

DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

27th July 2021

At a virtual meeting of the **Heritage & Open Spaces Committee** held on **Tuesday 27th July 2021** at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors P Duigan (Chairman), K Cogman, L Monument, H Clarke (substitute for C Bunting) and P Morton.

Also in attendance: Councillor A Greenwood, Town Clerk Tony Needham, Deputy Town Clerk Jillian Barron, and Ken Hawkins (Footpath Warden).

1. **To receive apologies for absence.**
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Brooks, C Bunting, S Green and H King.
2. **Declaration of Interest.**
Councillor K Cogman declared a personal interest in item 6.
3. **To receive report from the Footpaths Warden.**
Ken Hawkins presented his report saying that there had been no movement on FP2, RB3 and RB37 but the work on FP14a and FP34 have been programmed in to be carried out sometime this year.
Ken Hawkins continued and asked the Town Clerk if the new path that is to be dedicated to link RB39 with Hurn Lane had been cut back, the Clerk replied that it was due to be carried out this week.
4. **Update on applying for Countryside Stewardship.**
The Town Clerk updated the committee saying that he had met with a member from FWAG at the Neatherd and had a good walk around and was advised that this would fit into the higher level of stewardship which would delay things by one year but on the positive side it could make a difference of £30,000 over five years due to the additional grants.
5. **Update on Owl and Bat boxes.**
The Town Clerk advised the committee that the following owl boxes had been installed, 5 Barn Owl, 5 Little Owl and 5 Tawny Owl along with 9 bat boxes.
He continued by saying that there was a lack of suitable sites for the owl boxes as they needed to be away from the dual carriage way due to the birds swooping low and being hit by vehicles, he said that he had gained permission from the landowner to site a box on Badley Moor and site one on the allotment site at Toftwood.
The Town Clerk said that he had also expressed an interest in Breckland Councils Green Community Grant so that more boxes can go up in the winter.

6. **To consider biodiversity grant applications.**

The committee received three biodiversity grant applications, from Toftwood Infant School, Toftwood Junior School and Kings Park Infant School.

The committee recommended that Toftwood Infant, Toftwood Junior and Kings Park all receive a grant of £500 towards their biodiversity project.
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Chairman