

REPORT of the Meeting of the Environment
Committee held 19th June 2018

Present: Cllrs: Matt Stringer (Chairman)
Vincent Costello
Clare Fardell
Helen Harrison
Guy Rawlinson
Pam Shipp

Bret Harrison (Composting Site and Filnore Allotments)
Jeff Pead (Thornbury Ramblers)

Sandra Richardson (Deputy Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs: Shirley Holloway (Other Meeting)
Angela Symonds (Out of Thornbury)

Felicity Harrison (Sustainable Thornbury)
Judith Hurford (Tree Warden)

Absent

Cllr Martin Trueman

2. **TO RECEIVE ANY MEMBER'S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF MEETING OF 15.5.18**

(a) **Fairtrade Status**

Members were informed that Cllr Clive Parkinson wished to join the Fairtrade working party. Cllr Matt Stringer also agreed to join the group.

(b) **Seating in the Town**

(i) **Seat on Streamside Walk**

It was reported that the police were looking into the problem of antisocial behaviour in the area that had been identified to site the seat and the deputy clerk advised that it might be better to wait until the problem had been dealt with before putting out the seat. After some discussion Cllr Guy Rawlinson thought it would be better to move the seat nearer to the Gloucester Road and members agreed to look at this before the next meeting.

(ii) Seat opposite Anchor Pub

It was reported that the seat would be sited in the near future.

(iii) Seat at Malvern Drive

A licence was still awaited from South Gloucestershire Council to site this seat. Cllr Clare Fardell informed that she would speak with South Gloucestershire Council on the matter.

(iv) Seats at Gillingstool

A reply was still awaited from South Gloucestershire Council as to whether the two seats in question could be moved to another location. Cllr Clare Fardell agreed to speak with South Gloucestershire about this item also.

(c) **Wildlife in Thornbury – Butterfly Bank**

Cllr Clare Fardell informed committee that the interpretation board for the area would be sited soon and that the area was displaying a blue heart to show that it was left and not cut to encourage and enhance the wildlife.

(d) **Walks Booklet Information**

Jeff Pead reported that he had walked some of the routes in the booklet but that they probably needed some updating. He agreed to send notes into the office so that staff could re-print the booklet.

(e) **Solar Panels on Pavilion**

The Deputy Clerk was awaiting information from South Gloucestershire Council with regard to what, if any, permission was required to site solar panels on the pavilion. It was agreed that if permission was not required the deputy go ahead and investigate costings for the supply and fix of panels.

(f) **Siting of Litterbin in Vilner Lane**

A reply was still awaited and Cllr Clare Fadell agreed to contact South Gloucestershire Council to investigate the matter.

(g) **Heritage Open Doors**

There were still a few slots to be filled on the rota for the open day and it was agreed to send a reminder to all councillors asking who would be available to help with the event.

(h) **Grounds Maintained by South Gloucestershire Council under the Localism Bill**

The deputy clerk had met with South Gloucestershire Council and Thornbury in Bloom to discuss the proposed planting scheme for the roundabout at Grovesend. The plans showing perennial planting were tabled along with estimated costings which showed an increase to the budget this year for the outlay but the two following years of the current contract with South Gloucestershire Council showed a considerable decrease which would more than cover this in the first year.

Cllr Clare Fardell felt that perennial planting would not be a good idea on the roundabout as it could be a problem to keep the area tidy. Cllr Guy Rawlinson also objected to the plans as he felt that when council had consulted with Thornbury regarding the

maintenance of flower displays, grass cutting and emptying of bins, residents wanted the seasonal bedding to remain.

It was agreed to invite Gary Meddick of South Gloucestershire Council and a representative of Thornbury in Bloom to the next meeting to discuss the matter further.

(i) **Plastic Free Thornbury**

There was no further information to report at this time

(j) **Poulterbrook Environmental Area**

Members were informed that the area had recently been rotovated and one section had been sown with some wild flower seeds.

(k) **Loss of Litterbins at Castle School**

There had been no further progress with this item.

(l) **Repair to seats in Garden Area Next to Scout Hut Park Road**

There had been reports of some anti-social behaviour in the garden and after discussions between South Gloucestershire Council and the police it had been agreed that the broken seats be removed for safety reasons, the bushes and planting be cut back to make the space more open and a new litterbin installed.

The police would like the area to be considered to site a teen shelter and they were working with Dave Ashford the crime prevention officer to investigate this further.

It was agreed to invite Dave Ashford to the next Environment meeting which would be in September.

(m) **Summer Walkabout**

Previous arrangements for the walkabout had been cancelled and it was agreed to make a new date of Monday 16th July meeting at the Pavilion at 7.00pm

4. **MATTERS IN PROGRESS**

(a) **Schedule of Minor Matters**

There were no minor matters.

5. **OPERATIONAL REPORT**

(a) **Operational Matters**

Members were informed that as baskets were now displayed around the town an extra member of staff to help with the watering had been employed and all was going well.

(b) **Community Composting Site Report**

Brett Harrison informed members that a contractor had used the site to deposit a garden shed and asphalt but had luckily been photographed by a member of the public and so was now being prosecuted. He continued to inform members that the site was being well used..

(c) Filnore Allotments Report

Brett reported that all was growing well at the allotments.

(d) Filnore Woods Report

A company who deal with work in the community had volunteered 20 members to help carry out work on the site.

(e) Medieval Fishponds

Cllr Vincent Costello reported that the area was not fully fenced and that members of the public could access it.

The deputy clerk reported that there had been no further information from either Historic England or the company contracted to reinstate the site.

(f) Tree Wardens Report

There was nothing to report from the tree warden

(g) Sustainable Thornbury Report

It was reported that the AGM of sustainable Thornbury would be 29th June at 7.30pm in the Chantry

(h) Footpath Warden's Report

The footpath warden had nothing to report.

(i) Thornbury Ramblers Report

Members were informed that that the group had a full programme for the forthcoming year.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) South Gloucestershire Council – Rights of Way Improvement Plan

The information had been circulated and several copies were tabled. It was agreed if members had comments to email them to the deputy clerk before the closing date of 31st August 2018.

(b) South Gloucestershire Council – Diversion of Footpath OTH77 and OTH78 at Pound House Farm

The information was noted