

**MINUTES OF THE PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL RURAL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL ON WEDNESDAY 6th OCTOBER 2021
AT 7.40 PM**

Present: Cllr James Cross Chairman
Cllr Ann Daniels
Cllr Ian Massey
Cllr Martin Slinger

1. To note apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rosie Nash and Roey Parker.

2. Declaration of interests in items on the agenda.

There were none.

3. To confirm the Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 28th October 2020.

The Minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Plantation – To receive an update; including information on Ash Tree Dieback.

The Chairman reported that he will shortly be reviewing the state of the Ash Trees with the Junior Groundsman, in the Plantation, Cemetery and Recreation Ground. The following checks will be carried out: a) the state of the Ash trees and b) the potential for planting replacements and any additional tree planting. A report will then be sent to the Members.

JC/LE

5. To receive an update on the Cotswold Conservation Board Gateway Project.

The project has now been completed and the boards have been installed in Stamages Lane car park. A letter of thanks was sent to Rebecca and the Cotswold Volunteer Wardens for their assistance in achieving the project, despite the issues with lock-down.

6. To receive an update on works carried out on the Public Rights of Way.

The Clerk circulated a report to the Members on work carried out by the Cotswold Volunteer Wardens, prior to the meeting.

<https://www.painswick-pc.gov.uk/uploads/update-footpaths-oct-21.pdf>

7. To note the new legislation for Historic Paths; must be registered on the Definitive Map by 2026 or closed off.

The Committee agreed to set up a Working Group to identify paths that are used but are not currently on the definitive map. Working Group to consist of Cllrs James Cross, Ann Daniels, Martin Slinger but to invite the Footpath Inspectors.

8. To consider issues that should be included in the Parish Plan Review.

The Chairman sent the Members the following report prior to the meeting:

1. The existing parish plan doesn't include a specific section on the Environment or Climate Change although some relevant items came under 'Planning and Conservation' and 'Sport and Leisure incl. green spaces'.
2. That we recommend the plan contains a section dedicated to the environment and climate change to reflect the much greater level of concern in the community, and to provide a place for new initiatives.
3. A few suggestions:
 - a. Footpaths
 - i. Continue to Review Permissive Rights of Way
 - ii. Focus on Footpath Accessibility - replacing styles/old kissing gates with new, more accessible gates.
 - b. Woodlands
 - i. Seek to renew the Woodland Management Plan for the Plantation. There are 4 years left of the current one.
 - ii. Tree planting (replanting and additional planting where possible)
 - c. Biodiversity
 - i. Continue to support the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group
 - ii. Encourage biodiversity by the planting and maintenance of wildflower meadows
 - iii. Encourage biodiversity by continuing to engage with the Manorship
 - d. Climate Change
 - i. Extend ties with Painswick Area CAN - invite them to address PC
 - ii. Support Painswick Area CAN initiatives where possible
 - iii. Many others not directly related to Rural Env (Solar panels on Parish buildings, adoption of Green Gas, Electric car charging, home insulation initiatives.

The Committee agreed to the proposals, as listed in the Chairman's report.

The Committee would like to recommend to Full Council; that every Committee amend their Terms of Reference to ensure that they MUST give due consideration to Climate Change on all proposals.

9. To receive an update on the Finances.

The Clerk reported that the finances are currently £4,602.71.

10. Date of next meeting – tba

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30 PM