



STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE LAND ASSETS COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 8 JANUARY 2019, AT 6.00PM, at Sandy Lane Centre, Sandy Lane, Stockton Heath.

Present: Councillors H J Dutton (Chair), S L Dean, A M Fell, C E Jones
and P Todd

Attending: Mrs. L Jacob (Clerk); A Young;

L18/023

Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Frank Lythgoe (Warrington Anglers Association) and Mike Monks (Warrington Anglers Association).

L18/024

Budget

All earmarked funds have been used. A balance of £3842.35 is available for Ackers Pit; £2228.91 for Mill Lane and £1,000 for Red Lane Allotments. Forecast expenditure in this financial year consists of the provision of two benches (£285 each); repairs to the gate at Ackers Pit (£1380); refreshments for an event (£50); tree planting at Ackers Pit (£170) and preparation for wildflower seeding at Mill Lane (around £2000).

The proposed budget for financial year 2019/20 was circulated.

L18/025

Ackers Pit

1. Updates:

Renewal of the pathway was completed and the ditch from Ackers Road to the small pit was cleared with the excavated material used to fill the redundant channel running parallel to the Mill Lane footpath.

A new double bin had been installed at the weir.

Benches were treated with wood preserver and two benches were repaired. Hedging was cut back on Mill Lane to allow access to the fencing to the rear of a home on Swanage Close at the request of the resident.

Trees on the Mill Lane side of the pit were coppiced.

Tree planting – two trees (one Sweet Chestnut, one Common Beech) to be planted by March 2019.

Two memorial benches – to be supplied and installed for £285 per bench (cost of one will be reimbursed); scheduled for early 2019.

The adult female swan was removed by RSPCA following injuries sustained when she was attacked, possibly by a fox or dog. Subsequently, a report was received from the RSPCA Stapeley Grange that, as well as the injuries sustained in the attack, she was severely debilitated by suspected lead poisoning and had to be put to sleep when she continued to lose condition and failed to respond to treatment.

2. The information received from RSPCA Stapeley Grange regarding calls to wildfowl incidents received from 2010 to 2017 was discussed.

It was agreed that Anita Young would make enquiries to RSPCA Stapeley for advice on the management of the two remaining cygnets.

3. The bat watch event was discussed and it was the conclusion that the date had been too late in the year to ensure bats in any great number.

However the event was well-attended and therefore a future event, perhaps involving an illustrated talk about bats and then a bat walk through Mill Lane to Ackers Pit, be planned.

The clerk and Anita Young to contact possible speakers and venues.

4. The bat and bird box building event would take place on Thursday 21 February 2019 at the Sandy Lane Centre.

The clerk to liaise with the Neighbourhood Team to co-host the event.

5. The quotation received for repair of the kissing gate at Ackers Road/Ackers Lane entrance, at £1,380 was discussed and it was agreed to **Recommend** that the quotation be accepted.

6. The quotation received for the replacement of the bridge between the small pit and the large pit was discussed and it was agreed that two comparison quotations should be sought.

7. No other matters were raised.

L18/026

Mill Lane

1. Updates:

A full renovation of the Chadwick Avenue bridge had been completed.

A memorial bench to be supplied and installed for £285; scheduled for early 2019.

The edges of the field had been cut in the autumn.

Two replacement trees (Rowan) for the brook side (Chadwick Avenue) will be supplied and planted by March 2019.

2. Ideas for a summer event on Mill Lane were discussed.

The clerk to liaise with the Neighbourhood Team, PCSOs, Broomfields Youth Project and St Thomas' Church Youth worker to gauge interest in the proposal.

3. No other issues were raised.

L18/027

Red Lane Allotments

1. Updates: the lease agreement was discussed at the Planning, Finance and General Purposes meeting on 4 December. It was agreed that a further meeting between the Stockton Heath Allotments Association and the Parish Council would take place regarding the content of the lease.

A member of the Stockton Heath Allotments Association had communicated that the model lease had not yet been obtained from the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) and that the public liability insurance held by the association (and recommended by the NSALG) did not provide cover for land contamination.

2. No other issues were raised.

L18/028

Reports from attendance at outside groups

There were no reports from outside groups.

L18/029

Matters for noting not on the agenda

No other matters were raised.

L18/030

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Mid-March, to be confirmed.