



Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Sub-Committee held at
Earls Barton Fire Station on Thursday 9th May 2024

Present: Cllr N Chapman, B Chapman, B Groom, Cllr C Lloyd-Staples, Cllr L Morrison.

1. Public Speaking Time – a member of the public attended to talk to us about the work that The Earls Barton Tree Project are doing, mapping trees and logging those that currently have Tree Preservation Orders applied, and those that should.
2. Apologies for Absence – apologies of absence were received from Cllr V Gould, G West and B Whatton.
3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest – no declarations of interest were received.
4. Tree Planting Strategy –
 - It was agreed that the Environment Sub-Committee support the work of the EB Tree Project in identifying trees that should be subject to a TPO and where there are locations where additional trees can be planted. Once the final schedule of trees has been produced, EBPC will apply for TPOs where necessary from North Northants Council.
 - As we already have a licence in place, it was agreed that horse chestnut saplings can be planted in the area between the barrier and the subway on Station Road.
 - It was noted that 200+ trees have been planted in the tree nursery at the allotment. These will be relocated to areas around the village as soon as they are hardy enough. Additional donations of trees for planting can be accepted.
 - RS to apply for fruit trees from North Northants Council for planting on Aggate Way.
 - The Tree Officer role to be looked into further by RS. Ideally, this wouldn't be a position for one person, rather a number of volunteers who could monitor particular areas.
 - The Rec will be assess for areas where tree planting can be carried out.
5. Wildflower Verges and Maintenance of Highway verges –
 - The bank on Aggate Way to be kept clear of grass and sprayed in preparation to plant yellow rattle seeds in the Autumn.
 - It was agreed that the moat and mound be kept as a wildlife area.
 - A recommendation will be made to EBPC to leave the verges on Mears Ashby Road and Northampton Road, opposite the houses, unmowed.
 - The use of weedkiller was raised with the committee. The committee are satisfied that the herbicide used is safe and causes no ill effected to wildlife, pets or people. However, they will consider recommending a reduction in weed killing in future years.

6. Electric Vehicle Charing Points (VCP) –
 - NNC have contacted EBPC regarding proposals to install 2 EVCPs on the Little Green Car Park on The Square. EBPC has responded asking if one of the EVCPs can be located in a different area (Park Street Car Park or the Industrial Estate).
 - A further 1 EVCP will be included in phase 1 of The Grange development.

7. Litter Strategy –
 - The equipment formerly used by Barton Wombles has been donated to the Scouts.
 - Whilst individuals still carry out litter picks, no organised litter pick has been held to the knowledge of the committee.

8. Recycle/Reduce/Reuse Strategy –
 - Facebook page to be set up by RS.
 - A list of recycling points around the village is on the village notice board.
 - Fair Trade now recycles candles and tealights.

9. Aggate Way –
 - RS to ask WeedWise to quote to mow the grass and carry out the spraying on the bank.
 - The fence line needs to be rotorvated in order to plant a hedgerow.
 - The garden will be designed around the recommendations made in The Grange Biodiversity Assessment Report.
 - A consultation is to be held at the Annual Parish Meeting to find out what the community would like to be included in the Community Garden. RS to contact J R Garden Services about assisting with the project, once a scheme has been decided.

10. Climate Action Plan. –
 - The Climate Action Plan has been adopted by Earls Barton Parish Council.
 - A Climate Emergency was also declared.

Date of Next Meeting – to be confirmed.