

The Conservators of Therfield Heath and Greens

The Therfield Regulation Trust

c/o Royston Golf Club, Baldock Rd, Royston, SG8 5BG

Registered Charity No. 277881

Chair: Nicholas Keep

Site Manager: Maria Barber

Email: sitemanager@therfieldheath.org.uk



Summary minutes for the meeting held on 27th June 2024 at 7pm on Teams

Abbreviations may be used to identify individuals:

Chair or NKe: Nick Keep, CSw: Clare Swarbrick, CSm: Colin Smith; CHa: Clive Hall;

BHa: Ben Harrop; RLa: Robert Law; JKi: John King; Rev Carol Newnham

Item	Description
1	Apologies for Absence John and Clive sent their apologies
2	Declarations of Interest: (see * * for any relevant minute details)
3	Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2024 May meeting minutes Minutes approved
4	Major items to discuss
4.1	Countryside Stewardship Scheme Vote All unanimously voted against the current scheme. Nick to reply. Maria to arrange a meeting in July with NE to discuss the ORNECs. There's still no decision from PInS on Kite Festival.
4.2	New Trustee Nick thanked Clare for being a Trustee for nearly five years and for all her hard work. Rev Carol agreed to be a Conservator. She will decide at a later date about becoming a Trustee.
4.3	Tennis Update Waiting to hear back from Colin Crosswaite regarding the valuation.
4.4.	Site Manager update and Autumn Cutting There have been few applicants. An improved offer to the preferred candidate was approved. Autumn cutting

	<p>We have contacted Eastern Counties Straw to carry out their usual areas. We will also write to Herts and Cambs to do some of the cutting. Colin to contact Golf Club about taking more areas on including spider on slopes.</p>
4.5	<p>Open Meeting/Election - confirm date</p> <p>Date confirmed as 12th September. All are happy for it to be upstairs in the Town Hall. Information to be sent to The Listing magazine, events page and The Crow paper copy and online. Website to be updated and stakeholders made aware. Colin to display the notices.</p>
4.6	<p>Planning applications</p> <p>21/00765/OP</p> <p>24/01013/OP</p> <p>Conservators discussed the two applications to try and secure funding from these potential developments. Nick to meet with NHDC planning and s106 contact to discuss the Mitigation & Sports Strategy and how to get the best value for the Heath.</p>
4.7	<p>Sick Pay and Training Policies</p> <p>Clare uploaded a sick pay document to Teams as better than proposal. This and training Policy Agreed.</p>
5	<p>Project/Task updates</p>
5.1	<p>ROW</p> <p>Papers</p> <p>Clive is given the go ahead for this and to invite a member of FOTH or the Site Manager if they are in post to assist.</p>
5.2	<p>Affinity water emergency works</p> <p>Our lawyers have not received a reply yet regarding confirmation of works on the Heath or any licenses. We would like this resolving before we discuss any future works on the heath. Nick/Maria to follow up.</p>
6	<p>Health & Safety, Accidents and incidents</p> <p>Hanson Golf Day 14th June</p> <p>Colin received numerous calls to remove vehicles and a BBQs. There were also three gazebos, more than the one which was agreed. Colin will arrange a meeting to review the event and application.</p> <p>Damage by loose racehorses 12th June</p> <p>There was a loose manhole cover on Baldock Rd. This was investigated by AW and a specialist team visited to resolve the problem.</p>
7	<p>Leases, Licenses and Tenants etc</p>
7.1	<p>Heath Café</p> <p>Roof quotes</p> <p>Two quotes have been obtained. It was agreed to proceed with the Octa quote. Colin to action.</p>
7.2	<p>Golf Club</p>

	<p>Hogweed and Cow parsley</p> <p>There is an infestation of hogweed. Conservators decided to leave it as already informed NE about the issue.</p>
7.3	<p>Rugby</p> <p>No update.</p>
7.4	<p>Bench next to the memorial</p> <p>The bench near the jubilee fountain is frequently used by a couple of people to smoke cannabis. Rob to inform the Police. Conservators not keen to remove the bench.</p>
8	<p>Events and Requests</p>
8.1	<p>Homestart event</p> <p>This proposed event for next year requires a lot of planning and possibly a s38. It was agreed for Clive to liaise with them to discuss the options etc.</p>
8.2	<p>Pre Planning request</p> <p>All agreed they cannot use existing access and will require legal advice</p>
8.3	<p>Trees on the Boundary</p> <p>Resident can remove any overhanging into their land. Conservators cannot pollard the trees.</p>
9	<p>Finance Matters</p>
9.1	<p>Accounts</p> <p>May accounts</p>
9.2	<p>Banking</p> <p>Awaiting Colin's bank card.</p>
9.3	<p>Budget</p> <p>See Budget 2024</p> <p>Next year's budget may be stretched if the Site Manager is paid more.</p>
10	<p>Legal Actions, Disputes, Wayleaves and related issues</p>
11	<p>Any Other business</p> <p>Planning Consultation 24/01283/FP Holborn Farm</p> <p>No comments.</p> <p>Discussion about commissioning a tree survey. Rob to investigate quotes and check the legal requirements.</p> <p>There was a disturbance at Sun hill. The Police are aware.</p> <p>Royston in Blue thanked the Conservators for allowing them to host the run at the Heath. They had a hugely successful event and would like to use the Heath again next year on 29th June. All agreed this date is fine. Maria to reply.</p> <p>The FOTH meeting is on 23rd July.</p>
12	<p>Date of next meeting</p>

	7pm, 25 th July 2024 Black Barn
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