



Crediton Open Space  
Committee Meeting,

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March, at 4:30 pm



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Present: Liz Brookes-Hocking, Jade Walters, Laura Conyngham and Kendra Ezekiel

In attendance: Clare Dalley, Town Clerk

- 19 To receive and accept apologies  
Apologies were received and accepted from Frank Letch and Anne Hughes.
- 20 Declarations of Interest  
None declared.
- 21 Peoples Park Wildlife Area Committee Minutes - To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Crediton Open Space Committee Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015.  
It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Crediton Open Space Committee Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015 as a correct record.
- 22 Matters Arising  
There were no matters arising.
- 23 To review the Peoples Park Wildlife Area project and agree any further actions required, including the following:  
The upper half of the area was discussed and it was noted that there appeared to be little growing there in comparison to what had been planted.

Kendra arrived 4.43 pm

Kendra advised that she had pruned the apple trees in January. The leaf fall had been very heavy in the top half and it would be good to have a compost bin to put them in.

- **installation of a compost bin/area**  
It was agreed that a compost bin was required. Members discussed the merits of having one made against using pallets screwed together. Clare provided a quotation from a local carpenter, to give an indication of cost. It was resolved to accept John Lewis's quotation to install a compost bin at a cost of £94, subject to one panel being able to slide or be removed for easy access.
- **installation of a bird feeding station**  
Clare confirmed that the bird feeding station had been installed and circulated a photo to members. Sunflowers Day Nursery had confirmed that that they were willing to restock the feeders.

- **purchase of bird food**

Clare advised the bird feeders needed to be padlocked to the bird feeding station and asked members whether they wanted combination or key padlocks. It was resolved for Clare to purchase 2 combination padlocks, bird seed and peanuts.

- **purchase of plants**

It was agreed to ask local community groups and organisations to donate the remaining plants required, which were mainly medium sized shrubs and grasses and to use the Council's social media pages. Those plants not obtained through donation could be purchased. Kendra suggested that some of the clumps of grasses at the Scout Memorial Garden could be divided and everyone thought this was good idea. Clare confirmed she would advise the Council's gardener that this would be happening.

- **future planting**

It was resolved to have a planting morning on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Clare suggested advising Sunflowers Day Nursery, in case parents wanted to take their children along to see what else is happening.

Kendra advised that she has a client with some very large logs cut into discs and wondered if it was worth asking the client if she would be willing to donate them to the wildlife area, as they could be used as stepping stones. Everyone thought this was good idea and asked Kendra to make enquiries. If the client said yes, the logistics of moving the wood was discussed and Clare said she felt sure she could arrange something.

- **purchase of rustic noticeboard**

Three quotations were considered. Members were concerned with how expensive notice boards are and so it was resolved to put the matter in abeyance.

24 To discuss the land located to the east of Queen Elizabeth Drive and agree any actions. Clare circulated pictures taken of the area and explained that the land was owned by Guinness Care and Support Limited. She had tried to contact a Manager at the home but to no avail. It was resolved for Clare to write a formal letter to Guinness Care and Support Limited expressing concern over the lack of maintenance of the area and asking them to contact her to discuss the matter further with a view to remedying the situation.

25 To discuss the land located at the bottom of Red Hill Cross and agree any actions. Clare circulated pictures taken of the area. She explained two land registry searches had been conducted and it was still unclear who owned the land. Liz confirmed the planted area was created by the Rotary Club at the behest of the Town Council between 20 and 30 years ago. With this in mind, Clare thought there could be a case for the Town Council registering it as their land. It is unclear whether Rotary still maintains the area but it does appear to be well looked after. It was noted that the proposed development of Pedlarspool could mean significant changes to the road layout within this location. It was



resolved for Clare to investigate registering the land with the Land Registry and to obtain a copy of the grass cutting schedule to ensure the area is being cut.

- 26 To discuss the leet which runs adjacent to the road owned by Tesco and agree any actions. Clare circulated pictures taken of the area. She confirmed that she had spoken to Tesco and provided them with litter picking equipment, provided by Mid Devon District Council, and they would shortly carry out a litter pick of the area.

Members discussed the importance of the leet as a wildlife corridor and whether a study needed to be undertaken. It was resolved for Clare to make some enquiries.

- 27 To discuss the possibility of making the High Street greener, by the use of planters and agree any actions. Clare advised there was a great deal of crossover with the Town Council's Floral Crediton Committee, which is investigating the permissions required to put additional planters on the High Street. It has also recently gained permission to plant the flower beds located outside Redvers House.

- 28 To discuss the tarmac area in front of Newcombes Meadow toilets and agree any actions. It was agreed by all members that this was wasted space in the centre of Town and an ideal space to be utilised. Kendra suggested it could be used for table tennis tables, as seen in Exeter City Centre, as teenagers 'hang out' within the area. Laura suggested using the space for people to play chess etc., as seen in Russia. Other suggestions included the Arts Centre and Youth Club utilising it for activities. It was resolved for Clare to approach Mid Devon District Council, who own the land, to see if they would be in agreement for the area to be utilised. Liz would also take this back to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for further consideration.

- 29 To discuss the bus shelter next to the Town's War Memorial and agree any actions. It was noted that the bus shelter is in the wrong location; however nothing can be done about this.

- 30 To discuss this Committee's aims and objectives for the next six years in order for them to be considered in the development of Crediton Town Council's Strategic Plan. Members felt that they should continue with what they are already doing, focusing on setting a high standard and encouraging and working with land and property owners to raise their standards.

- 31 Close  
The meeting closed at 6.20 pm

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