

STRATFORD- UPON- AVON TOWN COUNCIL
CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY REMOTE MEETING

27 January 2021

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Present:

Councillors:

Coles	C Warren Howles
J Fradgley (Chair)	
Jackson	

Clerk: Town Clerk, J Mayes

1. Apologies

Due to the need to reschedule the time of the meeting apologies were received from Cllrs Cleeve, Curtis, Dyer, and Lee.

2. Approval of Notes from Meeting held on 9 December 2020

Noted

3. Wildflower Planting underutilised space

3.1 SH04 Shottery Top Of Gainsborough Road – update on progress/bio diversity report

Cllr Warren Howles gave an update on the bio diversity report, which had been circulated with papers for the meeting. Catherine Coton who is working with Cohl on another project had produced the report and also some suggestions for the wildflower project. The report on SHO4 could be used as a template for other sites in the town. Cllrs discussed plans for site SHO4; the intention is to have three different areas planted with perennial plants, yellow rattle and cornflower. Cllr Coles agreed to contact the individual recommended by Catherine to do soil tests to establish costs. Cllrs discussed how to plant and clear the site and whether this should be work done by volunteers in the Stratford goes Wild group or the STC outdoor spaces team. The Town Clerk noted that it was important to keep the Outdoor spaces team informed about what was happening and when input would be needed.

Cllr Coles explained that she would purchase some of the perennial plants.

The plan of action of what needs to be done on the site needs to be written up so that it can be used to inform WCC of methods of working for other possible sites. Any work on other sites would need to be subject to their agreement. Information is also needed on what types of plants are used and how to inform local residents. There was a discussion about Stratford in Bloom's involvement and also whether schools could become involved – perhaps by growing plants? The Mayor noted that Catherine had given her time free to undertake survey and produce report, which was appreciated, but that if the project expanded to other sites and further reports were needed the group should consider that there might be cost involved in this. In the long term the management of sites would be undertaken by Outdoor Spaces team.

It was agreed a site meeting at would be arranged between Cllr Coles, David Lawley in Outdoor spaces team, Cllr Warren Howles and Sarah Summers to agree how to manage three areas.

3.2 Update on list of sites and landownership – next steps

Cllr Warren Howles reported that the landowner at Bishopton is intending to re wild more of their land and this may be another site that could be used.

The Chair suggested that the group may need to meet more frequently to review sites but these meetings will not necessarily require notes.

3.3 Planters at the entrance to town

Cllrs discussed taking on the planting of the planters at the entrance to town. The Chair had produced a list of the locations of the planters (attached as appendix one). Clarification is needed on who gives permission to plant them. The Town Clerk suggested that the Outdoor Spaces team, once a suitable risk assessment has been undertaken, could wash the signs that are attached to the planters. She confirmed that the Outdoor Spaces team have the equipment to water planters and currently look after the American Fountain.

4. Trees in Planters Project

The Chair confirmed that she has emailed Craig Bourne at SDC regarding getting permission from SDC to put a tree in a planter on the Cornmarket and would update councillors on his response.

5. Any Other Business

5.1 What's App Group – Cllr Warren Howles

Cllr Warren Howles confirmed that she had set up the What's App group. She had received expressions of interest in joining the group from residents in Mickleton and Alcester and asked if Cllrs felt that it was appropriate for the group to extend beyond the town. Cllrs discussed this and agreed that the purpose of the What's App group is to share information, that it would be useful to have input from people with relevant skills and that the group will not work on projects in areas outside the town.

5.2 Hedgehog Highways

Cllr Cleeve will report on this at the next meeting.

5.3 Stratford in Bloom – update on grant for Sheep Street

The Chair confirmed that Stratford in Bloom is meeting in early February. Cllrs also discussed having regular updates in the Town Council newsletter. Cllr Coles suggested she could write a piece on the SHO4 site showing how it develops across the year. It was also suggested that a link to Stratford Goes Wild could be put on the website providing information on how to manage green spaces. Cllr Warren Howles will discuss this at the next Website, Social Media and Newsletter panel meeting.

6. Dates for future meetings:

Wednesday 17 March at 4.30pm

Wednesday 5 May at 4.30pm