**Environment Committee**

**Tuesday, 9 January 2024**

**6:30pm – 8:30pm**

**Council Chamber**

**Minutes**

**Attendees: Cllr M Getgood, Cllr C Elsmore, Cllr S Cox**

**Laura-Jade Schroeder (Town Clerk)**

1. **Apologies were received from Cllr Lusty, Sarah Cheese, Nick Adams, Ian Pritchard**
2. **There were no interests declared in items on the agenda**
3. **There were no dispensations requests**
4. **There were no members of the public present**
5. **The minutes of 7 November 23 were proposed, and unanimously approved**

**Cllr. Getgood signed, as a true, and accurate record**

1. **To raise matters arising from the minutes of 7 November 23**

Re: Pond liner – in progress – seeking further quotes

Re: soft plastic bin – Co-op haven’t responded

Re: Tree Audit – in progress

1. **Guest Speaker not present due to illness (apologies sent)**
2. **To receive update on Climate Adaptation Plan and Biodiversity policy, and make recommendations as necessary**

Feedback has been given by CTC Councillors. General feeling is that it was a little too generic (copy paste job) and not made Coleford specific. Good to see policies from our NDP quoted. Concern around resources – more falling on us – we don’t have capacity to take on anything more. Need to ‘Colefordise’ the model biodiversity policy in a workshop outside of the committee meeting.

1. **To consider Local Nature Action Plan (LNAP), and make recommendations as necessary**

Lots a great ideas. Overlaps with Biodiversity policy. Cllr Getgood will review the document and create something more specific to Coleford.

1. **To consider the Tree Policy, and make recommendations as necessary**

Tree audit – it was agreed to make it every 3 years.

Additions to policy from Cllr Penny and Cllr S Cox to be added. Will got to Full Council.

1. **To review Cemetery matters, and to make recommendations, as necessary, including purchase of a water butt**

After some discussion, it was proposed and unanimously agreed that:

**Recommendation: Cllr Getgood would investigate whether she could get a free open water butt to put on a plinth.**

1. **To review Bells Field Recreation Ground Environmental issues, and to make recommendations, as necessary**

Pond has already been discussed. Cllr S Cox has noticed the lids on dog bins are rusting and paintwork can be quite sharp.

**Recommendation: As dog bins become rusty, replace with 2 part bin – for general waste and recycling and make it clear with a sticker that dog waste is accepted in the general waste.**

Could Spring Equinox Festival group adopt a tree that is due to be planted anyway.

Ash tree in corner is coming down on 19th. Suggestion for more log piles in green spaces.

**Recommendation: Any remaining logs from the felling of the ash tree to be made into a log pile along the hedge line in that corner.**

1. **To review KGV Environmental issues, and to make recommendations, as necessary**

Non-environmental issues to resolve first.

1. **To review smaller green areas, and to make recommendations as necessary**

Good reviews on the new bus shelter at Coalway – people sitting waiting for bus thanked Cllr S Cox. Wildflowers to be scattered around the bus shelter.

Suggestion of an Environmental themed newsletter in Spring – give out a pack of wildflower seeds with the newsletter.

**Recommendation: Wildflowers to be scattered around the base of the newly planted trees at Angel Vale**

Green area at entrance to Poolway – may disappear with new roundabout

**Recommendation: Sarnedge Road – determine ownership – lots of room with grass that doesn’t get cut. Could put trees in there – Highways**

Hedge at Sylvan Close – Cllr Getgood is trying to get in touch with Taylor to get fencing or something to protect hedge when it goes in from sheep eating it.

1. **To receive update on complaints received, and to make recommendations, as necessary**

Nothing to report

1. **To receive update on Parish Tree activity, and to make recommendations, as necessary**

Angel Vale – 10 new trees planted today

Old Station Way – tree quotes received from 1 contractor, awaiting further

GCC to feedback on Thursday ownership of remaining trees on Old Station Way

Golden Orchards – application for Angus Buchanan grounds has been approved for this.

1. **To consider Grow wild fund application, and make recommendations as necessary**

Not applicable to CTC. Cllr Getgood has suggested to Coleford Grows – not able to at the moment. Angus Buchanan – Cllr Getgood will add to their agenda.

1. **To receive update on Volunteer actions, and to make further recommendations, as necessary**

Plan for early Spring activities

1. **To receive updates on other Parish Issues with Environment implications, and make recommendations, as necessary**

Nothing to update.

1. **To receive updates re: wider FoD Environment meetings, forums, activities, and other environmental groups; to take forward actions into Plan, and make recommendations, as necessary**

Cllr Getgood attending tomorrow - Do One Thing – National Lottery funded initiative – engaging people more with nature and recycling

1. **To receive update on Environment Committee expenditure, and make recommendations, as necessary**

Bus shelter (£1000)

Monmouth County Council cut and collect x2

Water Butt

Hi-Vis

Clip frames

**£2472.40 total amount spent**

1. **To receive update on Environment Tracker, and to make recommendations, as necessary**

Not updated yet

**Next meeting will be in March.**

**Meeting end: 7:31pm**