



**The Gorge Parish Council**

Unit C22  
Maws Craft Centre  
Jackfield  
Telford  
TF8 7LS

Email: [clerk@thegorgeparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@thegorgeparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.thegorgeparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.thegorgeparishcouncil.gov.uk)

28<sup>th</sup> July 2016

To All Parish Councillors, The Gorge Parish Council

**You are summoned to attend a meeting of the planning meeting to be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at The Parish Council Office Unit C22 Maws Craft Centre Jackfield TF8 7LS**

**Agenda for the planning meeting on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016 of The Gorge Parish Council to be held at 6pm.**

- 1. Public Session:**
- 2. Attendance and Apologies:**
- 3. Dispensations.**
- 4. Consider planning applications:** See separate list.
- 5. Consider Decisions: none.**
- 6. Any other urgent planning matters: a**
- 7. Any other urgent matters. a.** Report regarding Friends of Dale End Park consider next action.  
**b.** Consider the future of the website.
- 8. Reports from communities.**
- 9. Any matters for the next meeting or for information from Councillors.** (No decisions can be made but items raised for investigation and for the next agenda).
- 10. Dates of next meetings: Full Council meeting Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at the Parish Council Offices Maws Craft Centre and Planning Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

**Jayne Madeley BA FILCM Clerk**

*Jayne Madeley*

## Report:

### 4. New Applications:

Application or enforcement number	Appeal number	Site Address	Description of proposal	Date consultation received	Reply by date
<a href="#">TWC/2016/0650</a>	N/A	The Bungalow, 80 Bower Yard, Ironbridge, Telford, Shropshire, TF8 7AZ	Felling of 2no. Ash tree, 1no. Willow tree and 1no. Leylandii tree and reduction in height and width of 3no. hedgerows	26/07/2016	16/08/2016
<a href="#">TWC/2016/0562</a>	N/A	Site of Lincoln Grange Nursing Home, Lincoln Hill, Ironbridge, Telford, Shropshire	Erection of 53no. dwellings, conversion of former Lincoln Grange Nursing Home into 36no. dwellings following demolition of parts of Lincoln Grange Nursing Home, with associated internal and external works, access road and landscaping ***AMENDED PLANS RECEIVED***	25/07/2016	15/08/2016

### 7a. Dale End Park Report:

#### FRIENDS OF DALE END PARK

9 JULY 2016

Seven people attended including the Borough Councillor. Apologies were received from six more.

Becky Eade, the Parks and Open Spaces Group Manager for Telford and Wrekin Borough Council, answered questions and discussed the current and future management of the park.

Some key themes emerged –

#### 1. Signage

There is a mixture of existing signage in various styles and condition, and some outdated information. The current entrance signs on Buildwas Road are easily missed and first time visitors sometimes struggle to find the park.

**Actions** - Old signs with incorrect information to be removed (Becky Eade)

- The large green notice boards in the centre of the park to be cleaned and relocated to replace the existing entrance signs (Becky Eade)
- Regular updates about work being done and planned for the park to be displayed in the notice boards (Becky Eade and The Gorge Parish Council)
- Consider signage within the park to the football fields and / or cutting back some of the vegetation to make the steps more obvious.

- Information about the location of the nearest toilets to be included in the notice boards and existing fingerposts (Carolyn Healy / The Gorge Parish Council)
- The park to be better signed from the town centre (The Gorge Parish Council)

## 2. Annual bedding

Due to budget cuts there is significantly less money for planting in the park which means that, unless additional funding is found, the usual annual bedding will not be planted next year. TWC will be approaching the parish council later this year to discuss further.

There was some discussion about the economic benefit of the annual bedding to both the local economy and the borough as a whole. Sponsorship was discussed and it was explained that any sponsorship money, car park income, rents or licence fees from the park are not ring fenced back to the park.

- Actions**
- Find out current costs of bedding and maintenance (Becky Eade)
  - Explore possible local sponsorship with income retained for the planting, possibly with local volunteers involved in the planting (Carolyn Healy)

## 3. Visitors

There was a shared view that Dale End Park is not just a neighbourhood park serving the local community of the Gorge. Many people from all over the borough, in particular the Telford new town communities, come to the park, as well as national and international tourists visiting the World Heritage Site. Having a clearer understanding of visitor numbers and origins could help to make the case for general revenue funding and grant funding.

- Actions** – recruit volunteers to conduct visitor surveys (Carolyn and Becky)
- Speak to Destination Telford team about funding for battery operated people counters (Nicola Lowery)

## 4. Litter and dog fouling

Whilst litter can be bad over the weekend, during the week, when staff are on site, this seems to be managed well. Dog fouling is minimal and most people do clean up after their dogs.

There are several styles of bins and in the future it would be good to have a single style.

It would be good to have more bins around the football pitches.

## 5. General management

The current management plan is out of date and a new plan needs to be written. The river bank is unmanaged meaning there are very few places where the river can be seen from the park. This may need to be addressed before the planned River Festival in September. TWC is the riparian owner.

Two areas of dogwood have been cut back. They will regrow but in the meantime weeds are making the areas look untidy.

There is no regular survey or risk assessment of trees in the park.

ROSPA have previously carried out a risk assessment for the river.

The play area is inspected fortnightly. There is currently an outstanding repair to the roundabout and the bark needs topping up (due to be done soon).

**Actions** – current management plan to be circulated (Becky Eade)

- Weeds around dogwoods to be strimmed or sprayed (Becky Eade)

## 6. Community Ideas

It would be good to create stronger links with the school and scouts.

The Coop has a monthly budget for community projects.

Benches could be replaced or refurbished as part of a memorial scheme.

Adult gym equipment and youth facilities could be useful additions to the park.

An adopt a tree or adopt a flower bed scheme could be developed.

Donations from local nurseries such as Meadowvale or David Austin Roses could be explored.

Better promotion of the regular events at the park.

**Actions** – Talk to the Coop about its community funding (Carolyn Healy)

- Talk to the school about better links with the park (Carolyn Healy)
- Talk to the scouts about better links with the scouts (Jake Bennett)

## 7. Next meeting

First week of September. To be confirmed.

Contact Carolyn Healy – 07805 489296, [Carolyn@redkitenetwork.co.uk](mailto:Carolyn@redkitenetwork.co.uk) for more information.

### b. Website: Message from web provider.

When I started TGPC website, I used a platform called RebelMouse. I chose it because it is so simple to post and maintain and because it leveraged other content and, quite frankly, we don't have the resources or will to create content.

Well, sad news... RebelMouse are pulling their service from 6th September. I received their email notice last night.

So we have an opportunity (he says, in his bravest of faces) to create a new website.

With your permission and unless you have some great idea you want to share (or commission someone else to do the work - I'm happy to repay you what I have been paid if you do)... I propose to build a more standard website with the usual look and feel and using the content we already have.

I'll be using a wordpress theme.

So really, I'm telling you because it's going to need me to build the thing and that may require the site to be down for a few weeks (more likely the last two weeks in August).

Please holla if you object. Not much notice I'm afraid so we can't discuss this at a meeting, although we can obviously improve and amend following subsequent meetings in the year.

