

THURLEIGH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT NETWORK

Meeting 6th June 2012

Present

Ian Soaft (Chair)

Liz Soaft (Minutes Secretary)

Richard Singleton

Linda Singleton

Fiona Parlett

Damon Goodyear

Apologies Bill Boddington

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Previous Actions

A number of Footpaths have been ploughed and we are giving the Farmers time to re instate. These will be checked again over the next couple of months and will be flagged to the Borough Council if no action to re instate has been taken. Francine has made a site visit and will be contacting the Farmers where there are problems. **Item Closed**, (although I feel sure this will be an ongoing issue in the months ahead.)

Access to BW 62 adjacent to Jacksons in Keysoe Road has been reported as overgrown. To be inspected and cut back as necessary. Now cut back **Item Closed**.

New Business

Ian and Richard met with Laura Downton from the Wildlife Trust who has provided a quote on the cost of providing information. (3 days @ £150 a day)

EIN to provide costs for Notice Board Frames, design etc. Costing details passed to Parish Council approx £3770. PC looking for Sponsors. **Item Closed.**

Further discussions were had over the siting of the boards and adding an audio commentary. We agreed to contact Chris for setting up a suitable link on the Parish Website. It was decided to leave this until we were further forward with costing agreed with PC. It was understood that Sharnbrook School could provide audio/studio for recording. Fiona volunteered Colin to assist with this. As no funding has yet been found **Item closed**

Planning

The PC received information on the Localism Act coming into force. A Neighbourhood Plan is required, and if non is made, authority defaults to the Borough Council. The Parish Plan will contribute, but has insufficient information, so a more formal process will be needed. There are also elements missing from the PP, and the Plan has to be formally adopted by a referendum. This will also be need to be checked by an independent assessor. It was felt that the priority areas were the Officers Mess, and Airfield Business Park re suitable businesses.

The Target of April 2013 is now looking unrealistic for application to BC to designate plan as neighbourhood area i.e Parish.

Co operation with Bletsoe and ME in some areas of interest to all. Joint Plan for the airfield and wind tunnel will be required if possible.

Ian to Supply Parish Maps top Damen for his further discussion on 25th 26th June between Thurleigh ME, Bletsoe and Risely. **Action Ian.**

Rights Of Way Improvement Plan

Bedford Borough have provided us with the 5 year plan concerning ROW to 2017. Part of the plan required volunteers i.e, checking overgrown and clearing paths and putting up signs. This we already do and report back where necessary.

The Parish Council raised the idea of the EIN having a stand at the Queens Jubilee. There seemed little enthusiasm for this.

New Actions

Discussed Hayles Field adjacent to Playing Field, no further action required as no Public Footpath exists.

Meeting Closed

Next Meeting to be Wednesday 21st August The Jackal.