

Green Corridor Advisory Board

8 March 2023

7.30pm – Council Chambers

Present: Councillor Mike McGuffie (Wellington Town Council) (Chair)
Councillor Catherine Govier (Wellington Town Council)
Steve Coles (Wellington and District Sports Federation)
Olly Hill
Helen Gillingham (Transition Town Wellington)
Rosie Walker (Woodland Trust)
Anita Roy (Wellington Mills CiC)
Adam Lockyear (Wellington Community Food)
Steve Saunders (Basins Volunteer Group)
Dave Farrow Town Clerk (Wellington Town Council)

1. Welcome

Mike McGuffie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Notes of the Last Meeting

These were noted and there were no matters arising that weren't on the agenda

3. Updates

a. Wellington Town Council – Dave Farrow

- Wessex Water would be carrying out work on a sewer that runs across Great Meadow over the next couple of months. Initial investigation required of collapsed sewer then repair work.
- Some issues re camping and littering around The Basins. Camping now allowed on Town Council land through the lease but suggestions is there is differentiation between camping and overnight fishing. Anti-social behaviour a police issue and should be reported.
- DF was due to meet with Glyn Edwards from the Public Rights of Way Team from Somerset Council to explore how to make the footpath between The Basins and Rockwell Green accessible e.g. replacing the bridge, redesigning the gates etc
- Wellington Museum and History Society has offered to design and fund a toposcope to be placed on the highest point on Hilly Head.

b. Wellington Community Food – Adam Lockyear

- Planting was underway in the pilot area with ¼ of the site planted up
Weather had been an issue.
- Planted/planned to plant onions/carrots/beetroot, potatoes/leeks
- Had had 15 people attend the first volunteer session
- All bar one of the initial crop shares have been sold.
- Had been given wildflower seed by Exmoor National Park for sowing between crops.

- **Transition Town Wellington – Helen Gillingham**
 - Fox's Field - fence installed as agreed at the February meeting and seems to be working. Have given talks to Rockwell Green and Beech Grove Primary Schools on the work taking place. Looking to install a willow bench and stone bench (the latter subject to grant funding). DF didn't feel that Somerset Council needed to be approached for permission for them.
 - Linden Meadow – 3 June Funday 11-3 – all invited – scything taking place.
- c. Wellington and District Sports Federation – Steve Coles**
- Quotes for feasibility studies being sought – deadline end of May.
- d. Woodland Trust – Rosie Walker**
- Somerset Council Woodland Creation Fund Acceleration Officer being appointed last week – RW will be arranging to meet with them and will discuss how they can support the Gren Corridor work.

4. Biodiversity Audits

Two bids had been received. MM asked for feedback and thoughts in time for the Environment and Heritage Committee meeting on the 23 May (agenda will need to go out 17 May). DF also asked that someone who knows what they are talking about attends the meeting to explain the benefits of undertaking the work.

5 Summer Grass Cutting Arrangements and

AL said that there may be someone who would do the grass cutting for free on the basis he could take it away. Agreed he should follow this up.

Also agreed that this and item 6 should be the subject of a separate meeting to detail what fields required what cutting and at the same time to consider hedge planting for the autumn.

6 Future Tree/Hedge Planting

See above

7. Turning Circle at Linden Meadow

DF explained that the owners of Linden Cottage had approached him to see if they could buy part of the land to create a turning circle for their cars as at the moment they had to reverse up the land on to Linden Hill which was dangerous. They also risked hitting walkers using the lane to get to the field.

The group whilst sympathetic felt that the 'ask' was excessive in terms of size.

8. Signage

DF explained that they were in the process of designing signs for the entrances to the Corridor that would not just say what not to do but also, to highlight positive aspects of visiting the area