

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		
	<i>Details</i>	<i>Action</i>
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.	
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 (NO ₂) 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 NO ₂ 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 NO ₂ 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. * Following Will's presentation and departure from the meeting, the Chairman requested Chris to prepare a short summary of the NO2 survey for wider distribution.	*Clerk Chris Muskett
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 Biodiversity Group (BWG) are actively working on the Biodiversity Action Plan approved by the Council 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 several years and so the Group are carrying out new Phase 1 Habitat surveys at Parish Council owned and leased land to identify any changes in habitat and species that have occurred since 2015. An initial Phase 1 Habitat survey has been carried out at the Church Fen site and preliminary species lists produced. It was observed that the water levels have altered in some areas and there is some vegetation encroachment into some wetland areas. They also carried out a preliminary survey of 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 and get their input to formulating future biodiversity management plans. Initial work is focussing on arranging site visits and collecting data. This will enable an assessment of the biodiversity of each site to be made. A survey of breeding birds at the four council owned/leased sites is also underway. Once the data is fully collected the Group will work with all site Managers to review options for biodiversity enhancement of each site and their future management. The Group is also carrying out a biodiversity audit of all available records of species recorded in Brundall, in order to provide a fuller picture of biodiversity across the whole parish. An initial report on the activities carried out by the Group and findings of the survey work is expected to be produced by the end of 2023.	
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 Biodiversity Working 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. The Environment Committee would like to provide input into the biodiversity and tree issues.	
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. Chris advised that this would need to be looked at in more detail and it may be necessary to consult a specialist hydrologist. Any changes in the hydrology of the water body, such as changing inflow and outflow patterns, could have knock on effects such as influencing the water volume of the pond and pollutant concentrations.	BWG
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		