

Woodland Report for Parish Council Meeting on September 26th, 2022

Action Update

1. Fernwood Parish Council's Caretaker and Maintenance Operative is checking the area on a weekly basis and N&SDC continue to do fortnightly grass cutting around the verges.
2. The 2 refuse bins and 1 dog bin were installed on July 22nd and are emptied weekly by N&SDC.
3. Lighting repairs were done on September 13th.
4. Councillors Smith and Harrison have removed the private land signs.
5. An ecological assessment has been conducted. Advice includes soft felling on trees and more work to assess if bats are present in 2 trees – see full report on the following 4 pages.
6. I have approached several companies to ask for quotes for transforming the area behind Marron. Only one quote has been received so far but the ecologist's report does suggest retaining part of the area as it is. My contact at N&SDC has also offered to help with planning for the area. The ecologist report recommends cutting this area once a year so I will be organising this to be done by N&SDC soon.
7. An online survey has been conducted to get feedback on options for a name for the area.
8. I have contacted N&SDC to see if they can work with us to do a bat/bird box making community session – currently awaiting feedback.
9. Community bulb planting session being organised for October 15th subject to delivery of the bulbs - see 132d ii for suggested bulbs to plant.

Potential Issues

- One of the eight trees that are recommended for felling still belongs to the hall owner.
- Cracks along the footpath, from lamppost 4 and continuing beyond lamppost 5. See following pages for photographs.

Decisions Required

The Council is asked to consider:

- a. Which bulbs to buy or whether they wish to delegate the decision to the Clerk.
- b. How to proceed with the owner of tree number 869. We could look at sharing the costs of the further surveys or we could advise the owner of the ecological survey feedback and suggest they commission the survey work separately.

- c. Whether to commission a woodland management plan.
- d. Whether there is still a requirement for Via (NCC) to inspect/assess the lamp columns as agreed in September 2021 (da21/125div).
- e. How to proceed regarding the cracks in the path.
- f. What the woodland shall be called.

Marion Fox Goddard, Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
September 15th, 2022

Full agenda which includes quotes can be read [here](#).

Parish Council Minutes extract – 26/9/22 Full minutes can be read [here](#).

132d Items of Expenditure considered with unanimous decisions:

Expenditure	Budget Area	Total £	Decision
Floor scrubber	Village Hall – Individual items	Up to £2000	Prop. J. Newton; Sec.; J. Weale.
Wildflower bulbs	Grounds Maintenance	Up to £250	Prop. H. Micah; Sec.; M. Weale
NALC finance course	Training	£60	Prop.; H. Micah, Sec.; J. Weale
Plumbing work to meet legionella risk assessment	Maintenance	£1462.03	Prop. J. Weale; Sec.; J. Newton
Additional work required following legionella risk assessment (Thermometer calibration, water testing)	Legionella Management	£414 per annum	Prop. J. Newton; Sec.; M. Weale
SLCC membership for the Clerk	Subscriptions	325.00	Prop. J. Newton; Sec.; J. Weale
Leaf blower	Parish Council – Individual items	264.59	Prop. H. Micah; Sec.; M. Weale
Bat Surveys	Parish Council – Individual items		Council will proceed on survey for tree 853. See note below.
Woodland Management Plan	Parish Council – Individual items		Additional quote to be sought from N&SDC

50% contribution to the costs for managing the road closures in Balderton for Remembrance Sunday	Parish Council – Individual items	340.00	Prop. J. Newton; Sec.; M. Weale
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Clerk to get alternative quotes for Legionella Training and woodland management plan and get costings for decommissioning showers in the shower block. Also, to add a sign to indicate water may be hot in changing room toilets.

Notes:

- i. Although legionella risk assessment indicated medium risk in disabled shower and changing room toilets, the Council noted these areas are locked off for most of the time and not used by hall users. Removing the showers and adding a sign will mitigate the risks outlined in the risk assessment.*
- ii. Tree 869 belongs to Balderton Hall. Clerk to write to the owner to explain the bat surveys requirement and seek their agreement to pay EMEC for the survey work required for tree 869.*

136. Woodland Update Report

The Council noted the Clerk's report regarding the woodland and agreed to:

- a. Not ask NCC to inspect the lamps and or quote for path repairs and not seek adoption of the paths by NCC (Unanimous). *Clerk to seek quotes for path repairs from elsewhere..*
- b. Not to proceed with applying for on dogs on lead order following feedback from N&SDC (Unanimous).
- c. Name the woods 'Costall Woods' (4 votes in favour, 1 abstention)