

Charmouth Environment Group

Notes of meeting held on Tuesday 1st October 2024

Present: Cllr Jane Bremner (Chair), Cllr Julie Leah, Andrew Lightfoot

Apologies: Katy Tunstall, Sam Webber

1. **Planting proposals:**

The Elms: need to supplement existing plants to provide more interest in summer and winter: mahonia and verbena suggested.

Jubilee Garden: Julie suggested relocating some plants from the nearby planters when some thinning out is required, plus adding some daffodils and crocus. The lack of communication with the Tree Warden regarding pruning of the tree in this garden was noted with regret, as was the result of the work.

Playing field: agreed to propose planting the two amalanchiers near the railings and the addition of another oak tree to be donated by Rotary.

Hedging: some gaps to be filled over the winter.

West Green: agreed to ask the Foreshore Cttee for permission to create a meadow on the edge of this area, close to the cliff edge. Julie was seeking advice from the National Trust following their successful planting at Burton Bradstock.

Working party: subject to the Committees' approval of use of the remaining budget in these ways, a working party was to be arranged for November to undertake the planting.

2. **Information plaques:**

Following agreement for new plaques on West Green and in the playing field, it was agreed that Julie would draft text for the first and Andrew for the second. Sally King would then design the plaques. The Facilities Manager had been asked to produce costings for cairn construction, using a wooden frame.

3. **Nesting boxes for sparrows at the Old Cement Factory:**

Following a severe decline in the sparrow population in this location in recent years, Jane was to suggest to the Foreshore staff that the existing boxes be relocated to the west facing wall.

4. South West in Bloom:

It had been agreed to make donations to the library and St Andrews House residents to assist their 'It's your neighbourhood' entries. The donations were to be in the form of garden vouchers.

5. Community energy:

It was agreed to feature opportunities for community energy schemes at one of the Environment Exchange sessions.

6. CTAP:

A draft business plan was expected imminently.

7. Notes of meeting held on 30th July:

Some actions were outstanding have been added to the action list below. Jane and Julie were to discuss with the Facilities Manager the scope for more recycling receptacles.

8. Sand martin wall:

Julie had been inspired by a mounded wall created at Seaton Wetlands to provide artificial nesting sites for sand martins. She suggested it would be possible to do something similar near the reed bed. Also, she proposed that provision of 'swift bricks' could be promoted in new buildings through the planning process.

9. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3rd December.

ACTION POINTS

Jane: contact Gardening Club

Speak with staff regarding sparrow nesting boxes and recycling facilities.

Julie: acquire plants and bulbs after permission granted

Contact National Trust regarding creation of meadow

Draft text for Foreshore information plaque

Revise work programme

Contribute to recycling discussions

Andrew: draft text for playing field information plaque

Co-ordinate planting working party

Arrange discussion of community energy opportunities at an Environment Exchange

Playing Field Committee: to consider planting proposals and budget spend

Foreshore Committee: to consider creation of a strip of meadow on West Green

All: attend Environment Exchanges on second Saturday of the month 10-12.