

CALLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Environment Minutes
9th March 2021 at 6.30pmpm Virtual Meeting

1. **PRESENT:** Cllrs Coakley, Gold, Tolman, Long, Moore, Raphael (Chair), Tagg & Watson

APOLOGIES: Cllr Morgan

2 Members of the Public

Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Operations Manager and Facilities and Maintenance Officer (for IT)

2. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Tagg and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th January 2020.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

None

4. **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

None.

5. **FOR DECISION –WILDLIFE ZONES** – To discuss other areas within Callington that could be considered for use for future Wildlife Zones projects.

Cllr Raphael added that Kelly Bray is included in this item.

A lengthy discussion took place with suggested areas being within both recreation grounds, the concrete flower bed in Launceston Road where poppies had previously been planted and not survived and the bottom of this recreation ground on the South Hill Road end. Other suggested areas were inside the Saltash Road gate where there is a triangle flower bed, the play

area at Ladybeam Court in Kelly Bray, play area at Horsewhim Drive, many of the walks in and around the parish, the unused areas of the Cricket Field and Kit Hill. The new Baker Estate development on South Hill Road was also suggested as a suitable area for a wildlife meadow as there are some large open areas and the front of Ginsters was also an area that could be looked at as, although it was always beautifully planted, it could be an ideal location for a bug hotel.

It was agreed that much thought would have to be put into choosing suitable plants for each of these different areas as some plants were more suited to certain areas and some plants were beneficial to air pollution so could be planted beside busy roads.

Cllr Raphael suggested that he produce a list of approved, science backed species of plants that could be planted in suggested areas and put together some information to hand out to organisations and businesses to explain what the project was aiming for and how they could help. Cllr Moore agreed that he could help with this.

Cllr Long suggested that the Council has an opportunity, with the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, to strengthen as much as possible the environmental policies that we be included in the Neighbourhood Plan. In the meantime, the Town Council could look at bringing in planning notes for future planning applications/developments to recommend that the Planning Officer be aware of stipulated environmental/wildlife aspects and that planting regimes should include Town Council set, recommended, species. Planning applicants approaching the Town for pre-app advice could be provided with the Town Council's recommendations so as to engage with developers early on in the process.

Resolved. It was approved by Cllr Long seconded by Cllr Gold and unanimously agreed to put together a friendly and inviting information package to give to schools, organisations, businesses and developers with suggested species of plants, flowers and trees. Information on bug hotels and where they could be purchased, or made, could also be included in this package.

6. **FOR DECISION – PLANNING COMMITTEE** – To discuss implementing environment standards and factors into the planning application responses. Can this be defended through the Neighbourhood Plan?

Cllr Long shared some information on the proposed Planning Policy for Callington Town Council from Cornwall Council. The purpose of the proposed policy is to try to build some sort of structure so the Planning Committee can implement standards and factors into their planning application recommendations to Cornwall Council to include environmental factors.

This committee would make a recommendation, in principle, to the Planning Committee to look at the policy and make any amendments if/where necessary. Cllr Long would then pass it to a senior Planning Officer who would check it for legalities and wording. It would then be taken to Full Council for approval and adoption.

Cllr Long would send this proposed Policy to all Councillors for information and comment.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Tolman and unanimously agreed to recommend, in principle, the proposed Planning Policy to the Planning Committee for consideration.

7. **FOR DECISION – PLANTING** – What to plant and where? Should we compile a list of recommended planting?

This item had already been discussed and encompassed in item 5

8. **FOR DECISION** – Medicine Packet Recycling Scheme. To update the Council on a public lead campaign in association with Teracycle.

Cllr Raphael reported that Alison Humphries had already developed a Teracycle scheme but one of the items that the scheme does not accept is blister packets from medicines. They are very difficult to recycle and cannot be put through the usual kerbside recycling scheme. However, Teracycle does have a scheme where communities can create a project in their area. With this scheme comes its own problems, a registered pharmacy must be on board to take on the blister packets, storage is often a problem but there is an urgent need for a recycling scheme in SE Cornwall as there are only two in the area at the moment being St Austell and Plymouth. Would the Town Council be prepared to get involved in this public led scheme?

A discussion took place with regards to whether the Town Council could help with storage and collection. The volume of this material in SE Cornwall is likely to be enormous due to the demographics, and number of Care Homes in Callington, and likely to be too much for the local pharmacy to store. However, the key to this scheme is ideally to have one or more pharmacies on board.

Alison Humphries then spoke about how the scheme could work and what quantities were expected.

It was suggested that talks take place with the Pharmacy at South Brent which was currently involved in this scheme to gain more information as to how they cope and also with the local Lloyds Pharmacy in Callington to determine if they could handle the storage.

It was agreed that more background information was required with regard to industrial scale quantities, how the scheme could work and clarification on what the Town Council was expected to do. Cllr Raphael agreed to research this to bring back to the new Council for consideration.

- 9. FOR DECISION** - To discuss the proposal presented to Full Council by a local resident concerning a community project.

It was agreed that this was a great project idea but that it should be put on hold until talks had taken place with the new Head Teacher at the Primary School. The resident who proposed the project was not in attendance at this meeting therefore it was suggested that the item be deferred until the next meeting.

Resolved. It was proposed by Cllr Gold seconded by Cllr Long and unanimously agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Moore drew the committee's attention a Government issue around the environmental dangers of wood burning in domestic wood burners. He suggested that the Town Council had an opportunity, both locally and within Cornwall to be ahead if the game on this issue. He reported that domestic wood burners contributed to 50% of all air pollution, particularly wet wood. Particles from wood burning contributed to cardio vascular disease and some cancer and suggested that there was a lack of awareness. He asked

what action could be taken to reduce wood burning within Cornwall and asked if Cllr Long could lobby Cornwall Council on this issue. Cllr Long agreed that he would look into this and see what information Cornwall Council had and what action they were currently taking to try to reduce this issue.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be scheduled for Tuesday 13th July and 6.30pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.35pm.