

**HOLT TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MEETING OF THE SPOUT HILLS COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**SEPTEMBER 2011 at 7.00 p.m. Holt Community Centre**

Present: Cllrs J Allison, C Hipperson. Ex-Officio members, Lynn Jackson, John Jarvis, Fiona Jolliffe, Tony Leech, George Rudd. Di Dann Town Clerk

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Hipperson **SECONDED** by Tony Leech, Cllr Allison was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

**2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Hipperson **SECONDED** by Cllr Jolliffe, Tony Leech was elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

**3. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bryan Payne and NNDC Cllr P High. Everyone wished Cllr Payne a speedy recovery from his illness.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Fiona Joliffe declared an interest as a member of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and CPRE. Tony leech declared an interest as a member of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

**5. AGREED THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2011**

On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Hipperson the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 were **AGREED**.

**6. CLOSE THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no public.

**7. PROGRAMME OF WORKS FOR THE WINTER PERIOD**

The Chairman advised that Tony Leech had met with Fiona and then himself on site to discuss the following proposals:

**7.1 Railway Meadow**

This had been mown in August. There was a lot of ragwort. It was **AGREED** to pull the ragwort at the end of September after a rain, and clip off the shorter ragwort. The broom on the west side of the meadow was dead or long and leggy. It was **AGREED** to saw the dead broom off for tidiness, and the base stumps would rot away. Where it was falling over onto the path there would be a discussion on site. It was **AGREED** that the western margins of the site should be tidied so that it could be mown with a broad sweep. The four oak trees in the bank area were discussed. It was **AGREED**, on a vote of 4 in favour 2 against, that they should be thinned.

**7.2 Valley in front of Holly Hill**

The docks had been treated in the early season. It was **AGREED** that control of docks should continue in the New Year.

**7.3 Reedmace / Bull Rush Area**

There would be nothing done in this area over the Winter, with progress having been made. The giant hogweed had been dug out early in the season.

**7.4 Stream**

It had been previously agreed that vegetation would be cleared from one side of the stream each year. It was **AGREED** to take the fallen vegetation out of the stream and remove the marginal vegetation on one side of the bank.

**7.5 Large Pond.**

Members were happy with the appearance of the pond and **AGREED** that nothing further need be done other than remove the blanket weed if time allowed and pull up or cut the willow herb on the east side.

**7.6 Small Pond.**

It was **AGREED** to tidy up the vegetation around the willow herb, pull the reedmace out and cut back the brambles.

**7.7 Town Meadow.**

It was **AGREED** to cut off the re-growth of the blackthorn with the sickle mower so that the contract mowers could get close to the blackthorn. George Rudd was thanked for mending the seat. The proposal to open up the wooded area would be discussed on site. The harebell area should be mowed up to the end of June and then the area should be staked so that there should be no mowing within the staked area. The stakes could be removed in November. The Town Clerk and Tony would discuss the matter again in May / June.

**7.8 Valley to Letheringsett Hill Lay By car park.**

It was **AGREED** that the lower branches of the trees would be removed. The side bar mower would be used to cut the path. It was noted that Lynn had taken 30 tons of compost away from the site. Tony would speak to the chairman of the Allotment Committee to see if any compost was needed at their site.

**7.9 Valley Mire.**

Because of financial constraints it was **AGREED** to use the side bar mower on a different part of the site over a three year rotation. This could be done from the end of September. The pond to the stream could be cut by the rotary mower. The monies from the CSS Agreement and the money which would have been paid to NCC (Approximately £800) could then be rolled into the financial year 2012/13 for a contract cut. There would be time to research contractors for this work.

**8. CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

**8.1 Letter regarding the fencing boundary.** It was considered that the barbed wire was outside of the fence. It was possible to see where the posts had gone to mark the boundary. The Town Clerk was asked to obtain the title deed from Land Registry. On a **PROPOSAL** by Cllr Allison it was **AGREED** to ask Mr Neech to attend on site at 9.00 a.m. on 24<sup>th</sup> September This would be prior to the next Working Party, or alternatively on 29<sup>th</sup> October.

**8.2 Request to use the Benassi at Natural Surroundings.** It was **AGREED** that the Benassi should only be used by the Town Council.

**8.3 Queens Jubilee Fun Run over the Common.** Cllr Allison advised that he had had an idea to use the common for a 4 / 5 kms Fun Run to celebrate the Jubilee event and he hoped this would be the start of many such events. Holt Youth Project had **AGREED** to make refreshments. Certificates and medallions could be awarded.

**9. DATE FOR MARCH 2012 MEETING**

This would be advised. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date