

MINUTES

Open Spaces Sub Group Meeting

Monday 8th February 2021

1	<p>Present: Cllrs Peter Bulmer, Sara Evans, Keith Scargill and Frank Auty Apologies: Cllrs Jo Evans and Sue Rigby In attendance: Kath Lloyd, Clerk</p>
2	<p>Declarations of Interest: no pecuniary or personal interests in items on the agenda were declared.</p>
3	<p>Open Forum: no members of the public were present or had submitted questions.</p>
4	<p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising: the sub group approved the minutes from the meeting on 23rd November as accurate and considered outstanding matters and took updates from the Clerk:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The signage at the arch at Josh's Jumps is due to be repaired by the end of the month 2. The parish council Environmental Strategy survey was submitted – thanks to all that contributed 3. The Clerk has been unable to move forward with the clearing of the compost heap at the allotments due to government restrictions, weather and the Christmas break. 4. Review of annual play equipment inspections – agreed that current arrangements will be reviewed this year.
5	<p>Queens Road Play Area: the children's play area at Queens Road Park is outdated and in need of an upgrade. A small number of residents have been in touch with the Clerk about it and asked if they can be involved in the planning. RESOLVED: that the Clerk begin to gather local residents' views and create a Friends of Queens Road Park group with a view to putting together a plan for the play area.</p>
6	<p>Community Orchard & Heritage Projects : Cllr Bulmer confirmed that CWaC were able to start planting a range of fruit trees on Thackeray Drive field at the start of March and will fund the trees and planting work at a value of £4200 – details below. Frank Auty asked if it would be possible to include Bramley apple trees and a greengage, Cllr Bulmer will liaise with CWaC. It is also planned to include a wild flower meadow but that will be planted after the trees. RESOLVED: that the sub group recommend to council that the parish council are prepared to meet the ongoing maintenance costs from year 2 at around £250 per year. Cllr Bulmer then updated the sub group on recent discussions with the Heritage Lottery Fund regarding the Heritage Project; evidence of community engagement will be needed and Cllr S. Evans briefed the sub group on the plans for a social media campaign which will be in three stages – engagement, initial poll to measure interest and then an invitation to get involved. It was agreed that information on notice boards and in the newsletter would also be needed. RESOLVED: that the sub group recommend to council that a media campaign is initiated.</p>
7	<p>Budget: the budget for Open Spaces is the largest expense of the council and it was suggested that this group be more informed and involved in monitoring the spend. It was</p>

	agreed that the Clerk would bring a budget summary to the next sub group meeting and that it would be a regular agenda item.
8	Date and Time of next meeting: Monday 26 th April 2021 at 7pm
9	<p>Information exchange:</p> <p>Councillors discussed the need for new information signage at each open space, some current signs still carry the Chester City Council name which ceased in 2009. Cllr Scargill and Cllr Bulmer will carry out an audit of signs and send them to the Clerk for an overall summary for the next meeting.</p>

Thackery Park and Field						
Low berries	100	Nr	£ 4.50	£	450.00	
Community Orchard 1900m2 @ 4m c/c(90% of area) c/w 450mm clear spiral rabbit guard	107	Nr				
Apple 1-1.8m	22	Nr	£ 28.00	£	616.00	
Pear 1-1.8m	22	Nr	£ 28.00	£	616.00	
Plum 1-1.8m	21	Nr	£ 28.00	£	588.00	
Cherry 1-1.8m	21	Nr	£ 28.00	£	588.00	
Damson 1-1.8m	21	Nr	£ 28.00	£	588.00	
Community Orchard 1900m2 @ 2m c/c(10% of area)	48	Nr				
Hawthorn 40-60cm	12	Nr	£ 1.40	£	16.80	
Crab apple 40-60cm	12	Nr	£ 1.56	£	18.72	
Rowan 40-60cm	12	Nr	£ 1.71	£	20.52	
Guelder rose 40-60cm	12	Nr	£ 1.92	£	23.04	
Structural Planting 2 rows @ 6m spacing/row				£	-	
Malus Evereste 1-1.8m	18	Nr	£ 25.44	£	457.92	
Maintenance year 1 (4 visit/year to ring weed)	273	Nr	£ 0.80	£	218.40	
Maintenance year 2 (3 visits/year to ring weed)	273	Nr	£ 0.60	£	163.80	
Total				£	4,365.20	