

Burwash Parish Council
Environment and Maintenance Working Group

Minutes

Thursday 16th September 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

Present: Halina Keep, Sylvie Franklin, Helga Castle, Antonia Stapylton-Smith, Colin Chapman, Lindsay Green, Julian Kenny (Chair)

1. Apologies for Absence

Brian Newman, Anne Newson

2. Disclosures of Interest

None

3. Minutes from the previous meeting

Following the item on the lime trees, the idea of planting bulbs around the lime trees was discussed. Generally, it was felt that spring bulbs would be a good idea if residents want to plant bulbs, especially around the trees that have a small bed. The bulbs around the trees that are surrounded by grass may get trampled on. Julian will respond to Brian who raised the idea. It was also suggested that people who plant bulbs may want to put a marker on trees to warn members of the public.

4. Terms of Reference

Julian had not sent these on to the group, so they will be discussed at the October meeting.

ACTION Julian to send round the draft terms of reference

5. Community Toilet Scheme

The previous Parish Council meeting created a car park group and from now on the discussions around the toilets will be taken by this group.

6. Biodiversity Net Gain

Julian and Antonia briefed the group about the meeting that they had had with Bob, Emma, Eleanor and Huw Merriman on 1st September. The main point of the discussions was focused on the new Environment Bill and the proposed plans for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). Huw Merriman said that he would respond to us and we are waiting his response. His newsletter last week gave a very brief summary of the discussions, but Antonia and Julian felt that he had not fully understood the points they were making, so they will contact him.

ACTION Antonia and Julian to contact Huw Merriman

7. SSSI Fence Willingford Lane

Julian had been in contact with East Sussex about the footpath along the SSSI. He has asked them to move the fence so that it follows the original path. He sent an aerial photo of the path which clearly shows the path some distance from the hedgerow. East Sussex are going to visit the site, but they have sent an old map that shows the path going alongside the hedgerow. The group felt that as the land alongside the hedgerow slants at 45 degrees, that prior to the fence being erected people would not have chosen to walk on that land. Bob and Sylvie Franklin raised the issue of the mud tracks that have been created since the fence was erected. The owners have dug a trench to help any rain water move away from the area.

ACTION: Julian to contact East Sussex to raise the issue of the sloping land adjoining the footpath.

8. Local Nature Recovery Strategies

Several people had had a look at the NALC document and questionnaire, but found it complicated. Julian will create some draft responses and send them round to the group so that it can be discussed fully at the next meeting (14th October) so that a response can be given on 15th October which is the deadline for responses.

ACTION: Julian to draft a response to the NALC document and to send it round to group members

9. Spring Lane Verges

Several members of the group have been down Spring Lane recently and the verges look in a much better state of repair. Sylvie has been communicating with the person who complained and the issue seems to be resolved.

10. Next agenda

Terms of Reference and NALC document on Local Recovery Strategies

11. Date of next meeting and time to be agreed

Thursday 14th October 7pm