

## HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Virtual Bio-Diversity & Wildlife Conservation Committee Meeting held on

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021 via VIDEOCONFERENCING

<b>Present (by Video):</b>	Gerald Brown (Chairman), David Evans, Rachel Eburne, Gavin Deans, Alf Hannan, Jo Ling (arrived at item 10), Molly Wallis and Mrs. C Pizzey (Clerk)
<b>1.</b>	<b>To receive and consider apologies for absence:</b> None.
<b>2.</b>	<b>To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest:</b> None.
<b>3.</b>	<b>To receive any written requests for dispensations:</b> None received.
<b>4.</b>	<b>To note and approve the minutes of the Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (as circulated) and to agree that delegated authority be given to the Chair to sign the minutes outside of the meeting:</b> It was agreed that the minutes could be signed.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Public Forum:</b> Nothing to report.
<b>6.</b>	<b>To consider and recommend that Haughley Parish Council changes the name of this committee to a shorter title:</b> The members felt that the current committee's name reflected the terms of reference and as such time as these are changed then a shorter name would be considered. The name details exactly what the committee is committed to do for the parish.
<b>7.</b>	<b>To receive an update on the current and proposed consultation with Parishioners on biodiversity and wildlife conservation within the Parish:</b> It was agreed that consultation will be carried out at specific areas rather than the parish as a whole.
<b>8.</b>	<b>To receive an update on arrangements to obtain advice from persons experienced in inspecting and reporting on biodiversity interest in areas within the Parish (Suffolk County Councils Ecologist; Plant Life for verge side projects and Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Suffolk Naturalists' Society (contact Martin Sanford), including</b>

Signed Chairman:

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	<p>(i) <b>Cycle path:</b> Gavin Deans reported bee orchids on the cycle path. Jo Ling to contact Suffolk Wildlife Trust to audit the area.</p> <p>(ii) <b>Road verges – Fishponds Way:</b> The Chairman reported on the cornflower area that has recently been cultivated.</p> <p>(iii) <b>The Cricket:</b> The Chairman reported that no update had been made and a meeting will be scheduled for the future.</p> <p>(iv) <b>Other areas of interest:</b> Gavin Deans reported that he had yet to contact Suffolk County Councils Ecologist. He is hoping that additional orchids come to fruition over the next two months and contact will then be made for all areas to be reviewed.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk contacts the Suffolk County Council's Public Rights of Way Officer to arrange a meeting to look at the issues of the footpath at Tothill.</p> <p>It was agreed to include this as an ongoing item for all future agendas.</p>
9.	<p><b>To receive an update on the Parish Council's expression of interest to manage the proposed conservation area adjoining the Fishponds Way development:</b> The Clerk reported that she had sent an email to the MSDC Planning Officer and no response had been received to date. Rachel Eburne agreed to contact them.</p>
10.	<p><b>To consider Council a proposal for planting areas in Haughley and agree a recommendation to the Parish Council to include application to MSDC to supply suitable trees and plants:</b> The Chairman reported on the proposal that had been written by Jo Ling, Molly Wallis and Gavin Deans. It was agreed to present the proposal to the Parish Council at the June meeting.</p> <p><u>TREES</u></p> <p>1. The hedged line of grass running from the corner of St Mary's along Fishponds Way. This area already has an established hedgerow which originally included hawthorn trees as standards. The Committee to propose planting hawthorn and rowan trees from St Mary's roadside along to the 2 concrete bollards. These tree species are interesting to look at (blossom in Spring, berries in Autumn) and remain relatively compact even when fully grown. They also provide value for wildlife and are both native species to the UK.</p> <p>2. The grass verge on the righthand side of St Mary's. Long time residents of the</p>

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	<p>village remember St Mary's being an avenue of flowering cherry trees. Some of the trees have died and not been replaced. The committee propose that we plant cherry trees in the gaps. There are a number of varieties of cherry trees to choose from which will complement the trees already there and provide habitat and food for a variety of species.</p> <p>3. The grass areas at the bottom of St Mary's. There is room on these grassed areas for a number of small fruit trees which would create a second village 'scattered orchard'. We propose approximately 12 trees planted in a naturalised style. The Committee can take advice on the exact species once the Parish Council have agreed in principle. Fruit trees are attractive to pollinating species and the fruit can also be enjoyed by residents.</p> <p><u>WILDFLOWERS</u></p> <p>We propose the following areas as sites to be developed as perennial wild flower meadows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. part of the greensward at Ladyfield</li> <li>2. part of the green in Old Street</li> <li>3. part of St Mary's Avenue</li> </ol> <p>Prior to the proposal being presented it was agreed to consult with the residents of the above areas. Molly Wallis agreed to produce the leaflet and a date of the 29<sup>th</sup> May was scheduled for the consultation.</p>
11.	<p><b>To consider and agree proposals for the management of the wildflower corner around the memorial tree at King George V Playing Field opposite the school:</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that Jo Ling had been approached to work with the Playing Field Committee on a wildflower project at King George V Playing Field. Jo Ling updated the committee and advised that some yellow rattle plant plugs have been planted around the memorial tree which was planted to the right of the entrance opposite the school. The Playing field Committee will organise some signs to advise residents of this wildflower area. The Playing Field Committee are keen to work with the B&amp;WC committee to manage this area and to reinstate the native hedge plants in the gap along the ditch to the right of the entrance. A strip of grass has also been left long along the hedge row. It was agreed that the Committee along with volunteers would work with the Playing Field Committee on this project.</p>

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12.	<p><b>To note information and consider trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) in the Parish:</b> Rachel Eburne reported on the TPO's in the parish and asked the committee to look at any other areas in the village that need TPO's.</p> <p>Five lots of TPO's in the village</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At 4 Fir Tree Lane – three fir tree</li> <li>• At Haughley House – one tree</li> <li>• At The Elms, The Folly – one tree</li> <li>• Along Fishponds Way, east side between Fishponds House and the bridge – a group of trees / hedging</li> <li>• In the woodland to the east of Fishponds Way in the woods running along the stream – area of woodland</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed to add this to the next agenda.</p>
13.	<p><b>To note to publication of the updated Countryside Code:</b> The Chairman reported that the latest copy of the Countryside Code has been included in the next edition of the H&amp;WPN.</p>
14.	<p><b>To receive information on the new local interest group - Haughley Nature Watch:</b> Jo Ling reported on the Haughley Nature Watch group. The group has been set up for residents to bring anyone with an interest in nature together. The group could be a resource for looking after the area in the playing field.</p>
15.	<p><b>Any other business:</b> David Evans reported on the work that he has been doing on the trees at the community orchard at the allotments. Some of the smaller trees have some growing to do and all of them are looking really good. It was agreed to make a proposal to the Parish Council to run an apple day event at the allotments to make use of the apples from the orchard.</p> <p>Molly Wallis suggested writing a proposal for the Parish Council to consider further trail conservation for grass areas around the village. Consideration at;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Green at The Folly</li> <li>• Station Road</li> <li>• Castle Rise</li> <li>• Area outside Hairdresser</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstration area outside Dial Farm</li></ul> Jo Ling agreed to write the proposal for the June Parish Council meeting.
<b>16.</b>	<b>To consider and agree the date for the next committee meeting:</b> The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July. Due to the Clerks other commitments, it was agreed to continue the meetings on a bi-monthly basis but to move them to the first Tuesday of the month from July.
	There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20.14

Signed Chairman:

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