

**MINUTES OF THE GREENING OF THE BOROUGH WORKING GROUP
HELD ON MONDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2015**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Members
D M Carter (Chair)
J W Boyce
F S Broadley
A Bond
S Morris
B Boulter

Officers:
Nick Hague – Countryside Ranger

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Resp
49	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Councillors R Thakor Anne Court Carolyn Holmes Brian Kew</p>	
50	<p><u>MINUTES</u></p> <p>Minutes of Previous Meeting on 23 September 2015 were agreed and signed as an accurate record of that meeting.</p>	
51	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</u></p> <p>Crow Mill: A report on progress on the picnic shelter refurbishment and bench placement was requested for the next meeting.</p> <p>Cafe Update: Councillor Boyce would seek an update for the next meeting.</p> <p>Tree Strategy: Members asked that this should complement the local plan and be embedded into the council's policies in future. Members asked that the completed strategy be tabled at the next meeting.</p> <p>EDOS Papers: Councillor Carter asked that a report be brought on the Borough Gateways to the next meeting.</p>	<p>MS</p> <p>AC</p> <p>BK</p>

	<p>Volunteer Development Project: A discussion took place around the communication of the project. Achievements and progress reports were requested in line with Heritage Lottery Fund reports for future meetings.</p> <p>Members asked that an email be sent to all councillors who use social media to improve the number of 'likes' for the project Facebook page.</p> <p>Members asked that a Twitter Page be created for Greening the Borough.</p> <p>South Wigston: Members asked that the volunteer project carried out targeted marketing for South Wigston, to separate it from the Brocks Hill brand.</p> <p>Wigston: Members raised that the Master Gardeners project at Elizabeth Court and Boulter Crescent has waned in activity leaving unpicked food crops. Councillor Carter said he would liaise with Alison McGrath.</p> <p>Oadby: Councillor Carter feed back to the group that Pride of the Borough has launched their 'Take Pride' project. This is being rolled out to local Secondary schools and the community. Primary schools will follow in the following months.</p>	NH
52.	<p><u>GREENING OF THE BOROUGH MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT – AGENDA ITEM 4</u></p> <p>The report was accepted by working group with no additional comments.</p>	
53	<p><u>VOLUNTEERING UPDATE - AGENDA ITEM 5</u></p> <p>b) A discussion around Corporate Social Responsibility took place.</p> <p>c) Members asked that the volunteering statistics titles be amended to show Wednesday volunteers and other week day volunteers.</p> <p>d) The working group asked that the Volunteering Policy and Procedure be removed from the agenda until a later date.</p>	NH
54	<p><u>SUSTAINABLE PLANNING IN THE NEW LOCAL PLAN - AGENDA ITEM 6</u></p> <p>Members requested that trees be specifically mentioned within the sustainable plan, as this is a key priority for the</p>	

	<p>council.</p> <p>Members raised that whilst woodlands are important it would be hard to plant new woodlands in the borough. It was thought that planting small numbers of up to 40 trees would be more acceptable within the borough.</p> <p>Councillor Boulter raised the issue of impermeable drive ways currently being specified within the Borough and asked if alternative permeable drive ways could be encouraged within planning applications. Councillor Boyce said he would take it up with Adrian Thorpe through the Place Shaping group.</p>	
55	<p><u>CEDAR TREE STUMP AGENDA ITEM 8</u></p> <p>A discussion took place around the funding and options listed within the paper.</p> <p>Members recognised that funding for the project had been previously agreed.</p> <p>Option four was rejected as members felt that the stump was unsuitable.</p> <p>Option one was chosen as the preferred route by members.</p> <p>Members asked that officers obtain updated quotes for the stump to be fully carved using the owl as depicted from the councils crest.</p> <p>Members requested that these new quotes be tabled to PFD committee prior to the new financial year. It was envisaged that this project would commence after the 5 April 2016.</p>	AC/CH
57	<p><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS – AGENDA ITEM 9</u></p> <p>None.</p>	
58	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>Tuesday, 16 February 2016 at 18:30 in the Committee Room, Council Offices.</p>	