

**REPORT of the meeting of the Environment
Committee held 9th May 2017**

Present:

Cllrs: Matthew Stringer(Chairman)

Vincent Costello
Clare Fardell
Pam Shipp
Angela Symonds
Martin Trueman

Allan Burberry (Filnore Woods)
Brett Harrison (Thornbury Composting and Filnore Allotments)
Felicity Harrison (Sustainable Thornbury)
Judith Hurford (Tree Warden)

Mrs S Richardson (Deputy Town Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr s Benj Emmerson (Out of Thornbury)
Helen Harrison (Other Meeting)
Guy Rawlinson (Other Meeting)
Gail Whitehead (Work Commitment)

Absent Jeff Pead (Thornbury Ramblers)

2. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declaration of interests.

3. TO ELECT THE VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

It was proposed by Cllr Matthew Stringer, seconded by Cllr Clare Fardell and unanimously agreed that Cllr Angela Symonds be Vice Chair for the ensuing Year

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF MEETING OF 28.3.17

(a) Fairtrade Status

Cllr Clare Fardell reported that there would be an article in the July issue of Thornbury Magazine to advertise Fairtrade. Members were informed that it would soon be time to renew the town's Fairtrade status.

(b) Seating In The Town

(i) Seating Along Streamside Walk

There had been no progress with this matter at the current time.

(ii) Seats on Grovesend Road

The seats had been delivered and were awaiting fixing

(iii) Seat from Silver Street to High Street

The seat that was previously in Silver Street had now been sited on the High Street outside of the Hot Nails shop and as the works were complete it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

(iv) Seats on Rock Street

The Hatch had not been able to supply the required seats for the area but members agreed to investigate the style of seat that had previously been purchased from them and now stood outside Tesco. A decision on the seat style would be made at the next meeting.

(c) Wildlife in Thornbury Evening

The deputy clerk reported that she was in the middle of compiling a database of the interested groups that had attended the recent Environment Evening.

Members were informed that a plant survey was being carried out at St Mary's Churchyard with some 40 plants and 20 trees having been identified.

(d) Walks Booklet Information

There had been no further progress on this matter

(e) Heritage Open Doors

The deputy clerk informed members that she would be compiling a rota of Councillors for the manning of the Town Hall at the Open Doors event on 9th September.

(f) Litter Bin By Bus Stop at Grovesend Roundabout, Morton Way.

The bin had been installed and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda

(g) Spring Clean 2017

The Spring Clean event had been a success and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

5. MATTERS IN PROGRESS

(a) Schedule of Minor Matters

The schedule had been circulated and the information noted.

(b) Summer Walkabout

It was agreed to walk Poulterbrook looking in particular at the environmental area on 28th June meeting at 6.00pm at the pavilion. It was hoped that outside staff Chris Davey and Paul Le Riche would meet members on site.

6. OPERATIONAL REPORT

(a) Operational Matters

Members were informed that 170 baskets had now been purchased.

At the last meeting members had been informed that council had the chance of 1000 primroses for £200. It transpired that they were primulas and the deputy clerk had acquired 800 for free to be planted in the cemetery and on the upkeep graves.

A replacement dog bin for the one that had been burnt out on Oakleaze Green had been installed.

(b) Composting Site

Brett Harrison informed members that the site had been operating for 20 years and was still subject to contractors depositing waste.

(c) Allotments Report

There was nothing to report on this item

(d) Filnore Woods

There was nothing to report at this time.

(e) Medieval Fishponds

Historic England had informed the deputy clerk that following a visit to the site and having spoken with South Gloucestershire Council's planning department, there was little that could be done through planning to improve the site under the 106 agreement.

It was also felt that the site was suffering from a growth in vegetation and more debris in the water and it would be discussed with the At Risk Team to assess if the ponds should be added to the At Risk Register. If this was the case then the owner would be informed giving them a chance to respond before the list was published. If the team consider that it should not go on the At Risk Register then English Heritage will write to the owner informing them of their concerns.

(f) Tree Wardens Report

Judith Hurford tabled a report that two of the trees that had been planted by the subway at Crossways had been damaged but South Gloucestershire Council had agreed to replace them.

The tree warden was busy planning the next seasons planting and members agreed to give £1000 towards tree planting in the next year. A grant application would also be submitted to Horizon for next years planting.

Through the Playing Fields and Cemetery committee it was hoped that a consultation on planting at Oakleaze Green would be carried out in the near future.

(g) Sustainable Thornbury

Felicity Harrison informed members that the group would have a stall at Thornbury Carnival where they would be demonstrating electric cars.

A poster and leaflet had been produced giving information on the flower meadow on Streamside Walk opposite the Anchor Pub, the gate to the meadow had been repaired by Thornbury in Bloom and the group were thinking of giving talks on the area.

Sustainable Thornbury AGM would be held on 15th June 2017

(h) Footpath Warden

There was nothing to report on this item

(i) Thornbury Ramblers

There was nothing to report on this item.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Wild Flower Meadow Morton Bridge

The information on planting in the area had been circulated and was noted. Thanks were expressed to John Mills who had organised the project.

(b) South Gloucestershire Council Waste Service Changes

The information had been emailed and was noted.

8. SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATIONS

No publications had been received.