

BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Meeting of the Parks and Gardens Committee held via Zoom at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 4 August 2020

Present

Cllrs: E Spear, D Spear, M Shapland and R Shapland.

Also in Attendance

Tracey Lovell (Parish Clerk), Angela Corner (Senior Council Officer)
1 member of the public

PG/21/2020/21

Apologies

There were none

PG/22/2020/21

Declarations of Interest

Cllr M Shapland declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute reference PG/24/2020/21 as she is the Council's representative on the North Devon Environmental Trust (Countryside Centre)

PG/23/2020/21

Minutes

The committee noted that the Minutes of the Parks and Gardens Committee meeting held on 4 November 2019 had previously been approved and ratified by Full Council. The Minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

(NC)

Cllr M Shapland declared a non-pecuniary interest.

PG/24/2020/21

Life on the Verge

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had received the equipment from Life on the Verge as agreed at the Council meeting on 13 July 2020. She will compile an inventory list of items available to loan out to local community groups. Mary Breeds at Braunton Countryside Centre has been contacted and is happy to work with the Parish Council/community groups to advise on wildflower verges. The Clerk proposed that the Parish Council grounds personnel could cut the grass short prior to planting and provide the x2 maintenance cuts per year but the community groups would be responsible for raking the cuttings and the

Council would assist with the disposal. Groups will need to complete online training to work on the Highways. Parish Council Officers will actively look for funding for seeds.

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council:

- a) To hold a community engagement event in the Autumn with the Countryside Centre, subject to Covid-19 restrictions, to see how many people are interested in taking on wildlife verges.
- b) To draft a press release for immediate distribution.
- c) To inform and invite Devon County Council.
- d) To involve North Devon Council for their expertise.

(NC)

PG/25/2020/21

Tree Planting

- a) The Clerk reported that she has received a response from the County regarding tree planting on the grass verges. They are happy to support this, subject to consideration of:
 - Visibility Splays
 - Suitable species for the area
 - Overhead cables
 - The Parish Council taking on responsibility for the trees
 - Providing Public Liability Insurance
 - Pruning to ensure no risk to public

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council to:

- Obtain advice from Andy Jones at North Devon Council.
- Identify areas and species and take draft proposals to Devon County Council.

(NC)

- b) Parish Council Land – The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had been awarded the 420 trees which had been applied for from the Woodland Trust. The Woodland Trust has stipulated that these should be planted with the Community and allow local children to take part. This may change due to Covid-19.

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council:

To proceed with the planting of trees

at the Beacon in November.
The grounds team to prepare an area.

(NC)

PG/26/2020/21

Planters

It was previously agreed to look at a planting scheme and signage across the village. Love Braunton have offered to fund 4 planters with sustainable plants on the resin side of the village green area. The planters would match those outside the village hall. Points were raised regarding needing a coherent scheme across the village, consulting the community for ideas, available space for Christmas tree and barriers, the timing of planting and the ongoing maintenance.

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders be suspended.

(NC)

A member of the public who is a representative of Love Braunton advised that the space had been measured and there was sufficient space to fit the planters. She also advised that the funding was the excess of the money raised for the tree on the village green.

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council to:

- organise a site visit with the Clerk, Gardener, Cllr M Shapland and a Love Braunton representative.
- to take back to future Full Council meeting following the site visit.

(NC)

The meeting closed at 2.35 p.m.

..... The Chairman