

FERNDOWN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Natural Environment Committee held on Thursday 14 January 2021 7.00pm via Zoom

Present: Councillors J L Baxter, P Hanson Graham (Chairman), A Miller, M Willis and L Wilson.
Officers: T Dudley (Committee Administrator).

300	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence from Councillor Worth was noted.
301	Declarations of interest and dispensations There were no declarations of interest or dispensations for this meeting.
302	Public participation None.
303	Natural Environment Committee minutes 5 October 2020 It was proposed by Cllr Hanson Graham that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2020 be agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings and duly signed by the Chairman when appropriate, seconded by Cllr Baxter. Resolved – the minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings and were to be duly signed by the Chairman when appropriate.
304	Matters to report from the Committee Administrator. The Committee Administrator informed the meeting that the Bat boxes and maternity roost had been delivered. The Chairman was to report on the hedgehog road signs later in the agenda. The subscription to the Badgers Trust was currently being completed. A sample of leaflets detailing walking and leisure trails had been provided to Members.

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Signed as a true and accurate record Chairman, Ferndown Town Council on

305	<p>The report relating to ground works at Harman Woods would be circulated to Members following the meeting via email.</p> <p>The saplings held at KGV had been planted some however had died.</p> <p>Budget Comparison report 1 April 2020 – 31 December 2020</p> <p>The Clerk informed the meeting that there were outstanding invoices.</p> <p>The Budget Comparison report 1 April 2020 – 31 December 2020 was noted.</p>
306	<p>Future Woodland Trust Saplings</p> <p>The Chairman informed Members that he would contact the Woodland Trust to seek permission to allow distribution of saplings to the community within Ferndown.</p> <p>The SANG (Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space) at Holmwood was highlighted as an area requiring suitable hedgerow and the planting of other saplings, since the SANG had been passed to Dorset Council it was felt that no work had been undertaken to enhance the environment.</p> <p>The Clerk was to contact the Dorset Officer responsible for landscaping in the countryside to ascertain future planting proposals.</p>
307	<p>Hedgehog Road Signs</p> <p>The Chairman explained that for hedgehog road signage to be sited on highways land Highways England required evidence to be provided and that this would prove to be difficult to provide. They could be sited on private land if the signs did not overhang the highway.</p> <p>Members discussed the decline in the number of hedgehogs nationally and requested the public be made aware of the issue. It was agreed that leaflets and posters would be published on the Council's website and social media as well as poster in the notice boards, Members were to provide the required information to make the community aware prior to any publication.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Willis that the Council join the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, seconded by Cllr Hanson Graham and agreed by all.</p> <p>Resolved that the Council join the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.</p>
308	<p>Close of meeting and date of next meeting</p> <p>It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 4 March 2021. The meeting closed at 7.50pm</p>