



Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Spout Hills Committee
On Wednesday 31st March at 5pm
Via the platform Zoom

Attending: Cllr Philip Wright , Tony Leech , Cllr Bryan Payne, Cllr Ben Philo, Fiona Jolliffe and Gemma Harrison (Holt Town Clerk)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

1.1 Cllr Payne PROPOSED Cllr Wright as Chairman, this was SECONDED by Tony Leech and AGREED by all.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

2.1 Fiona Jolliffe PROPOSED Tony Leech as Vice-Chairman, this was SECONDED by Cllr Payne and AGREED by all.

3. APOLOGIES

3.1 Apologies were received by Cllr Rodney Smith.

3.2 It was noted that George Rudd was unable to attend the meeting due to it happening virtually, the Clerk was unable to contact George prior to the meeting but will send a copy of the minutes to George to ensure he is kept informed.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4.1 Cllr Philo declared an interest as he is also employed by HTC as a member of the Maintenance Team.

4.2 Tony Leech declared an interest as a member of The Holt Society and the River Glaven Conservation Trust.

5. AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30th SEPTEMBER 2020

5.1 Tony Leech asked for an amendment to the minutes at 8.4 as the reed-mace will be removed by Tony and costs for removal are not required. Cllr Payne PROPOSED the amended minutes as accurate and correct, and this was SECONDED by Cllr Wright and AGREED by all.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 The Clerk reported that the artwork for the new signage at Spout Hills had been completed and the new signs should be in place in the next couple of weeks.

6.2 Fiona Jolliffe asked whether the barbed wire had been removed and Cllr Philo confirmed it had been.

CLOSE THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

7. DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

7.1 Tony Leech took the Committee through parts of the Draft Management Plan. Tony discussed putting more vegetation in the pond, however Cllr Payne raised concerns as children enjoyed swimming in the pond during the summer months. Tony stated that he was increasingly unhappy about the clearing of the stream as it was having a negative effect on plants, which were now struggling to grow in this area. It was AGREED to restrict the clearing to a certain area, the exact area to be confirmed at a site visit. The site visit would also look at the whole Management Plan on site to agree exactly what to cut and what to leave, the site visit will take place W/C 5th April.

7.2 It was AGREED to adopt the Management Plan, it should be seen as work in progress and that it can be revised and amended as we go along. The plan was PROPOSED for adoption on this basis by Tony and SECONDED by Cllr Wright and AGREED by all.

8. EXPLORE THE IDEA OF A PICNIC AREA ON TOWN MEADOW

8.1 Cllr Philo proposed creating a picnic area on Town Meadow with two picnic benches being donated by Cllr Philo and his wife. Cllr Wright stated it was a good idea and thanked Cllr Philo for his kind donation, however he did raise concerns about rubbish. It was suggested that a bin should be installed in the area to prevent littering.

8.2 It was noted that a Memorial at Spout Hills will be installed for the Late John Allison. More thought will be given to exactly what this will be and a suitable location over the coming months.

9. PROGRAMME OF WORKS TO BE AGREED FOR 2021

9.1 It was AGREED that the works would follow in broad terms what was set out in the Management Plan and details to be discussed at the site meeting which has been agreed for the following week.

9.2 It was noted that the volunteer groups were all up and running again with the Saturday group meeting on the last Saturday of the month.

10. BENCHES POLICY

10.1 Cllr Philo suggested that there needs to be an agreement on where new benches will go on Spout Hills and some consistency is needed on design, including colour etc. It was noted that the rustic benches currently on the Hills would not suit a memorial plaque. Tony suggested memorial trees and plaques instead of benches. It was AGREED to defer the item to the next meeting to allow members to give the item some further thought.

11. PUBLICITY

11.1 Fiona suggested advertising for some more volunteers for Spout Hills in the Holt Chronicle. It was felt there should be more information about the management and promotion of Spout Hills and other HTC owned sites in the Chronicle. The Clerk agreed to incorporate Spout Hills in her quarterly Clerks Report which will be included in the Chronicle.

12. LITTLE HILLS

12.1 The Clerk suggested working with the Holt Youth Project to create some owl and bat boxes to be installed at Little Hills. Any expenditure will need approval from HTC. This was AGREED by all.

12.2 It was noted that the wall running adjacent to Little Hills was going to be repaired by the new landowner.

13. TO CONSIDER ANY CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

13.1 A letter from a local resident was circulated for comment and it was AGREED that the Clerk would respond to the points raised.

14. AOB

14.1 None

15. CONSIDER DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15.1 It was AGREED to arrange the next meeting in September.

The meeting ended at 17.48.