

Watton NP Steering Group Meeting Notes
27th September 2021 at 2pm to be held in the Council Chamber Wayland Hall

Notes by Michelle Thompson

Present:- Jane Fountain(JF), Kathryn Stallard(KS), Liz Whitcher(LW), David Dent(DD) – attended virtually by Zoom

1. Apologies
Pat Warwick, Keith Gilbert
2. Notes from the NP meeting held on August 26th 2021 were accepted.
3. To give feedback and comment on reviewed community actions
 - Steering Group members generally happy with the content and consolidation of the community action review but spelling and typos to be revisited. **IP to check LW suggestions sent to him by email.**
4. To review Local Green Spaces assessment and consider questions re: land ownership
 - **Ask Ian Poole (IP) if there is an Average National Standard of measurement depending on the population of a town for open space**
 - **Ask IP does the Management Committee of modern developments need contacting?**
 - **Ask IP can privately owned land be protected as open space?**
 - **There is some confusion regarding Open Space and Green Space – is the land that is indicated in the assessment Open Space or Green Space? Are we looking at areas of land that the public can freely go on?**
 - **Ask that the following be included in the open space assessment: - Please refer to attached map**
 - i. **East Road Verge - Public open space owned by BDC**
 - ii. **Lime Tree Walk corner plot with substation – Public open space**
 - iii. **Old Officers Mess – Portal Avenue/Tedder Close – Can this be protected? Privately owner by Bennetts in process of being transferred to the TC**
 - iv. **2 parcels of land at South Road owned by BDC**
 - v. **Thetford Road allotments – include Jubilee Gardens WTC Lease land which is privately owned – Can this be protected?**
 - vi. **Land on Merton Road, MT to check land Registry - previously owned by Mrs Durrants – Can this be protected?**
 - vii. **Field next to Wayland Wood – Believed to be Norfolk Wildlife Trust – MT to conduct search with land registry**
 - viii. **Bunker site off Elworthy Close – Privately owned**
 - ix. **Memorial Garden – Owned by Watton Town Council**
5. To receive further reports and items for the next agenda

LW reported she had previously attended a walk around with WSP consultants and Norfolk Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to view 5 areas at most risk of flooding. On half of the areas were viewed so another walk around is scheduled. It is hoped that a business plan will be completed by October/November this year and that the funding from the Government's Resilience and Innovation fund will be available to Watton in Spring of next year. It was felt it would be of help to inform IP that the WSP and LLFA could be looking at siting attenuation tanks on some of the open space at Lovell gardens and the piece of land at Langmere road.

It was suggested an alteration in the wording of policy WTN1 that might allow for attenuation.

DD Reported that a letter of offer had been received from the Charlotte Harvey Trust regarding use of the land for a prefabricated Library and space for the Wayland House Tenants while the Medica Centre is being built. The offer will need to be formalised at a CHT meeting but can be followed up as an option

DD to meet with Andrew Holdsworth from BDC to get an update on the business case and it is hoped that by the end of the year a formal proposal and visibility study is compiled.

6. Any other business

Final deadline for the draft plan to go to the Town Council will need to be the last TC meeting on October 26th. The steering group would like the plan to be finished by the end of the year.

7. To set a date for the next NP meeting

Thursday 14th October at 2pm