

Great Chart with Singleton Parish Council

Founded in December 1894

Meeting of the Amenities, Open Spaces and Environment Committee Wednesday 06th October 2021 At Singleton Village Hall, starting At 17.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Gathern, P Barker and Wiffen
Also Present: Aniko Szocs (Clerk)

The meeting started at 17.40 pm.

1. Apologies for Absence

James Laidlaw (ABC)

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Gathern (Item 4)

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 08 July 2021 were duly approved.

Proposed: Cllr P Barker	Seconded: Cllr Wiffen	In Favour: 3
Vote against: 0	Vote Abstain: 0	Motion carried

4. Allotments

There is currently an estimated two years waiting time for an allotment plot. The committee reviewed options to extend the current site on Hillcrest. While there is potential, the path that runs through the allotment will have to be re-routed which could take a long time. The Clerk suggested the plot located behind the houses on Singleton Road and between the Playing fields as a potential new site for allotments. The committee agreed to explore this option further.

Cllr Gathern reported that there are no known security issues at the Hillcrest allotment site. Cllr Gathern added that she was pleased the summer inspection raised no concerns and found most allotments in good order.

5. Wooden Horse

The wooden family sculpture sited on Great Chart bypass is receiving some much needed maintenance and currently is being restored. The committee considered taking on the sculpture as a parish asset but raised concerns of the ongoing associated maintenance cost. The committee agreed that further information about the cost is needed. If taken on the parish stewards could periodically assess the sculpture and report when maintenance is needed. This would ensure the sculpture would not cause

any safety concerns. The Clerk to find out how much the sculpture worth and to contact Stevensons to find out ongoing maintenance cost. The Clerk to contact ABC to request a copy of the maintenance plan of the wooden family and to find out if they would be willing to contribute towards the maintenance cost.

6. Kent Plan Bee

The committee received an update regarding the H2O project at Singleton Lake- North Field that would involve turning part of the field to a wetland meadow and planting trees. A detailed plan was expected at the end of September, but no further information has been received. The committee agreed for the Clerk to contact KWT and seek an update.

The committee agreed to explore additional ideas for pollinator friendly sites. Planters were suggested as an option, these could be placed around the parish in key locations for example by the village halls, the pavilion, cricket club and SEC. It was agreed that the planters would be made using pallets. This could be a winter project. The Clerk to contact the Repair Café to ask if they would make the planters if the material were provided. A sign should be displayed on the planter explaining their purposes. The Clerk also recommended to promote window planters amongst the residents. The committee suggested to promote the idea in the parish magazine. The parish council could make a few and give out to residents. The Clerk to research pollinator friendly plants.

The committee is still keen to install green roof on bus stops, the Clerk to contact KCC regarding funding options and next steps.

7. Items for information or Agenda for next meeting

- Request most recent maintenance schedule form Woodland Trust for the woodland by the allotments in Great Chart
- Parish Stewards
- Wooden Horse Update
- Allotments
- Kent Plan Bee
- Spitfire for the Chilmington Green roundabout

8. Date and venue of next meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be held once more information is gathered.

The meeting finished at 19:10pm