

Stretton Parish Council

Open Spaces Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd February 2021

IN ATTENDANCE : Cllr S Tilley
Cllr K Winson Cllr S
Campion
Cllr J McKiernan
Cllr T Williams
Cllr P Scanlan
Mrs A J Smith - Clerk

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were none to record.

2. **MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

A copy of the minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and accepted.

TW commented on the wetness of the Jubilee Playing Field and enquired if anything could be done. SJC advised that luckily due to the restrictions the field is not being used and will be aerated when it is possible to do so.

3. **BIODIVERSITY REPORT**

A copy of the adopted report had been circulated again prior to the meeting. The Chair asked for comments.

KW asked which areas of land would be left to grow freely. SJC commented that areas would not be left to overgrow but just would not be cut as frequently as in the past.

The Chair suggested planting some low level shrubs in the cleared areas of the Woodland such as hedge parsley and nettles to attract birds and insects; to sow wildflower seeds in March / April; bird boxes to be erected in October and keep the mowing to 1m width adjacent to paths.

The Chair asked about the trees to be planted on the Woodland and the Clerk agreed to forward the details as she could instantly recall.

JMcK commented that there were lots of nettles in areas adjacent to the canal on the Woodland; that the area surrounding the oak tree, where the two paths meet, has got some wild garlic and bluebells plus some fencing is to be erected next to the kissing gate. JMcK felt that some there was already some progress being made with regard to areas identified in the report.

It was agreed that an action plan be developed and each area was discussed with suggestions made. The action plan to be written and presented to the next meeting.

4. **ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

Beech Lane - plaques have become unreadable and need to be replaced.

Bitham Comty Park - goalposts to be erected at Easter or when schools return if sooner

5. **DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be via remote access on Tuesday 2nd March 2021 at 6.15pm