

TASK & FINISH GROUP - COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY ORCHARDS

HELD: Tuesday, 18 October 2022

Start: 5.05 pm

Finish: 6.29 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor: R Molloy (Chairman)
K Mitchell (Vice Chair)

Officers: Gillian Wossick, Environmental Services
Dan Massey, Outdoor Recreation Manager
Helen Peek, Member Services Officer

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

AGREED: That Councillor Rob Molloy be appointed Chairman of the Task and Finish Group, and take control of the meeting.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

AGREED: That Councillor Kate Mitchell be appointed Vice Chairman of the Task and Finish Group

3 MEMBERSHIP OF TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Members considered if they wished to appoint any additional Members to the group, and if Substitute Members would be considered for appointment at future meetings. Should an appointed member not be able to attend.

AGREED:

A. That no additional Members were required at this time.

B. That Substitute Members would not be required.

C. That Members appointed to this group should be encouraged to attend future meetings.

4 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were noted from Councillors: Mark Anderson, Katie Jukes, Janice Monaghan, and Marilyn Westley,

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

6 TERMS OF REFERENCE

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AGREED: That the Terms of Reference set out in the Draft Project Plan for Community Environmental Improvements, Including Community Orchards, Task and Finish Group, be approved.

7 DRAFT PROJECT PLAN: COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY ORCHARDS

AGREED: That the Draft Project Plan for Community Environmental Improvements, Including Grot Spots, Task and Finish Group, be approved.

8 INTRODUCTION

The Outdoor Recreation Manager and The Environmental Sustainability Manager were introduced and invited to commence their presentation to Members

9 COMMUNITY ORCHARDS PLANTING - PRESENTATION

Members received a presentation by both the Outdoor Recreation Manager, and the Environmental Sustainability Manager, outlining:

- The benefits of planting community orchards, against the varying landscapes and other types of planting.
- How Community Orchards would link into the Councils Climate Change Strategy:
 - Sustainable Procurement
 - Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Transport and Travel
 - Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Residential Sector
 - Community Action
 - Natural Environment
- Co Benefits of the Project
 - Reduced Emissions
 - Improved Natural Environment
 - Improved Health and Well-being
 - Improved Air Quality;
- A list of potential sites put forward by Members of the Council, for consideration as potential Community Orchard Sites Pickles Drive Burscough.
 - West End Primary School, Ormskirk.
 - The community garden, in Elswick, Tanhouse

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- 'Various other pockets of greenspace in Tanhouse'
 - Verges along Railway Road, at rear of Pennylands.
 - Kiln Lane playing fields/Greenhill.
 - Scarisbrick, opposite Pool Hey Lane.
 - Victoria Road Park, off Swanpool Lane, Augthon.
 - Land to Rear of Ashurst Community Centre
 - Cotton Drive near to Tennyson Drive
 - Brookhouse Road off Halsall Lane
 - The Manor Road estate, Burscough
 - Colliers row (Rainford bypass)
 - Westhead Village Hall
 - Nursery Avenue, Ormskirk
- Considerations relating to land makeup and usage, types of trees

AGREED: That Members noted the presentation.

10 **FORWARD PLAN / NEXT STEPS**

Following Consideration of Agenda Items 6 to 9 Members

AGREED: the next steps and instructed Officers as follows:

- A. Of the following potential sites put forward by Members of the Council for consideration, at Agenda Item 9, the Environmental Sustainability Manager, and the Outdoor Regeneration Manager are instructed to score the sites against the following criteria:
 - i. Deliverability
 - ii. Longevity
 - iii. Suitability of native species
 - iv. Proximity to Community

- B. The Environmental Sustainability Manager, and the Outdoor Regeneration Manager are to report their findings to Members at the next Task and Finish Group meeting, with a short list of recommended sites suitable for establishing Community Orchards, with a view to agree up to four sites

11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

AGREED: The date of the next meeting be held 17 November 2022, at 17:30hrs, Via TEAMS.