESOLVED that the Estates Officer shall undertake a one off strim of the 0.5 grassland areas that adjoins to residents houses at the Park (in future the area shall be scythed by volunteers following training, as per the new conservation plan).	Proposed: DG Seconded: TC All in favour
CN.21/6/2023-10	CENTENARY FIELD	
a)	<p>Pond liners were discussed including the options of bentonite and puddling clay. Bentonite clay would roughly cost £500 for 500kg, puddling clay would roughly cost £200. It was suggested that the pros and cons of each type of clay be further researched.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. to increase funding for the pond to £3000 from EMR 332 ii. to accept contactor A (M&G Countryside Developments) quote at a cost of £1500 + VAT, with acceptance of a potential small increase. iii. to do more research on bentonite vs puddling clay and report back to committee. 	Proposed: DG Seconded: TC All in favour
b)	<p>The 3-year woodland and grassland contract at Centenary Field was discussed. It was explained by the Nature Officer that 3 out of 5 years of the current plan had been completed. A new 5-year plan can be created whilst the final two years of the existing plan are completed.</p> <p>Cllr Goodwin recommended that the new 5-year plan be created in collaboration with Frampton Cotterell Nature Group.</p> <p>Cllr Lankester raised concerns regarding excessive strimming and the need for hedgehog checks, which should be raised with the contractor.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the 2-year extension to the current woodland and grassland contractor and to include a letter with expected requirements, such as hedgehog checks prior to strimming.</p>	Proposed: DG Seconded: AL All in favour
CN.21/6/2023-11	BAT ROOST AND BIRD NESTING POLICY UPDATE	
	<p>The updates to the bat and bird nesting policy were discussed.</p> <p>Cllr Clark proposed that the bats in structures form be simplified, removing the scoring matrix and replacing it with</p>	Proposed: DG Seconded: TC All in favour

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	a section stating that any major works to roofs or buildings will require a bat survey. IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the updates to the bat roost and bird nesting policy, but to remove the bats in structures scoring matrix and add that any major works to buildings or roofs will require a bat survey.	
CN.21/6/2023-12	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	TBC	

Meeting end 20:09.

Chairman..... Date.....

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