

Burwash Parish Council

Environment and Maintenance Working Group

Agenda

This is the agenda for the Environment and Maintenance Working Party meeting taking place on

Tuesday 20th July 2021 7pm

If anyone would like to include an item for a future agenda please contact Julian Kenny at

Cllr.julian.kenny@burwashpc.org.uk

1. Apologies for Absence

Brian Newman, Halina, Colin Chapman, Anne Newson

2. Disclosures of Interest

None

3. Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes from the June meeting were agreed.

- The relocation of the phonebox was only agreed at Full Council in February, so as any change needs to wait 6 months, it was decided to discuss phone box ideas at the August meeting so that suggestions can be taken to Full Council in September
- There has been interest from the Scouts about getting involved in environmental issues and Fiona would be keen to take ideas back to the school.
- The bench is very dirty we can ask Colin to pressure wash it

4. Lime trees

There have been several more people who have come forward to claim/request lime trees in the High Street via email phone and letter. It was felt that an up to date list should be created and posted on noticeboards and possibly sent round via the ebuletin.

Many of the trees are looking good, but others are not. Colin is going to carry on clearing them. The meeting suggested that several of us could arrange a time to work with Colin to clear the rest of the trees, assuming the insurance allows.

ACTION: Julian to check the insurance with Emma and then to discuss a slot for a team lime tree clear with Colin.

5. SSSI Fence Willingford Lane

The footpath across the SSSI at Willingford Lane is now almost impassable due to bracken and hedgerow growth and the fields had been cut earlier than they usually are. Julian had been in touch with Natural England and the early cut was sanctioned by them due to grass levels. He has also been in touch with East Sussex Rights of Way about the footpath. The group decided to submit a claim to move the footpath to the original path that was used prior to the erection of the fence which is a meter or so further away from the hedgerow, but it is on flatter more stable land. It was felt that as so many residents have complained that the suggested change to the path should be communicated via the ebuletin prior to the submission of the documents

ACTIONS: Antonia, Sylvie and Julian to work together to submit the footpath relocation form. Julian to prepare a text for the ebullition to pass on to the Clerk

6. Dry Weather Consultation

The group felt that the suggestions in the Southern Water document were appropriate.

7. Biodiversity Net Gain

The group discussed paper that was passed at the full Council a week beforehand, it had also been received backing from Save Our Fields and Wild About Burwash. It has been sent to Huw Merriman. The Environment Bill that covers the biodiversity net gain has passed through the Commons and the Lords and is now at Committee stage. The group was concerned that the biodiversity net gain plan will become a serious issue as

along with the proposed Planning Bill, it could mean that the local input to future planning applications will be seriously reduced and it appears that green field development, even on AONB land could become much more prevalent.

The group felt that we should arrange a training session for performing a biodiversity audit that younger parishioners could also get involved in.

8. Next agenda

- Wildlife verges – Antonia and Julian will share the parish verge map they created earlier in the year prior to the next meeting
- Engaging young people in local environmental issues

9. Date of next meeting 1

Tuesday 17th August 7pm