



Caen Meadow Working Group (CMWG) meeting notes

Thursday 8th August 2024, 6.30pm at The Hub (URC), Norwich Road.

1. **Attendance** – Noted those present - Cllr Peter Mantle (rep from WPC), Nicky Nicholl (Chair for the meeting), Ruth Rhead.
Apologies from Bill Dashley, Laura English, Angela Ireland, Ionie Lyons-Clayton.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** – from the 16th May 2024. Agreed.
Update on sewage – meeting between Anglian Water and WPC being arranged for September.
Residents noted how murky the water has been. This could be due to dredging or reed cutting.
Hedge cutting along the rear of the properties along the north east boundary.
Snowdrops and willow will be winter jobs.
3. **Current issues.** Noise. Litter. Jane – hedge.
Response from PC Al Jennings, Norfolk Police beat manager. Reported that he has attended site on a number of occasions. Large group of youths on every occasion – daytime as well as evenings.
Ruth had contacted the Police one afternoon due to the bad language and music. Al said he had talked to the groups about litter and loud music. He noted that there had been a fire at some point. Suggested a warden or asking Broads Rangers to empty bins from the staithe. He is not able to carry out patrols at the moment due to police being on standby due to the riots.
Ruth had contacted Broadland High School and they had said they would mention it in assemblies but were unable to do anything else.
It was felt that the groups of young people are much larger in previous years, but they mostly gather at the staithe. Numbers of other users have declined, including boats moorers. It was felt that they probably felt intimidated by the groups of young people and put off by their behaviour.
Noted quite a lot of dog poo.
Noted that the life belts had been taken out on a couple of occasions and not put back properly.
Fire on the staithe set light to a tree. Someone else had reported a fisherperson cooking with a gas cooker on the staithe. Clerk had reported it to the Broads Authority. Ruth confirmed that this is allowed by BA on the gravel.
Signage – agreed signs are required at the front and the back of the staithe/TMG that says no camping/cooking/fires/bbq's/music and asks people to take their rubbish to the top of MHL. Think there is a metal pole at the front that could be used. Would need another, heavy duty post at the rear which is concreted into place. The same sign would be good to replace the blue sign at the beach. Take a request to Council in September.
ACTION CLERK/CLLR MANTLE
Byelaws – group felt that they needed to be reinstated to give the rules gravitas. Nicky had previously researched this and done a paper on this.
Grass cutting – not being done around the liferings. Clerk has ordered this but it doesn't get done regularly enough. Clerk to chase up and also ask Council to specify in new grass cutting spec for next year. A strip is being left along the hedges to the properties at the top of the Meadow. Resident wants the section cleared to the hedge.
ACTION CLERK
4. **To consider a recommendation to the Parish Council for a summer warden.**
Group are looking for someone to visit the Meadow three times a day during the summer to help with ASB and litter – mid June to mid-September. Would like them to visit mid-afternoon, late afternoon and

early evening. Cllr Mantle expressed concern about the likelihood of confrontation and lone working. Discussed the difference between a “warden” who patrols the village and someone who picks up litter. Acknowledged that a litter picker would be beneficial because a regular presence would be a deterrent. Previous warden’s role was to patrol and report incidents to the police. A uniform is beneficial to create gravitas. Discussed different models of employment. Could use the same model as the village gardener, which is self-employed, on a contract. Alternatively fully employed as per the previous warden. Third option is to work with Hoveton CC, who already do some of their grass cutting in house and are looking to employ someone to do the whole village. The first step is to apply to the Council for the budget for this project. CMWG feel that the Parish Council cannot rely on residents to do clear up all the litter and take responsibility for ASB. CMWG to write a proposal for Finance Committee budget meeting on 15th October. Clerk to speak with Hoveton Clerk for update.

ACTION CMWG & CLERK

5. **Update on the work on the management plan by Colin Studholme** – first draft expected by the 23rd August. Clerk will pass it along to the group.
6. **Update on the PC’s claim adverse possession of the staithe** – Parish Council has appointed a solicitor, submitted documentation and the solicitor has made an application to Land Registry for adverse possession. Solicitor couldn’t say whether the documentation available was conclusive. Advice was to make an application and see what happens. Very long delays at Land Registry. War memorial took 14 months to register. Trafford Memorial ground application was made in August 2023 and has not yet been received.
7. **Works by BA & Trafford Estate to the staithe** - noted that Trafford Estate have been doing some additional works to the quay heading at the staithe.
8. **AOB** – group is keen to have an information board at the top of the Meadow, to include reference to by-laws.
9. **NEXT MEETING DATE** – tbc, after the management plan received.

Issued 10th September 2024

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