

**Henleaze, Stoke Bishop, W-o-T NP**  
**Environment Working Group**  
**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**Recommendations:**

1. The Environment Working Group requests that the Neighbourhood Committee **agree to fund Kewstoke residents the sum of £500** from the NP's CIL funds, towards the remaining cost of their new tree replacement project, on the proviso that the residents raise the remaining £283

**1. Present:** Helen Furber, Sue Boyd, Mike Burgess, Sheila Preece, Alan Preece, Alan Aburrow, Hilary Long, David Mayer, Susan Mayer, Stephanie French, Hilary Long, Vera Giddings, Robert Murphy, Michael Blundell, Janet Brinnard, Andrew McGrath

**1.1 Apologies:** Gill Brown, Gary Brentnall, Val Bishop, Sue Boyd

Meeting chaired by David Mayer

**2. Matters Arising**

**2.1** The Mayor is intending to close the Portway for 5 events this year.

**2.2** Canford Park loos. Are open but seem to be closed some of the time. It was explained that there is an ongoing problem with people putting used nappies in to the toilet and blocking it. This has caused several closures. **Update:** Loos now have bins for such things as nappies, so hopefully the problem will cease. A watching brief will be kept.

**2.3** Gas company saga of installation on Stoke Lodge continues. It is not the company's fault. BCC Planning officers are at fault for not being clear or enforcing conditions. The battle continues. The appropriate officer from planning will be invited to attend the SB forum to explain why

the compliance hasn't been followed. **Action:** Andrew and Gary to contact Planning. The option of getting W&W to provide bedding for plants will be explored. Volunteers will then be used to do the planting. **Update:** Andrew in contact with planning regarding attendance at the next SB forum. Attendance not confirmed yet

**2.4 Canford Park Gates.** The situation highlighted in Hilary's public statement to the last NP remains. Officer time now needs to be factored in to costs when projects are designed. There is concern that the £1,200 spent on temporary gates could have been used towards the main gate project. However, a gate is needed until the permanent one is installed, and it will be used elsewhere when no longer needed for Canford. Hilary is still concerned that there was no notice given regarding the new regime of charging for officer time. It is solely a result of the severe funding changes within BCC.

**2.5 Pits in Devonshire Road.** Funding agreement signed but confusion reigns over who will actually deliver the project. It appears to be stuck in a no-mans-land of officers unable to commit to take on the project. It was **agreed** that Stephanie will speak to Glenise and Clare to see if they can help. Andrew to approach Richard Ennion. The Environment Working Group stated that it is appalled at this situation. **Action:** Andrew, Stephanie. **Update:** A new landscape designer will be in post by July. This person will work on this project, including preparing a detailed specification and taking the scheme through the mandatory Highways Quality Assurance (QA) process. Subject to any technical constraints, this part of the process should be completed by October with an aim to do the tree planting from December, at the start of the tree planting season. **Update:** Andrew will confirm if designer is in post yet.

**3. NP Plan – Environment .** Andrew discussed how best to report and update on the relevant parts of the plan. The intention is to report every meeting.

**4. Kewstoke Residents' request .** Following a well-being grant award of £1,417 at the last NP, residents have requested that the outstanding amount of their request, £783, be awarded from CIL. The EWG is aware that other resident groups have successfully fund-raised money for tree replacements. It is agreed that the road will benefit from a line of trees.

The current ones are having to be felled due to disease/old age. The EWG **agreed** that the NP should fund £500 from CIL, but only on the proviso that residents in Kewstoke fund the remaining £283. **Action:** EWG to **request** that £500 CIL funds be used to contribute to tree replacement in Kewstoke Road. **Update:** Agreed at June NP. Planting will be done next season.

**Clean and Green and Community Payback** The payback fund still exists and projects are needed. Suggestion were for cutting back the bushes on corner of Sylvan Way and the Portway. More ideas needed. **Action:** Gary to arrange this CP session.

**5.1** The new allocation of C&G is now available for allocation. Last year's allocation agreed for floral displays.

## **6. Parks Updates.**

**6.1** A meeting had taken place on Stoke Lodge prior to this meeting, regarding the dying Cedar of Lebanon tree. It needs to be felled or cut back to the trunk. Planning permission will be needed to fell it. Choices for the wood are – chip it; retain the trunk and sculpt it. The preference is for sculpting it. This will cost. Possibly CIL money can be used. Other branches could be used around the site. A tree sculptor will be contacted and asked to look at it and provide a quote. A vote was taken. All were against fencing it off and fully felling it. All were in favour of removing the branches and sculpting the trunk. **Action:** Gary will liaise with Stephanie about using the wood on the Stoke Lodge site

**6.2** TVG status for Stoke Lodge continues to work its way through the various processes. The latest is that David needs to explain why the latest objectors' objection regarding the Newhaven decision is not relevant to SL. The group again commended David's resilience on keeping going on this matter.

## **7.0 Any Other Business**

**7.1** The dog bin on Clover Ground has yet to appear despite being paid for by the NP. **Action:** Gary to investigate. There is also supposed to be another bin near the new playground on SL. Not there yet. **Action:** Gary to investigate. A new bin cannot be put on the Cheyne Road entrance as this is a private road

**7.2** Alan A has been trying to find out what is happening with the substation site in the lane between Cooper Road and Back Stoke Lane. Attempts so far to contact the PROW officer have proved unfruitful.

**Action:** Andrew and Gary to investigate

**7.3** The Green Capital Arts programme is on-going. Nominations are being made and a small group will adjudicate. Applicants will be awarded up to £10k. Deadline is 8<sup>th</sup> June. Decision on winner 9<sup>th</sup> June.

**Action:** Andrew to report result to the NP on 15<sup>th</sup> June.

**7.4** There is a plan to use remaining S106 funding from North View for Tulips. **Action:** Andrew to email everyone on this. **Update:** this needs to be formally agreed by this group and to go forward as a recommendation to the NP

**7.5** It was suggested that photos be taken of the trees on West Dene before Wales and West commence with planned works in the road.

**Action:** Residents in the road

**7.6** Seamills has been unsuccessful in its application for a grant to clear up the Trym. Alan mentioned that there is training being provided by BART for performing river surveys. Alan indicated that he will attend this training

**7.7** The issue of damage from the last firework display at Canford is being pursued but is proving very difficult. A house was slightly damaged as well as cars being covered in a dust that damages the paintwork. The Rotary Club who run the event have denied responsibility. It was pointed out that there is nothing this working group can do about this complaint but it can offer to help in time for the next event. Environmental Health officers will be contacted and asked to demand measures preventing a repeat of this next time. **Action:** Gary and Andrew. They will be asked to attend the next meeting. **Update:** No one available from EH to attend. A response is being sought

**7.8** Friends of Canford Park are keen to ensure Canford Cemetery is maintained at the present high level

**7.9** Janet informed the meeting that there has been some vandalism at Sneyd Park Nature Reserve. Sheila Preece suggested it might be the same group who had been vandalising Stoke Lodge. **Update:** The

miscreants have now been caught and are being ordered to provide community reparation. **Update:** Further vandalism issues since raised. Agenda item for discussion

**8. Date of Next Meeting:** 2.00pm Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015