Meriden PARISH COUNCIL
the historic centre of England

Meeting notes of 3rd September 2019

Present: Chris Barr, Rosie Weaver, Peter Moss, Carol Stafford & Barbara Bland

There were no apologies received.

Chris Barr chaired the meeting.

1. Where are we now?
CB gave a brief overview of his role within Public Realm.

2. Maintenance

- Litter

Plastic litter disposed of around Pool site and not always placed in the litter bins provided. Signage to request "place litter in bins provided". Recently a wildfowl died due to plastic around its neck. CS reported the bins are not always emptied and this results in overflowing bins and wildfowl hazard, and increased vermin risk.
Action: CB to look into signage. CB to check Amey collection cycle.

- Frequency

Maintenance to be improved particularly deeper cleansing every two weeks. Programme of maintenance to be provided; perhaps enhancement to SMBC maintenance by Friends and Parish Council. Currently culvert/trash screen is cleaned out with all debris removed and left on bank. Can this not be removed from site?
Action: CB to discuss with Amey.
What is included?
Action: CB to look into and update at next meeting.

- Trees

Update on ivy removal from trunk of trees nearest fencing to Main Road.
Action: CB/BB/Darren Parkin to confirm Glendale programme of works.

PM reported his concerns regarding the weeds and newly planted hedge. A brief discussion continued regarding supply of hand tools and protective clothing for Friends to use; possible storage Meriden Sports Park?
Action: BB to speak to Arden Tree Scheme/Barry Lowe regarding Ranger assistance.

3. Signage
3.1 Boating/Fishing
Signage in hand and will be installed by the service entrance to Pool alongside planter.

3.2 Wildfowl Feeding
Visitors/residents still feeding wildfowl white bread; more awareness needed. Purchase of grain/seed from dispenser or via local shops? More thought needed how to improve situation. There is a reduction in scrap food being disposed of at the Pool for Wildfowl however this has not removed fully the vermin problem.
Action: All

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4. Friends/Volunteers

4.1 Insurance

SMBC. Sign up to Love Solihull. Risk assessment to be carried out prior to any volunteer work being carried out. Volunteers under parish council liability insurance.
Action: SMBC/MPC

PM recorded his thanks to the team of volunteers who supported Barry and Adrian (SMBC Rangers) in replenishing the chipped pathway created at rear of Pool.

5. Future Vision

Storage of hand tools and protective clothing – Sports Park/Parish Council office;
Seed/grain feed dispenser;
Memorial Bench request;
3 "friends" seats for rear pathway of Pool;
More bulb planting of rear bank and weed/nettle maintenance;
Observation Platform
Accessible access pathway
More nesting boxes to Central Island
Wildflowers to rear of Pool

6. Funding

CB to draft letter for local businesses for small hand tools and protective clothing. Explore options of environmental funding from local landfill/quarry operations for observation platform and accessible footpath. Parish Council will obtain quotations from contractors for enhanced maintenance of site.
Action: CB to draft letter for local businesses; BB to obtain quotations from local contractors to improve maintenance.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The Friends Group will next meeting on Tuesday 12th November 2019 at 3.30 p.m. at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.

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