# Brundall Parish Council Environment Committee

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 11th May 2023 at 19:00 at the Memorial Hall Lounge

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Present:** Cllr Joe Warns (Chairman), Chris Muskett, Richard Farley (TW).  Clerk, Sharon Smyth | | |
|  | *Details* | *Action* |
| **EV023** | **Housekeeping**  The Chairman of the Meeting thanked everyone for attending and advised the safety procedures for the room. The Clerk advised the meeting was quorate. |  |
| **EV024** | **Apologies for Absence**  Cllr John Warne, Tim Strudwick, Cllr Graham Abbott, Emma King, Eddie Wozniakowski. |  |
| **EV025** | **Minutes of the previous Meeting dated 16 February 2023**  **It was resolved** by a majority decision that the Minutes were accurate. |  |
| **EV026** | **Declarations of Disclosable (DPI) or Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (NDPI)**  none. |  |
| **EV027** | **Actions from the Last Meeting (Not on the Agenda)**  **EV015 –** Terms of Reference Fully approved and available to view on the Council’s website.  **EV019** - Update on Plans to assess two Brundall sites - Cremer’s Meadow and Countryside Park (Biodiversity working Group). |  |
| **EV028** | **Air Quality Monitoring in Brundall**  Will Gorrod presented the findings of the Air Quality diffusion tube readings and was available to answer questions.  Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) is one of the main pollutants emitted by road traffic. A survey of nitrogen dioxide concentrations in the air in Brundall has been carried out at a number of sites in the village between February 2022 and January 2023. The survey involved deploying diffusion tubes at eight selected locations exposed over periods of one month at each location. After each exposure period, tubes were collected and replaced by new tubes. Exposed tubes were sent to a laboratory for analysis.  The results of the NO2 survey in Brundall show that the concentrations of this pollutant at all sites monitored are well below the current UK Air Quality Objective. Annual mean concentrations are lower than those recorded at most other diffusion tube sites across Broadland and South Norfolk. Concentrations of road traffic pollutants fall off rapidly with distance from the road, due to dispersion. The study included a calculation of NO2 concentrations at the nearest receptor location to each diffusion tube. Concentrations at the receptor locations reflect the distance they are from the road. All concentrations at receptors are less than those measured at the diffusion tube monitoring sites and well below the annual AQO. For sites 3 and 5, the calculated receptor concentrations are less than the estimated background concentration, as measured at a background monitoring station at Lakenfields.  Will recommended to the Council to carry out the same survey in 5 years’ time on the exact same locations for continuity. The Clerk will post the report on the Parish Council Website. \* | \*Clerk |
| **EV029** | **Report from the Tree Warden Network**  Richard reported that there was “revamp” of an old TPO for the bottom of Church Lane.  He advised that his previous reports can be found on the website within Land Management Committee. |  |
| **EV030** | **Biodiversity Working Group Report**  The Bio Group are actively working on the Action Plan and front-end data collection. In 2015 the Parish Council commissioned a Habitat Survey carried out by the Landscape Partnership. The survey is out of date by two years and so the Group are carrying out a biodiversity audit of Parish Council owned and leased land to enable them to make recommendations for action.  They walked Church Fen site and observed that the water levels have altered and there is vegetation encroachment into wetland areas. They also walked Low Farm Wood. Richard was concerned that the Group are not collaborating enough with the Tree Wardens, but Chris assured him that they fully intend to collaborate with the BTWN and other key stakeholders in Brundall as evidenced by the request to walk two of the areas (see next item).  Presently they are collecting data and with arranged site visits are going to walk the sites to get a feel for the biodiversity in each site.  Once the data is fully collected the Group will work with all site Managers to make any recommendations and give options for management.  Eddie is currently mapping the areas ready for a full report to be issued in about a year’s time.  In the meantime, the Group welcomes and involvement for logging bird data, and other plant or insect data. |  |
| **EV031** | **Countryside Park – request by Recreation and Wellbeing Committee to create a paper ahead of a request to purchase the site.**  The Group will start to look at the site once the data has been collated. |  |
| **EV032** | **Country Park visit with Hopkins.**  The site is quite a large site, and the Group were given access to look at the areas where the detention ponds would lie. They were told the Council intend to get consultants in to assess the site. This Committee would like to give an insight into the biodiversity and tree angles. |  |
| **EV033** | **Church Fen – path improvements**  The Land management Committee asked for an opinion on the options available to improve either the boardwalk or the east path.  It was suggested to consult with the Environment Agency about dredging the path to build it up. There are rules and regulations concerning usage of mini diggers and polluting the dike, although the dike is pretty much polluted anyway. A boardwalk may be installed at the river end for the last 50 years, perhaps. |  |
| **EV034** | **Cremer’s Pond**  The group were asked for their opinion on the pond at Cremer’s and the merits of it being closed off to the main river course. They will investigate the hydraulics angle more as well as its nutrient status if not already carried out. To understand the hydrodynamics, you will need to understand the issues first. |  |
| **EV035** | **General Public Participation**  None |  |
| **EV036** | **Items for the Next Agenda**  Cremer’s Pond |  |
| **EV037** | **Date for the next meeting(s)**  **17 August 2023**  The meeting finished at 8.30pm. |  |
| Signed as a true record …………………………………………….……. Date ………………………… | | |