

Sedbergh Parish Council

Queen's Garden Committee

Minutes of a meeting held on 4 October 2016

Present:

Cllrs. Lancaster (Chair), McPherson and Atkins

Apology:

Cllr. Ann Allan

Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

Future Conservation & Management:

Report by Hilary Taylor Associates - Following the decision of the Parish Council at its September meeting to accept the proposal by Hilary Taylor Associates, a contract has now been agreed with a completion date of 31 March 2017. The report by Hilary Taylor will survey and assess the condition of the gardens, identify the restoration work required together with cost estimates, and form the basis of a plan for the management of the gardens in the longer term. The report will be used to underpin a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Digital Survey Plan - Following the decision of the Parish Council at its September meeting to commission a digital survey plan, the Committee considered quotations received from three firms. *Having regard to their confidential nature, the quotations were considered as a Part II item.*

After careful examination it was agreed to request the Council's Clerk to formally accept the quotation by Christians Land & Engineering Surveys of Penrith. An early meeting will be sought to clarify the details of the required plan (attended by Hilary Taylor if possible).

The digital survey plan will assist both the preparation of the report by Hilary Taylor and the future management of the gardens by the Council.

Current works at the Garden:

The Committee discussed the current maintenance/management of the gardens. It was agreed that the Council's gardener, Mike Hinson, should be invited to contribute to the longer term plans for the gardens but that for the next three months (during which time he has agreed to work additional hours) the priorities should be:

1. clearing the under-storey vegetation from the eastern boundary (to a nominal depth of 2m back from the wall) to address the concerns of the occupiers of properties on Queen's Drive;
2. re-creating the lawn overlooking the bowling green (with a view to the Council replacing the dilapidated seats in due course); and
3. clearing brambles/weeds from the central avenue and bordering hedges.

It was also agreed that Mike Hinson be requested to record the works undertaken by completing a simple work sheet for submission to the Council's Clerk. This will contribute to a better understanding of the resources the Council will need to commit for the future management of the gardens.

Music Event:

It was reported that George Hinson remained keen to hold this event in 2017 and that a formal body had been formed (with a bank account) to progress plans.

Date of next meeting:

(To be confirmed)