

FERNDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Natural Environment Committee** held on Monday 12 August 2019 at 7.00pm in the Conference Room, Barrington Centre, Pennys Walk, Ferndown.

ATTENDANCE LIST

Councillors: J L Baxter, P Hanson Graham, A Miller, M Willis L Wilson, H Worth.

Officer: Mrs Tina Dudley – Committee Clerk

100 Election of Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and:-

Resolved that Cllr Hanson Graham be elected as Chairman for the remaining 2019/20 municipal year.

101 Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and:

Resolved that Cllr M Willis be elected as Vice Chairman for the remaining 2019/20 municipal year.

102 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Drinkall due to health matters.

It was proposed, seconded and:

Resolved that apologies for absence be accepted.

103 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

104 Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference were amended as follows:

The committee has responsibility and delegated powers for:

- The Natural Environment; to identify and drive Green initiatives within the town, encouraging a climate friendly community with a cleaner, healthier future.
- To work with Plastic Free Ferndown.
- Identifying ways the Council and its holdings can become climate friendly through its own working practices.

- The Natural Environment Committee will promote the Health and Wellbeing of residents through engagement with our natural environment including initiatives which ensure our natural spaces are somewhere our community and visitors can enjoy and want to spend time.
- The Committee will work together with partners such as the Dorset Local Nature Partnership (DLNP), Dorset Council, Dorset Wildlife Trust, South West Lakes Trust and Natural England.
- The Committee will identify a programme of tree, hedgerow and wildflower planting, bulb and flower displays, working with local partners.
- Ecology and Habitats: The committee will seek ways to promote ecological interests within the town.
- Seek to address the decline in protected species within the town
- To work with the Dorset Wildlife Trust and other agencies to better understand how we can protect and enhance our natural environment.
- The Committee will review the Council's membership of the Dorset Wildlife Trust on a yearly basis.
- The rationale of the Committee is to collect and consider evidence bases, consult and partner with appropriate agencies and individuals, working towards recommending changes to the Committee that benefits Ferndown residents, its natural environment and our climate.
- The Committee will review, and comment on Tree applications submitted to the Planning Authority.
- To determine the amount of budget required for its activities and to make recommendation to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the necessary precept.

105 Verbal report from the Chairman

The Chairman explained that he had undertaken a site visit with Dorset Council Rangers to ascertain areas for wildflower and rewilding planting, the following sites were identified:

- The Central reservation located at Ringwood Road close to the Sainsbury's supermarket.
- Wimborne Road East, the verges set back from the road between Badgers Walk and Martins Drive.
Wimborne Road West, the grassed area outside the Old Thatch and also on the opposite corner to the Old Thatch, located at the junction of Stapehill Road.
- Ham Lane, wildflower planting, along the narrow strip next to the cycle path to Stapehill Road.
Ham Lane to corner of Stapehill Road Hampreston, going towards Haskins.
Rewilding on the north side near junction of Stapehill Rd.

Wildflower planting on the southern side of Ham Lane on the wide grassed area.

- Grass area in front of buildings next to Lake Farm Close. Ringwood Road.
- Tricketts Cross, wildflower seeding and re-wild grassed areas surrounding Tricketts Cross roundabout.

106 Harmont Wood

Members agreed to undertake a site visit and suggested that any future environment work could involve the local school children.

107 Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received from Plastic Free Ferndown and requested a change of Council representative on the Outside Bodies.

The Clerk informed the Committee that the change would require a motion to Council with the required number of signatories.

108 Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 14 October 2019 at 7.00pm in the Conference Room, the Barrington Centre, Pennys Walk, Ferndown.

The meeting closed at 19.52pm.

Chairman