

**MINUTES OF THE BURTON LATIMER POCKET PARK COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 23rd March 2011**

Present: Doreen Dicks, David Gunn, Maureen Jerram, Fergus Macdonald, Andy Warpole, Derek Zanger. Visitor: Dr Robin Field, Re-Vitalise

Apologies: Harvey York

Management Plan: Dr Robin Field has been helping to compile a Management Plan for the Pocket Park. Members of the committee now need to go through it and feed back what is viable to do and what is not bearing in mind limited volunteers. It was stressed that although Dr Field has been helping with the plan the ownership belongs to the Pocket Park. It was decided that the field which we were unsure of belongs to A. P. Lewis not the Pocket Park and that the plans held by NCC are incorrect.

Discussion around the pond area. We are currently negotiating for this land. It was decided to leave this in the plan because the plan is for 5 years. It gets wet at the bottom of the slope leading to it so a small bridge is needed over the ditch. The easiest area to improve at the moment is the ditches down the side. It was decided to give this priority with AW and HY mowing it and Groundwork (under supervision) to help collect up the grass and help clear the ditches (AW to progress). RF said that this will encourage more birds and wildlife.

RF also pointed out that there is a place where dogs regularly enter the water which is causing sediment to go into the water. This needs to be improved to prevent more damage to the bank and prevent sediment building up in the weir. He suggested that we could cut some of the willow branches and put into this area. They will then grow and hold back the sediment.

DZ is trying to get some more trees (Autumn planting) for the wooded area and some wild flower seeds. RF advised that all we need to do to plant them is to rough up the area a little.

AW to contact Bosworths and arrange for the donated silver birch to be planted.

DZ will contact KBC re their shredding machine – there is a pile of wood to be shredded from the left hand hedge.

When the land is ours the pond will need clearing out and a pond dipping platform put in. Some trees will need to go. Access will need to be improved. This is a great deal of work and RF feels that we could put in for a grant to do this as it will probably cost £8/10K. RF said he would be able to provide some reliable names of people who would be able to give us quotes for this work.

Committee members need to go through the Management Plan and then get back to RF with suggestions.

Minutes of the last meeting: These were agreed as a true record.

Matters arising:

- **AW** is still looking at tyres for the tractor. He has tightened the linkages etc and it is now slightly better
- Little tractor: **DG** has been to another tractor company and asked for details to service it. They have supplied a really thorough quote to include grinding blades, steering, belts, cleaning the petrol tank, checking the gear box, looking at the plugs etc for £150.00 plus parts. Agreed to accept this. **DG** to arrange after getting the quote in writing.
- Quote for a new strimmer with a hedge trimmer attachment is £184.97 - agreed to go ahead with this.

Finance: **DD** has agreed to take on the treasurer role. Trying to locate the cheque book. **DD** brought a box of Pocket Park items from **SWs** and **DZ** will go through it all. Signatures will be changed to include **DD**.

Duck Race:

- It was agreed that we would use the same firm as last time for the helter-skelter and bouncy castle etc and the same band. We will also have the balloon man provided we can get a small grant from **KBC** – **MJ** to organise
- **MJ** to organise the stalls and selling of the tickets
- **FM** will order the toilets
- **MJ** to ask Jan Smith about face painting
- **DZ** will negotiate the fee for the real ale tent and tables and chairs. They do not need a licence as that comes with the temporary licence which we pay for

Any other business:

- **MJ** to speak to Rose Little at **NCC** re a new wooden sign for the Pocket Park
- It was agreed to repair the damage caused by the recent car incident at the same time as we do the ditches with **Groundwork's** help
- It was reported that **KBC** keep putting the padlock back on the gate the wrong way round after collecting the rubbish

Next meeting: Wednesday 11th May, 7.00pm, Civic Centre.