

Impington Parish Council Environment Committee

Notes of Meeting, Monday 27th March 2006 7.30 p.m.

held at Parish Offices, New Road, Impington

Present: Cllrs P J Nudds (Chairman), T W Silk, D A Starling, G B Waters Clerk: Mrs A Young
Vernon, Black Gold Project Pages: 2

Action By Clerk/Cllrs:

1. Apologies

Cllr Payne (personal). With agreement of all, Chairman brought forward item 3 and suspended standing orders

3. Black Gold Project

Matt Vernon, Environmental Officer BGP, National Trust Registered Charity based Anglesey Abbey presented "To Compost or Not To Compost". Cllr Nudds discussed Impington PC's possible interest in chipping of waste from various woodland and also demonstration days in the village. Future use of Doctors Close as a maze had been one suggestion during discussion. MV outlined:

- Extensive equipment owned by BGP
- Operation and insurance all in-house. All work was free
- Kerbside services offered
- Works carried out at schools, allotments, villages as Girton
- Wood chips to use as mulch, mix with green waste to make compost
- Roadshows and exhibition days
- Volunteer workforce, including membership of National Trust

Specifically for Impington, Matt agreed to:

- Visit The Coppice to carry out chipping Monday 10 April, followed by Clay Close Lane
- Carry out work at The Copse (June working party) to mark up sapling and self set trees to take out; train volunteers with use of bow saws etc; chip brushwood etc.; cut wood into manageable log piles to use for footpaths. Replacement tree planting in winter with understorey
- Visit smaller sites on other occasions to chip
- Organise visit for interested Cllrs/volunteers to Anglesey Abbey 12 or 13 April
- Take a display site at Feast market in July for awareness

Matt walked round all sites and provided advisory notes on management (Appendix 1) with special emphasis on amenity value. He outlined ideas and possible projects. Matt stayed for remainder of meeting and standing orders remained suspended

2. Matters Arising from meeting 28 November 2005

Play Areas – cutting back Work had been completed and invoices paid

Clay Close Lane ditch David Gilkes had confirmed Caroline Chivers planned to clear ditch in June. Agreed to remind DG of request for a quote to clear Parish Council part of ditch. DG had confirmed verges would be reinstated after clearance. Agreed to confirm to DG that local residents were happy to help with topsoiling etc if advised of dates. Committee discussed possibility of digging out ditch a bit deeper to make "boggier"

Clerk

Flytipping at The Coppice remained a concern, but improvement had been seen of late

Home Zones deferred to next meeting

4. Herald Contract Services – Grass Cutting Contract

Cllr Nudds provided A3 map and reworded contract for consideration by HCS. Agreed to invite Mr Newitt to office to discuss, sign and get laminated. Agreed to ask Mr Newitt for details of machinery width for Doctors Close in view of maze idea

Clerk

5. Walkabout Route Up-date

Cllr Nudds up-dated, items dealt with:

- Pavement in Mill Lane

- One cherry tree in Ambrose Way pruned back
- Meter at traffic lights removed
- Railings on Glebe Way removed
- Tarmacing on Station Road done
- Doctors Close path cleaned up
- Work carried out to Coppice entrances and path from Coppice to bus stop cleared and widened

Cllr Nudds undertook to check with DG on:

PJN

- Boundary and responsibilities at Coppice
- Path ownership issues

Agreed Cllr Nudds to contact DG re flooding concerns at Cambridge Road with tarmacing work by CCC near to Windmill, copied to all Dist Cllrs. Request to be made for site visit by DG (Cllrs Silk and Waters to represent Council)

PJN

Agreed to chase Acacia regarding tree decay seen at Clay Close Lane

Clerk

6. Woodland Management

Paper from Susannah O'Hanlon noted

7. 5 Year Plan

Draft plan from 2006 – 07 provided. Feedback required for next agenda

All

8. Correspondence

ROSPA check due April 2006. Cllr Waters reported a plug missing from climbing frame. Cllr Nudds to source replacement

PJN

SCDC confirmed 6 monthly litter picks for Impington took place April and October.

Flytipping continued in Milton Road/Butt Lane and The Coppice

Greater Cambridge Partnership leaflets Bridge of Reeds Project, with comments requested

Bus Shelters had been steam cleaned. Agreed to monitor effectiveness of this ordinary bi-monthly clean (2 for £31 H Roper) until June and look at whether 4 quarterly steam cleans (2 for £35 R Hovells) would be better value

All

CCC Picus Tomograph details supplied of a tool used to manage health and welfare of trees. Noted

CCC Public Path Order Applications under Highways Act 1980 alteration to policy. Noted

9. Any Other Business

Apple Tree at The Coppice near to No 30 had been cut back to facilitate mobility scooter

Specification for Coppice/Copse footpath Cllr Nudds reported some work had been carried out by DG and she continued to liaise for further improvements. A working party may be considered

Litter from Open Topped Skips Agreed to ask Robert Roweth CCC if any action could be taken with skip firms to ensure covers used

Clerk

Resident of Coppice had approached Cllr Nudds regarding pollarding of trees

Blocks for protection of grass were available at discount. Recreation Ground considering

Verge parking at Crescent end of Mill Road had worsened. Agreed to advise PCSO Page, who had been advised of increase in bikes left chained to lampposts in Impington for some days. Discussed whether notes could be left for owners

Clerk

Next working party The Coppice 9.30 am 8 April

Cllr Starling would be resigning from Council in May and therefore this was her last Environment Committee meeting. All thanked her for her work on the Committee. Cllr Waters willing to be considered as Tree Warden for Impington PC. Matt Vernon offered to walk round with GW to look at common issues facing Tree Wardens (he was TW for his own village). Training may be available from CALC, the Tree Council, Wildlife Trust or through John Hellingsworth SCDC. Clerk to investigate

Clerk

Next meeting 5 June 2006.

Meeting closed 10.20 p.m.