

# **Tenterden Green Space Steering Group**

**Minutes for meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Attending:** Richard Masefield (Chair)  
Rebecca Hayward (Secretary)  
Cllr. John Crawford  
Ziggi Nepp (TDRA)  
Alison Miles (Tent. Schools Trust Business Development Manager)  
Kate Delaney  
Daisy Rudd

**Apologies:** Samantha Reed (Treasurer)  
Matt Hayes (Kent Wildlife Trust)

## **New members, consultants & supporters**

The Steering Group has received a letter of support from local MP, Damian Green. Joining the Group are Emma Isworth, Senior Physiotherapist at Westview Integrated Care Centre, and Daisy Rudd, ex-Homewood School student with a recent first-class degree in Politics from Newcastle University. Contact has also been established for consultation with the Tenterden Footpaths Group, Tenterden Scouts (+ Beavers & Cubs) and Tenterden Guides (+ Rainbows and Brownies).

John Crawford to advise on a working contact with Ashford Borough Council. Alison Miles to consider possible contacts for the Tenterden Schools Trust and/or PTAs over the summer holiday. Richard Masefield to meet Graham Smith representing Sport Tenterden, to discuss negotiations for new football pitches.

## **Formal establishment of the Steering Group**

Now in its third month of existence, the Steering Group was formally established with the election of Richard Masefield as Chairman, Rebecca Hayward as Secretary and Samantha Reed as Treasurer. The Group Office will be Greenway, 3A West Cross Gardens, Tenterden TN30 6JP. On July 24<sup>th</sup> Richard and Samantha are to meet with the corporate specialist at Whitehead Monckton solicitors, Janet Goode, to agree on a suitable banking system.

Richard has applied to Tenterden Town Council for a £264.00 grant out of Donations, for the purchase of species data for the parish from the Kent & Medway Biological Records Centre.

It was agreed as too early to apply to the Chief Executive of ABC for recognition as a consultant body, but that such an application might follow public consultation in September.

## **Meeting with Taylor Wimpey**

With the agreement of both Town and Borough Councillors, Ziggi Nepp and/or Richard Masefield are to meet with Taylor Wimpey's Technical Manager, Paul Gibson, to hear proposals for the restoration of the stream bed to the south-east of the Tent 1A development

and plans for the Bells Lane copse near its centre. The anticipated ‘gift to the town’ of the Bells Lane copse will be relevant, and the advice of Kent Wildlife Trust for both sites valued.

### **Green Space Strategy for public consultation**

An early draft of a power-point presentation for public consultation was considered by the Group, featuring 8 sites qualifying for possible statutory Green Space designation, ie: the Millennium Garden, Coombe Lane Cemetery, the Junior & Infants School Fields, the Church Glebe Field, Bells Lane Copse, part of Westwell Court Meadows, Turners Field Nature Reserve, and part of Limes Land.

In discussing the detail of the presentation, further maps to illustrate areas unprotected from development were requested. Figures for currently agreed developments were adjusted. Re. traffic pollution, mention of the Ella Kissi-Debrah case was suggested. In comparison with ABC’s approach, reference to the proactive attitude to Green Space designation of councils in other counties (eg. the Cotswold District Council) was recommended. Re. the Limes Land, it was noted that the landowner (Mrs Daniels of Poole) in association with Wates Developments has refused access to Kent Wildlife Trust for an ecological study. Re. the Glebe Field and Junior/Infant School Fields, Cllr. John Crawford was asked to clarify current rumours of a Kent County Council(?) plan to develop *both* existing green sites.

### **Working Party/September Presentation**

A working party comprising Richard Masefield, Rebecca Hayward, Samantha Reed, Siggie Nepp, Kate Delaney and Daisy Rudd is to prepare a power-point presentation for consideration of the wider Steering Group in early September, and public consultation towards the end of that month. Sites are to be reviewed on the basis of all available data and evaluated against Green Space qualification criteria as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. Members of the working party will interview interested parties from all sides, with the proviso that members with personal connections to any individual site will be excluded from that aspect of research.

The preferred venue for the public consultation is the Town Hall; the preferred time 11.00am on a Saturday morning, dependent on availability. It is hoped that a representative of the Kent Wildlife Trust might participate. Pre-consultation publicity could include the Kentish Express, Town Council and *My Tenterden* websites, posters and leaflet drops – possibly with the involvement of Tenterden Schools Trust students.

### **Additional information**

Alison Miles recommended the Nineveh Charitable Trust, who favour community-based projects, as a possible source of grant funding.

John Crawford to supply copies of: the ABC Water Cycle Study for 2016 (predicting problems with water supply for the area from 2025 onwards) – the Inspectors’ ‘preliminary advice’ following their examination of the current Ashford Local Plan – and a summary of the NPPF Local Green Space criteria.

### **Publicity**

It was agreed the time is right for a press release on the formation and aims of the Tenterden Green Space Steering Group and the public consultation in September. Richard Masefield to submit a draft for the working party’s consideration.

