



Caen Meadow Working Group (CMWG) meeting notes

Thursday 12th January 2023, 6.30pm at The Hub (URC), Norwich Road.

1. ATTENDANCE

Present - Bill Dashley, Ionie Lyons, Cllr Peter Mantle, Veronica Mowat (Chair), Nigel Robertson.
Apologies – Cllr Barry Fiske, Nicky Nichols, Ruth Rhead.
Noted resignation from Bronny Harris.

2. MATTERS ARISING

a. COMMUNICATION – use of the Forum – NR.

NR has set up a Forum using Wix and invited all interested parties. Take up has been really low. Queried if the introductory email had gone into people's spam boxes. Clerk to resend introductory email to try and increase usage. **ACTION CLERK**

b. FENCE ON MALT HOUSE LANE (MHL) – NR

An issue has arisen with Trafford Estates (TE) over ownership of the land. This is being resolved. No objections to the scheme from the Broads Authority (BA).

c. POTENTIAL LAND SALE BY TRAFFORD ESTATE – Clerk

Clerk has taken legal advice from BA on the sale regarding the "Local Green Space" designation in the Wroxham Neighbourhood Plan (policy ENV2 – pp50) and the "Green infrastructure" designation in the BA Local Plan (policy HOV1 – pp170). BA have advised that a sale would be allowed under the designation but planning permission would be required for change of use. BA have written to the seller and prospective purchaser with this advice. To maintain a watching brief.

3. WORK IN PROGRESS:

a. BENCH REPLACEMENT (ISSUE 5) – update on the two bench replacements – Clerk.

One bench has been fitted but the concrete pad for the second bench is too small and damaged. Much correspondence between the group as to the best position for a new pad. Under the terms of the lease WPC must have permission from the landowner (TE) for any new structures on the site. Clerk has corresponded with TE on the location options for the new pad for the bench and they have asked for it to be sited on the upper ridge, in between the existing benches. TE have asked for the old pad to be dug up and the debris removed from site. Clerk waiting for quotes.

b. GRASS CUTTING – PM

Discussed the issues with not cutting the grass – brambles & scrub developing, spread of invasive species (Himalayan Balsam is present) and fire risk. Agreed to take advice from the contractor on cutting only paths and around the benches in the main meadow for this

season. Need to be mindful that WPC has a three-year contract for the current spec. Agreed to continue to cut the staithe, Trafford Memorial Ground (TMG) & MHL. Clerk to set up a meeting with Cllr Mantle and Garden Guardian the contractor. **ACTION CLERK**

c. CAEN MEADOW FACEBOOK PAGE – Clerk

Clerk has tried to update unofficial page with no success. Agreed to try and have unofficial page with inappropriate photos removed and set up new official WPC page. To propose at Full Council. **TO PROPOSE**

d. MALT HOUSE LANE - SURFACE & KAYAKS USING SLIPWAY – BF & BD

Surface – Clerk briefed group on response from NCC Footpaths officer regarding surface. They recently inspected the footpath and it advised that the condition is 'commensurate with its public status'. If improvements were to be made this would have to be funded by WPC, but could involve a grant such as the Parish Partnership scheme. Agreed that this wasn't appropriate considering the gradient of the lane.

Kayaks using slipway – Agreed that it would be preferable for kayaks to use the slipway at the staithe rather than the beach to reduce erosion and congestion. BD agreed to contact the various books (Norfolk Broads Canoe & Kayak guide), websites (Song of the Paddle) and organisations that share information for kayakers and ask them to publish this information. **ACTION BD**

Clerk to contact BA and ask for river-based portage signs. **ACTION CLERK**

4. OTHER ISSUES:

a. WROXHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – IL

Clerk talked through the history and legal status of the WNP and that it is actively used as a planning document by WPC. A review is planned post May 2023 elections.

b. OVERUSE (ISSUE 1) – monitoring usage

Discussed surveying parking in Church Lane and face to face interview with users in peak periods to understand more about why people come to the meadow. Agreed to talk about this at the next meeting. **FOR NEXT AGENDA**

c. PARKING (ISSUE 2) – as above.

d. GUIDELINES FOR USAGE & SIGNAGE (ISSUE 4)

Group to review signage presentation (on DropBox) and feedback thoughts. Clerk to update with gate signage. **ACTION ALL & CLERK**

5. NEXT MEETING – agreed to meet again on the 9th March 2023 at 6.30pm. Clerk to check room availability and confirm. **ACTION CLERK**

Issued 20th January 2023
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