

Subject: CEG meeting 7.30pm Monday 30th September 2019

In attendance: Cllrs Sam Lain - Rose (Chair), Sue Forward, Paddy Riordan, Zara Rawlinson, Joan Buller, Colin Bowden, Helen Miller, Adele Sharp (arrived 7.40pm).

Note: Cllr Tash Thomas has stepped down from the group.

1. Apologies John Perry, Louise Brice

2. Declarations of interest of items on the agenda

Requests for dispensation

3. Minutes of previous meeting- Unavailable

4. Wimpey Field Enquiry

Enquiry from resident relating to entrances to wooded area at the Wimpey Field.

It was agreed that the access points were largely consistent with the original plans and as agreed with HML/Taylor Wimpey & SPC during meeting last January. The entrance to the wooded area had been moved slightly to the south as this was a more accessible position.

5. Proposal for wooden planter at Market St

Market St/Station Rd Planter

This matter was discussed and given general approval. PR stated that KCC Cllr Hotson was in communication with residents and would provide further information as it was available. The matter was noted for future discussion.

6. Parade Planters proposal from Cllr Bowden

It was agreed to recommend to Full Council to follow the guidelines in Cllr Bowden's drawings and recommendations. The funding should come from the donations received to date from local businesses. The fund may not meet the full expenditure however PR informed the group a further £500 was promised taking the fund to £986.06. Further information was shown to prove the timber could be obtained at significantly discounted cost which would come within the donation fund. Oak timbers were preferred.

Works to be carried out by Cllrs Bowden, Spearink, Riordan, Chapman & Volunteers. The payback team would be utilised to assist with the work.

CB: "Please see the attached set of drawings that I have prepared following a measured survey recently carried out with the help of Peter Spearink.

I have referred to the two existing brick enclosed planters as South Planter and North Planter; the key plan makes it clear.

On each brick planter I have shown an arrangement of smaller, 1900mm x 1900mm timber planters, similar to those recently installed close to Spar, by Peter and his helpers.

The general idea is that following the weeding and tidy up, the whole area would be covered with weed suppressing membrane and topped with 50-75mm bark chippings, as already proposed.

The individual timber planters could then be set in place, cutting out the square of membrane which would then be replaced within the timbers. I am proposing 5 No timber planters on the South Planter and 3 No timber planters on the North Planter. I have seen oak timbers on the internet at quite a reasonable price (UK Sleepers - 1800x200x100 at £18 + VAT and delivery - probable discount for quantity). As you will see from the typical section, and from the isometric view, the front face of the timber planter will be substantially exposed and the rear face, facing the High Street, will be partially embedded to allow for the sloping ground.

This scheme would result in minimum maintenance to the general area outside of the individual planters and would allow selected flower/shrub planting within the easily maintainable timber planters. The choice of planting/maintenance of each planter could be put out to competition to our residents and/or the Staplehurst Horticultural Society. Some of the planters, in particular within the North Planter where there are lots of trees, may need shade loving plants.”

7. Parade CCTV

PR had received a quote from Cam-Tech Security which brought the total cost in line with the agreed expenditure figure, it was agreed that PR would instruct the clerk to order the work and that it was not necessary to take the matter back to Full Council.

8. Chapel Lane street lights

This matter was discussed at length, using the extensive information supplied to the group by the Assistant Clerk. It was decided to recommend further engagement with the residents prior to putting a recommendation to Full Council.

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