

REPORT of the Meeting of the Environment  
Committee held 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018

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Present: Cllrs: Matt Stringer (Chairman)  
Vincent Costello  
Clare Fardell  
Shirley Holloway  
Guy Rawlinson  
Pam Shipp  
Martin Trueman

Felicity Harrison (Sustainable Thornbury)  
Bret Harrison (Composting Site and Filnore Allotments)  
Judith Hurford (Tree Warden)

Sandra Richardson (Deputy Clerk)

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1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs: Helen Harrison (Out of Thornbury)  
Angela Symonds (Out of Thornbury)

Absent Jeff Pead (Thornbury Ramblers)

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

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **TO ELECT VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

It was proposed by Cllr Matt Stringer, seconded by Cllr Clare Fardell and unanimously agreed that Cllr Guy Rawlinson be elected as Vice Chair for the ensuing year.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF MEETING OF 27.3.17**

(a) **Fairtrade Status**

There was nothing further to report on this item. Cllr Clare Fardell suggested that a steering group be set up to look at fair-trade in the town and she agreed to sit on this group. Cllr Shirley Holloway also agreed to be part of the steering group and it was decided to contact all councillors giving them the opportunity to join.

**(b) Seating in the Town**

**(i) Seat on Streamside Walk**

There was nothing to report on this item.

**(ii) Seat opposite Anchor Pub**

The seat had been delivered and was being prepared to put on site

**(iii) Seat at Malvern Drive**

A licence was still awaited from South Gloucestershire Council to site this seat.

**(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.

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

Jerry Dicker and Thornbury in Bloom were working together to enhance the area and use planting to encourage butterflies.

**(d) Walks Booklet Information**

There was nothing to report on this item

**(e) Solar Panels on Pavilion**

There had been no further progress on this item.

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

The deputy clerk was in discussion with South Gloucestershire Council over the licence for this

**(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) Annual Spring Clean 2018**

The spring clean with Litterbusters on 7<sup>th</sup> April had gone well and it was agreed to take this item off the agenda.

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

The deputy clerk reported that Thornbury in Bloom were taking responsibility for the small bed outside Gulwells and it had been reported to South Gloucestershire Council so that a reduction could be applied to the payments made by this council under the localism bill.

Members were also informed that Thornbury in Bloom were in discussion with South Gloucestershire Council on more permanent planting on the roundabout at Grovesend. This again would have implications on the charge to this council by South

Gloucestershire for planting and maintenance of the area. It would mean that future charges would be decreased and following a meeting with the group to discuss the plans the deputy clerk would report back to the next meeting.

(j) **Walking Map of Thornbury**

There was nothing to report on this item and it was agreed to remove it from the agenda until there was any further progress.

(k) **Plastic Free Thornbury**

It was reported that Riddifords a grocers within the town were now being as plastic free as possible. Cllr Martin Trueman had discussed with several of the public houses in Thornbury being plastic free and what it might entail. Committee requested that he continue to do this.

(l) **Electric Car Chargers**

There had been no further progress with this item and it was agreed to remove it from the agenda.

(m) **Sita Registration**

Members were informed that anyone who was having problems with being unable to use the site re-register with South Gloucestershire Council. It was agreed to take this item off the agenda.

(n) **Poulterbrook Environmental Area**

It was reported that the groundsman at the playing fields had been busy with grass cutting etc but had managed to carry out some stone clearing of the area and hoped to move the project forward in the near future.

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

A reply from the Castle School was awaited.

(p) **Repair to Seats in Garden Area Next To Scout Hut, Park Road**

A reply was awaited from South Gloucestershire Council.

5. **MATTERS IN PROGRESS**

(a) **Schedule of Minor Matters**

A schedule of minor matters had been circulated with the agenda and the information was noted.

(b) **Arrangement for Summer Walk About**

It was agreed to have another walk about around Poulterbrook to see how the area had improved from the previous year. It was agreed to carry this out on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June meeting at the Pavilion at 6.00pm. The deputy clerk would ask Paul the groundsman if he could be available and also invite all other councillors.

## **5. OPERATIONAL REPORT**

### **(a) Operational Matters**

The deputy clerk reported the hanging baskets would be delivered in the next few weeks and that there had been a couple of applicants for the vacancy of watering operative to help maintain these.

Members were also informed that many of the floral displays would soon be going out in the town and that the displays outside of the Town Hall would be planted in the near future.

### **(b) Community Composting Site Report**

Brett Harrison informed members that Kirsty Spindler of South Gloucestershire Council was working with the composting site. The sign at the entrance to the site had been removed and it was agreed not to replace it at present to check the effect this might have on the area.

### **(c) Filnore Allotments Report**

Members were informed that a plant swap by users of the allotments would be taking place this coming Sunday

### **(d) Filnore Woods Report**

Brett Harrison informed members that scything was taking place at the woods as it was too wet to use a mower.

### **(e) Medieval Fishponds**

There was nothing to report on this item.

### **(f) Tree Wardens Report**

The tree warden reported that in making a third entrance for the Bloor homes Development the developer would be taking down a tree and that she with Ian Turner of South Gloucestershire Council had met with them. Bloor was now drawing up a new plan to have the entrance moved to the other side of the tree.

Another developer, Churchill, was breaching a tree preservation order on their site in the town with a tree under the order having been destroyed and further action against Churchill had been taken.

Judith, the tree warden and Ian Turner would be meeting to discuss the future tree planting in the town and that Gillingstool School pupils were hoping to be involved with tree planting.

The tree warden asked if committee would be willing to sponsor some trees within the town as in previous years and it was proposed by Cllr Guy Rawlinson, seconded by Cllr Shirley Holloway and unanimously agreed that £1000 be awarded to tree planting for the ensuing year.

(g) **Sustainable Thornbury Report**

Felicity Harrison reported that the group were continuing their work on the Neighbourhood Development Plan and also supporting Surfers Against Sewage. It was also reported that the community orchard was progressing well.

(h) **Footpath Warden's Report**

Members were informed that the footpaths were now drying out for the summer.

(i) **Thornbury Ramblers Report**

There was nothing to report on this item

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

**South Gloucestershire Council – Consultation on Streetcare Winter Maintenance Charges 2018.**

Having considered the consultation, members commented that the road to be affected in Thornbury, Sibland Road was one that was well used by pupils travelling to several of the schools within the town and as such they would not wish to see this taken off the winter maintenance programme as lack of maintenance could lead to accidents occurring.

Members asked that the deputy clerk discuss committee's comments with the clerk as she had recently attended a meeting on the matter and that they compile a response to the consultation.