

Present

Chair: Cllr Frank Coulsey, Councillors Wendy Witter, J Sanderson, Ann Clark, John Oxley, Carol Thornton. Martin d'Alessandro, David Witter, Peggy Sanderson, John French, Andrew Shepherd.

Apologies

Cllrs Neil Jacques, Janet Oxley and Paul Thornton.

1 Update on items from last EWP meeting on 23 November 2015.

- 1a) Must wait for permission from Northern Powergrid. NLC offered to carry out work free of charge. The Clerks to be asked to actively pursue Northern Powergrid.
- 1b) Another site suggested was near the flats at the bottom of Hungate
- 1c) Further sites for seats to go on agenda for next EWP meeting. Painting of seats will have to wait for better weather. Money for seats is in the reserves.

2 Items referred from Barton Town Council meeting

- a) Cllr John Oxley proposed that the survey of public signage be sent to North Lincolnshire Council for them to sort it out as soon as possible.

A sign on Haven Road was reported to be leaning. It is set in grass near the park. Details to be confirmed.

A suggestion was made that it would be useful if signs for toilets gave the distance to the facility, although it was pointed out that many are usually closed.

- b) Clean for the Queen: Cllr Clark was concerned about risk if volunteers are to take part but was assured that organisations carry their own insurance.

Cllr Clark listed sites where there were complaints of fly tipping. The meeting agreed these complaints should be made to North Lincolnshire Council. Rotary and the Army Cadets to be given a copy of the list to choose sites to clear, but should advise NLC before collecting there to avoid duplication. NLC will provide equipment and collect the rubbish collected.

Cllr Clark reminded the Working Group about the proposal to have stickers placed on bins to remind people they can be used for dog waste. Cllr Coulsey to get the School Forum to design posters for the purpose.

It was agreed to support the Clean for the Queen weekend (4, 5 and 6 March), but also to encourage groups to continue to clean up at other times.

3 Promenade at Waters' Edge: hot water and a scrubbing brush would clean the coloured tiles. Volunteers would be welcome.

The appropriate Agency to be contacted to ask them to remove weeds growing in the cracks of the Humber Bank before they cause damage to the defences.

4 Forward planning

- a) Planters and Hanging Baskets: Cllr Oxley proposed the same arrangements as last year, and this was agreed. A streetlight column with integral basket has been removed after being backed into. NLC to be asked whether there are any plans to replace it.
- b) Community Planting Scheme: 5-year contract with NLC expires in March. Agreed to renew, providing the quote is reasonable.
- c) Best Kept Garden and Hanging Basket competition: agreed to use the same format as last year. Dates agreed as 13th July and 10th August, both days meeting at 9am at the Council office. The Clerk to be asked to write to NLC Highways to ask for a Neighbourhood Services representative.
- d) Bulb Planting: 15th October, 9.30am at Baysgarth Museum.

Agreed that a lot of daffodils should be planted in the new copse of 17 oaks in Baysgarth Park in memory of servicemen. Groups are being invited to help. Andrew Shepherd to liaise with Laurie Robinson to organise this. Poppy seed to be added to the ground under the trees, which should last for a few years. Any time the ground is disturbed in the future, the seeds will flower again.

Rotary reported that a lady is trying to dispose of bluebells from an old garden. Agreed they be planted under trees in the Park and if necessary in other areas around town.

The proposed survey of bulbs to spot gaps to be postponed until next year, when bulbs will again be available for that purpose.

5 Reports from groups

- a) Barton Civic Society are compiling a list of candidates to be Assets of Community Value, but would prefer the nominations to go in the name of Barton Town Council as this should carry more weight. However the nomination form asks for the constitution of the organisation nominating. The Clerk to discuss with North Lincs Council. Clarification and a decision on whether BTC agree to nominate to be an agenda item at next BTC meeting.
- b) Barton Rotary are planning further bulb planting which they will probably sponsor.
- c) Barton Civic Society have identified 7 "Grot Spots" and have measured, listed what needs doing, photographed and compiled a report which was tabled.

Cllr Clark reported that the shop opposite the station is once again an absolute mess. The mess needs removing from the street to a proper store.

Many of the identified sites are NLC responsibility – one is ongo. Agreed to write to NLC asking them to do their job. Andrew Shepherd to email the report to the Clerks for forwarding to NLC.

- d) Civic Society report on Beck Project. (JF, 8.2.16)

Clearance of unwanted vegetation and soil in-fill took place in Sept 2015, together with excavation and lining of the central area to form a permanent pond.

Work on the Seating Area is almost complete. Several seats are still available for memorial sponsorship. Please contact the Civic Society re sponsorship.

The Lay-by has been tidied.

Alterations and repairs to the engineering brick walls are almost completed, except for painting of railings.

Re-construction of the boundary wall to the Burgate property is well advanced.

Repairs to the Churchyard wall still await Faculty approval.

Final landscaping and seeding to the perimeter of the Beck is awaiting reduction of the water level.

Clearance of excess vegetation to the Beck Hill verge is imminent – it will then provide another spot for bulb planting.

6. Date of next meeting:

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.