

**NOTES ON A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP (EWG)**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 via Zoom**

**Attendees:** Cllr John Turner (JT), (Chair), Cllr Ed Langridge (EL), Alan Ford (AF) and Ken Howes (KH)

**In attendance:** Catherine Barrett (CB) Assistant Clerk

**Apologies for absence received from:** Cllr Ben Scarbrough (work commitments) and Simon Norton (illness). Apologies were also received from Lizzie Pannell who had attempted to join from her mobile device but was unsuccessful.

**1. Summary of Full Council outcomes**

- Statement of commitment to climate emergency:  
This had been approved at Full Council and CB would share on the website, social media pages and village magazines.
- Approval of EWG logo:  
Councillors had asked the EWG to submit their re-worked logo for approval at the next Full Council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March. The EWG considered the logo which EL had customised to include a pair of hands cradling the tree featured in the original parish council logo. Further changes were suggested as follows:  
A) Lower the word 'Speldhurst'.  
B) Take the dividing line out between the words 'parish council' and 'working for the'.  
It was agreed that EL would make these changes in time for Full Council.
- Request for budget:  
It had been agreed that funding of £500 had been approved for the EWG to cover costs in their Q1 and Q2 campaigns.
- Pocket Park:  
Councillors had agreed in principle that the pocket park should be made a designated area of biodiversity and recommended that the EWG liaise with the Amenities Working Group regarding logistics.

**2. Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

It was agreed to appoint EL as Vice-Chairman of the EWG so that he could make recommendations at Full Council when JT was unable to attend.

**3. Update on communications**

- Q1 tips:  
It was agreed that CB would circulate the Q1 tips on the website, social media and village magazines. These would be included in the village magazines as standalone pieces rather than in the general parish council article.

**4. Q2 Biodiversity plan next steps**

- Presentation for Amenities meeting:  
AF, KH and SN would meet at Pocket Park the following Friday, inspect the area and send any relevant notes to JT for presentation at the Amenities meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February. CB would find out if there was a map of the pocket park which AF could use in his audit of the area during growing season.

**5. Update on contact with external groups**

- EL contact with Brownies:

EL had supplied information to the local Brownies at the beginning of February and awaited a response.

- CB contact with local family:  
It was agreed that CB would ask an environmentally active family that she knew to attend the next EWG meeting.
- JT had been in contact with someone who upcycled and sold denim products with regards to their running a stall at Langton Green Village Fete. He suggested promoting local activities like this as part of a possible Q3 campaign. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **6. Any other business**

KH asked if there had been many reports of storm damage in the parish. CB said there had been a report of fallen branches on parish council land. JT suggested it was worth beginning to record any significant incidents of fallen trees in the parish.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm.