

Cockleton Meadow Working Group

Meeting held on Thursday 1 November 2018 in the Green Room, All Saints Church, Gurnard.

Attended by: Councillors Nolan (Chair), Bugden, McKean, Vaughan and the clerk.

1 ELECTION OF A CHAIR

As this was the first meeting of the new working group, a councillor was required to chair the meeting. Councillor Nolan was proposed, seconded and duly elected.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

As the previous Treasurer of the Friends of Cockleton Meadow, Councillor McKean advised that there was a fund of £353.20. This amount has been raised by personal donations, a grant from the BAE Systems Employees Charity fund and donations from the events organised by Holly.

4 FACEBOOK PAGE

The problems with the committee of the Friends of Cockleton Meadow all started with negative comments posted on the Facebook Page. It was agreed to ignore the social media posts.

5 MAINTENANCE COSTS

Without the volunteers, it is necessary to set aside funds for grass and hedge cutting in the budget for 2019/20. The maintenance of the site will be greatly reduced over the winter period. Three or four cuts of the field, with more frequent cuts of the path, plus one cut of the hedge is required. It may also be considered to ask for further Green Gym visits if required at a cost of £50.00 per visit.

6 VOLUNTEERS

It was suggested that a thank you letter is sent to all the registered volunteers thanking them for all their hard work on the project and explaining that the Parish Council has taken back the management of the site. A separate letter of thanks should be sent to Holly for all her work with providing five very different events this year.

7 NAME OF THE SITE

It was suggested that the name should change to "Old School Field" to reflect the heritage of the site.

8 KEYHOLDERS

As there are eight separate key holders, it was agreed that a new padlock and keys should be purchased. As clerk, Sue will continue to keep a list of key holders.

9 SIGNAGE

If the new name is agreed by the Parish Council, a new sign will be required. The sign for the pond (which has been agreed by the insurers) should also be purchased, then the gate to the pond area can be left unlocked. The temporary signs requesting no fires are lit are to be installed by Councillor Bugden.

10 EVENTS

The events held this summer were very successful but no new events are required over the winter.

ACTIONS:

- 1 Councillor Bugden will install the temporary signs.
- 2 The clerk will obtain quotations for the grass and hedge cutting.
- 3 Consider thinning the new trees in the Spring.
- 4 Councillor Nolan will remove the pallets to the unit as they could be used for fires.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 That the Friends of Cockleton Meadow is formally closed.**
- 2 That the name of the site is changed to “Old School Field”**
- 3 That if the new name is agreed, a small temporary sign is purchased at a cost of £20.00 plus VAT.**
- 4 That if the new name is agreed, the Risk Assessments are updated to reflect.**
- 5 That the sign for the pond area is purchased at a cost of £15.00 plus VAT to enable the gate to be left unlocked.**
- 6 That a new padlock is purchased with six keys for the unit at a cost of £25.00 plus VAT.**
- 7 That a letter is sent to all registered volunteers, thanking them for all their hard work on the project, and explaining that the Parish Council is taking back the management of the site.**
- 8 That a separate letter is sent to Holly, thanking her for organising the events this summer.**
- 9 That the Parish Council no longer contributes £500.00 to Gift to Nature for 2019/20.**
- 10 That £2,000.00 is set aside in the budget for 2019/20 to pay for maintenance of the site.**

Date of Next meeting: Wednesday 28 November 2018 after planning in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed: 7.50pm.