

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING OF THE PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON MONDAY 23RD MAY 2022 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT Councillors Hamblin, Robson, Crouch, Scott and Speksnyder

POA/1/2022 TO ELECT A CHAIR

Cllr Hamblin said he would be happy to chair again this coming year.

Nominations – Cllr Crouch nominated Cllr Hamblin and seconded by Cllr Robson

Cllr Hamblin was duly elected as Chair

POA/2/2022 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE

None

POA/3/2022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

None

POA/4/2022 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

None

Cllr Speksnyder asked if Throstle Park could be discussed before Speet Gill as she had to leave the meeting early due to another appointment.

POA/5/2022 WIGTON PARK

Discussions took place regarding the Dalton Shelter. The Clerk was still waiting for a response from two contractors.

The Chair had been talking to Trevor Grahamslaw who believes the shelter was put in park in 2024 not 2023 and therefore we have more time to look at its refurbishment. The Clerk to check this information but agreed that repairs to be done sooner rather than later.

The Clerk was asked to look into the 'Friends of Wigton Park' account and see if this money could be used for the shelter?

The committee also discussed the toilets and the fact they are not open to the public. The chair thinks they should be. Further details needs to be looked at as there are many factors to consider (i.e. opening/closing/cleaning etc.).

The hedge around the bowling club needs to be addressed at a future meeting.

The Clerk asked members to highlight the priorities for the park in the coming year.

- Toilets
- Hedge
- Dalton Shelter
- Parking problems

POA/6/2022 THROSTLE PARK

Cllr Robson listed the priorities for the park after a working group meeting.

- Pump Track – A meeting had taken place with a contractor (potential installers) and it is looking like a competition track could be installed at the park. Cost around 60-100k + so fund raising would need to be done.
- Pond – To look at planting around/in the pond and also having stones around the pond.

The working group was discussed and it was agreed that instead of the working group just looking at the pump track they need to look at the whole of Throstle Park as it's still in its infancy and there is lots of work still to be done. **AGREED** to take to Full Council next week.

The Clerk asked that the group put together a design for the pond to take to full council at a later date.

Cllr Speksnyder left the meeting.

POA/7/2022 SPEET GILL

The Chair discussed the overgrown area at the entrance to Speet Gill. This had been cleared last year and is now overgrown, it has gone back to a wilderness and is not good.

Cllr Crouch said that it's a woodland and 'overgrown' is good for the wildlife.

The Chair said that he had discussed putting a bench there and a grassed area.

Cllr Robson didn't think we were looking at doing anything in this area but further along had been discussed.

Cllr Scott thought it better to put benches further along rather than at the entrance but that would then cause maintenance problems.

It was agreed to look at the entrance area and also at the fencing with a possibility of asking the developers for some funding to replace it.

POA/8/2022 ALLOTMENTS

Burnfoot allotments – The chair reported that No. 1 and 3 need to be split but No. 3 still required fencing. One quote had come in at £2,000 and therefore not acceptable. The Clerk proposed temporary fencing be put up now and further investigations need to be looked at for other types of fencing.

Also the Clerk to ask parks staff to sort out another bowser as the one there has been vandalised and no longer usable. The Clerk to look in to what can be done about the corrosion of the bank and land behind No. 8

Allotment Inspections carried out on 5th May 2022 by Cllr Hamblin and A Robson

Longthwaite Road - No.1 has planted potatoes and we have to accept that he would be unable to adhere to the new rules as he has many sheds on the land.

New open allotments – vacant plots to be offered to people on the waiting list.

Date of Next Meeting 25th July

Meeting Closed at 7.40pm