

ENGLISHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MILLSTREAM and WHEELWRIGHT'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting on Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 6:00pm via Zoom

Present: Bob Marjot (BM), Richard Swinburn (RS), Alison Rushgrove (AR), Robert Law (RL), Brian Huggett (BH)

Parishioners present: None

1. Election of Chair and Note Taker: Bob Marjot was appointed Chairman for this meeting. Alison Rushgrove as minute Taker.
2. **Apologies for absence** – none received
3. **Confirmation of this Sub-Committee's Membership** – It is assumed that Matt Hulme and Tim Hancock are still members of this committee. BM will email them to clarify. **ACTION BM**
4. **Approval Minutes 9th March 2021:** signed and approved.
5. **Matters arising:**

The Ginko tree has been replaced but the Dinwoodie family kindly would not accept a reimbursement and considered it their donation.

The dog poo sign is printed and BH will put it up. **ACTION BH**

6. **MWO Finances & Accounts :** Balance at 5 Jan 22: £2611.40
Invoice to be presented : £46.48
Monthly Bank charge: £5.00
Total: £2559.92

Blake Farm generously donate £10 per month and Inglescombe Cottage kindly made a donation when they moved into the village.

Of concern is that HSBC are charging the account £60/yr to manage the account. This will soon deplete our money and we propose that the accounts are managed via the Parish Council account thereby avoiding the charge. RL and BH to investigate merging the accounts.

ACTION RL & BH

7. **Millstream :**

(a) POND: BH concerned that there is not much wildlife in the pond and has spoken with Environmental Services about water sampling. There may be a charge of £70 - £100 for this service. As we are unsure about what we could do if we did find that the water was contaminated, the Committee decided not to pay for this service but if we can get a survey done without cost then BH will arrange this. The pond is fed from springs from the back of Inglescombe Cottage and The Fold and the run off from the road. **ACTION BH**

RS asked about clearing the pond as per last year. It seems that it does not fill up. It was agreed to continue to cut back the banks alongside Inglescombe Cottage and The Fold.

ACTION RS

(b) CRESS BEDS: Similarly, to clear the paths and brambles around the Bridge side of the cress beds. There is some concern about strimming as this seems to aggravate some members of the public, but the committee agreed that strimming is necessary to clear some scrub and brambles and the those carrying out the work have the full support of the Committee. BH proposed clearing a path strip from the bottom of the main path down from 'the Avenue' and the cress beds. BM has already cleared brambles in this area. RS to investigate if this is feasible to maintain and where he can mow around the cress beds i.e., where there is solid ground. RS and BM will try and clear these areas around the cress beds. The cress beds are clogged with 'Fools Cress' but they will be left as they are. **ACTION BM RS**

(c) NEW PLANTING

(i) Dog Roses (Rosa Canina) and Wild Rose (Rosa Rugosa) It was agreed that BH will buy 10 plants at total cost of £20. They will be planted alongside the wall of Inglescombe Cottage and on the right along the mown 'Avenue' from the gate to the Alan's wild flower area. **ACTION BH**

(ii) Other flowering shrubs – no other flowering shrubs to be planted at the present time. BH has some more wild flower seeds which he will plant.

(d) Any other new areas of Work (RS & RM). **ACTION RS & BM**

BM to mow the wild flower area before the end of February.

BM to put wood preservative on the bridge and seats.

RS to clear the big brambles along 'the Avenue'.

Yeomans Cottage to get their gardeners to tidy up the 3 bushes in Millstream that are alongside their cottage by the gate.

8. **Wheelwright Workshop and Orchard Matters:** Nothing for discussion.

9. **Equipment:**

The mower and the strimmer are off to be serviced. Agreed that the DR Trimmer does not need servicing and proposed that, as it is not used in Millstream, that this piece of equipment not be maintained on a regular basis in future.

10. **Correspondence & Attending Parishioners' questions and comments:**

Two parishioners are keen to help in Millstream. RL confirmed that they would be covered by insurance. They could help with the clearing of the banks and BH will give them RS contact details so they can liaise with jobs to be done. They could also be given a key to the church shed to access the mower. **ACTION RS & BH**

11. **AOB:**

The steps into Millstream are being repaired by the Duchy. They are being repointed and reinforced at the bottom. The top of the steps will be cleared to enable easier access. The design/type of handrail is being investigated by Nick Mould at the Duchy.

The meeting closed at 6:45pm