

REPORT of the Meeting of the Environment
Committee held 28th November 2017

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

Felicity Harrison (Sustainable Thornbury)
Jeff Pead (Thornbury Ramblers)

Clare Nelmes (Town Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs: Angela Symonds (Other Commitment)
Gail Whitehead (Indisposed)

Judith Hurford (Tree Warden)

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

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF MEETING OF 10.10.17**

(a) **Fairtrade Status – Update**

It was reported that Cllr Gail Whitehead had stood down as chair of the committee and it was hoped that a new chairman would come forward at the next meeting of the group on Monday 4th December.

(b) **Seating In The Town**

(i) **Seating Along Streamside Walk**

The seats from Rock Street garden had been removed and one was being manufactured from them to be sited on Streamside Walk

(ii) Seats on Rock Street Gardens

Works were being carried out to finalise installation of these two seats

(iii) Seat opposite Anchor Pub

The matter was being progressed with South Gloucestershire Council and U3A who were sponsoring the seat.

(iv) Seats from South Gloucestershire Council

The siting of a seat at Malvern Drive was being investigated.

(v) Seats at Gillingstool

The seats that had been sited earlier in the year at this location could not now be moved.

(vi) Damaged Seat Opposite Church

It was reported that the seat opposite the church that had been a joint venture between Council and the Guiding Association many years ago had been removed as it had rotted through and was dangerous. It was agreed to replace this with the remaining seat gained from South Gloucestershire Council.

(c) Wildlife in Thornbury

Members were informed that Sally Patterson of South Gloucestershire Council had arranged for signage to be erected at the bank early in the new year

(d) Walks Booklet Information

Jeff Pead informed committee that Thornbury Ramblers were assessing the walks in the walk booklet that is sold in the Tourist Information Centre and would report back in the near future.

(e) New Lighting Columns in Rock Street Car Park

There was nothing to report on this item.

(f) Greener Issues and Energy Audit of Council's Property

It was requested that further information on the production of electricity from the solar panels on the Town Hall be brought to the next meeting so that the production could be monitored.

(g) Added Member to Report on Filnore Woods

No added member from the group had come forward as yet.

(h) Siting of Litterbin in Vilner Lane

There was nothing to report on this item.

4. MATTERS IN PROGRESS

(a) Schedule of Minor Matters

The schedule had been circulated and the information noted.

(b) Volunteer Evening 2018

It was agreed to ask Sally Patterson the biodiversity Officer at South Gloucestershire Council to possibly be guest speaker at the event and a date in February would be discussed at the next meeting.

5. OPERATIONAL REPORT

(a) Operational Matters

A provisional order for 160 hanging baskets had been placed for 2018.

(b) Community Composting Site Report

Members were informed that the project was working well and two new members had been recruited.

(c) Filnore Allotments Report

Winter would be a quiet time at the allotments.

(d) Filnore Woods Report

There was nothing to report on this item

(e) Medieval Fishponds

Historic England had reported that the developer was looking to employ a management company but Historic England would investigate the 106 agreement as it was thought that it had been agreed that there be a management committee for the area made up from representative from the estate, interested societies in the town and town council representatives. The clerk would write to the developer requesting details of management plan and how they would meet their obligations

(f) Tree Wardens Report

A report was tabled and the information noted.

(g) Sustainable Thornbury Report

Felicity Harrison reported that the group were focusing on sustainability issues within the neighbourhood plan

(h) Footpath Warden's Report

Cllr Guy Rawlinson reported that the footpath diversion signs at Park Farm were well signposted but that the Jubilee Way signage in the area was not good and he was in discussions with Lindsay Saunders of South Gloucestershire Council as to how this could be improved.

(i) **Thornbury Ramblers Report**

Jeff Pead informed members that at the 50th anniversary AGM Peter Bird was elected as new chairman. The group continued to carry out footpath and stream clearance where necessary.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

South Gloucestershire Localism Charges.

The agreement with South Gloucestershire Council for grass cutting, floral displays and maintenance and also litter and dog waste bin collections is due for renewal in April and a copy of the new charges etc. were circulated with the agenda. It was agreed to check the details as tendered and bring the results to the next meeting.