

MEETING OF WEASENHAM GREEN CHARITY

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 14th February 2023 AT 7.55PM

WEASENHAM COMMUNITY BUILDING

Councillors Present: Mr R. Atterwill, Mr M. Kiddle-Morris and Mr R. Hambidge.

Also in attendance: Mrs K. Pickard (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

None received.

2. Declarations of interest

None received.

3. To agree the minutes from the Green Charity meeting held on 29th November 2022

Councillor Kiddle-Morris proposed the minutes are accepted seconded by Councillor Hambidge and carried

4. To receive an update regarding the maintenance work of the pond and agree any actions necessary

Councillor Atterwill invited Mr Romanovsky to report on the work being carried out on the Green as he is spearheading the project which is looking very good.

Mr Romanovsky reported that on the 21st January there was an initial meeting on the green for volunteers. Approximately 20 people attended and listened to the plans to get the pond back in good shape. There was a fabulous response from volunteers and since the initial meeting there has been 3 working parties with 9 people attending every time. There has been more than 100 hours of work put in.

The main focus has been on clearing the drainage ditch from the road, rodding out the pipework at the back to clear it, collection of debris and cutting back saplings. Back filling, wooden boards around the Green, leaves and branches moved from the pond itself.

There will be a longer-term project going forward after bird breeding season things later in the year particularly when the pond begins to dry out. One of the main issues the group have is

there is no water flowing to the pond. It is a big issue that needs to be sorted out as without water flowing to the pond it will dry out for summer.

Water is currently being diverted away from the pond towards Low Road.

Mr Romanovsky reported that the working party teamwork and community spirit has been fabulous and there have been talks about other events.

Councillor Hambidge placed thanks on record to Mr Romanovsky and said he has done a stirling job.

a. To receive an update on the tree survey

The clerk reported that the tree survey has been carried out however the initial report received did not include the information about the willow tree. The Clerk is waiting on an up to date report.

The Clerk did report that the tree surgeon has confirmed that there are no concerns with the willow, its health is very good.

On one of the Sycamore trees there is a weak attachment on a large limb and a secondary limb is propping up a weak limb.

There is dead wood on another sycamore on the crown and a small dead sycamore.

The Ash tree has a very weak fork and an open crack.

There are recommendations in the initial report so the clerk has requested a quotation to carry out this work.

It was agreed that when the revised report has been received the clerk will send this to Mr Romanovsky.

5. To discuss the wayleaves for the Village Green

Councillor Atterwill reported that he has been struggling with the wayleave arrangements and who should have one and who pays to the Green trust. This is still ongoing.

To do a professional piece of work would need solicitors so that everyone knows what they are responsible for. This would need consideration when access to the Green bank account is completed.

A working party could be considered to carry out some work on the track around the side of the Green. This would need to be inspected first and either the Parish Council or the Green Trust could provide some aggregate to spread it out and pack down.

6. To receive and agree any other correspondence regarding the Green

Councillor Atterwill asked for an update on access to the bank account – the clerk reported that correspondence has been received that this is imminent however there is still no access. Barclays will not provide the balance to the Clerk to confirm that money has been received for the site set up from RFT. Councillor Atterwill suggested leaving this a further couple of days and then chasing it up again and escalating it.

7. To agree the date and time of the next meeting

21st March 2023

To discuss work on the Green, tree survey and access to the bank account.

Mr Romanovsky reported that there will be a quiet period of time where nothing more will be going on until after the bird season. Later in the year the working party will get together.

Tree work would need to wait until Autumn.

Councillor Kiddle-Morris added that the reason there was a slab inserted in the drain was to rectify the issue of flooding outside the Fox and Hounds. The slab was put in to divert the flow of the water following a site visit from the Local Lead Flood Authority who had identified the problem.

Mr Romanovsky disagrees with the feedback from Highways as the system that was in place was working successfully for years and because of the lie of the land water from school road to Weasenham, when it enters the chamber acts like a split and is supposed to take the water through a wide pipe and down to the pond on left hand side. At the moment when it rains there is a river down Lamberts Lane and it is missing the pond. This needs to come off of the main highway as the pond is part of the system to hold the water.

Councillor Kiddle-Morris will feed this back to highways.

Councillor Atterwill suggested a site visit with the engineer and Mr Romanovsky and Councillor Kiddle-Morris to look at drawings of the flow of water to the pond as well as flooding on the road.