

Bellerby Parish Council

A Public Meeting of Bellerby Parish Council was held in
Bellerby Memorial Hall DL8 5QN on
Tuesday 4th January 2022 at 7:30pm

The meeting was attended by:

The clerk Lynn Watkinson.
Councillors Singleton (Chair) & Chilton
Approximately 15 members of the public were present
***Covid Protocols were in place and an attendance
register was taken to comply with Covid protocols.***

All apologies were noted.

Introduction

The steering committee is to be made up of Cllrs Hutchinson and Singleton with a small group of willing volunteers.

Some oversight by the Parish Council would be maintained with a small budget made available.

The aim is for the Community Garden to be very much a community project, open to everyone in the village including those with mobility issues; people with little gardening experience with the possibility of mentoring by those with experience; or for those who just want to sit.

Some material from the early stages of the project was on display to show the evolution of the project and tweaks that have had to be made.

No design was fixed going forward with all ideas to be considered.

Comments and responses from the floor

The clerk outlined the original ideas for the site used to create a business plan and apply for the funding received to date. This included:

- space for the Open Gardens group to grow plants for the village tubs
- venue for the Open Gardens trail
- shed with a canopy for holding events
- electricity for lighting, heating or teas and coffees
- space for the toddlers group
- seating including covered seating
- raised beds at various heights

The clerk was then asked to outline the current position at the site which is:

- all the glass and debris has been removed with the top layer of soil having been scraped off
- the walls have been repaired and rebuilt as necessary
- the culvert has been enclosed as advised by the builder following clearance of the site having caused a collapse in the culvert resulting in flooding
- water is still accessible at one end of the culvert with an access which can be gated off for safety
- the greenhouse includes double doors, automatic vents, staging and cold frames
- double gates for the entrance which are not yet on site
- the site is currently open and safe to access

Signed by the Clerk *Lynn Watkinson*

For further details and documentation please see the website: <http://www.bellerbyvillage.com/#/council>



BELLERBY
NORTH YORKSHIRE

Bellerby Parish Council

the Parish Council has 10 million pounds of public liability insurance cover

Once the steering committee is in place ongoing management of the garden can be decided.

A number of people have expressed an interest in the project.

There is enough experience within the community to make good use of the greenhouse.

Electricity to the site is not currently available but is a possibility.

It would be nice to open it up to other groups and organisations beyond Bellerby for mental health benefits. Cllr Sedgwick is involved in Kirkwood Hall and had previously expressed an interest in the garden as a site for residents to visit which had encouraged her contribution to the funding.

Some negative feeling around the greenhouse has been expressed in the community. The Clerk explained that the greenhouse was larger than initially intended as the deal obtained was very favourable. The greenhouse had always been intended to be a venue which could be used for events or for the holding of workshops and training sessions as well as afternoon teas. The chair explained that the number of people potentially accessing the site meant that a robust structure was necessary.

Momentum is important to get the project moving forward. It may take 12 months to complete the development but it is important that some progress is made to encourage additional interest in the garden.

The garden will continue to evolve and develop as people come and go in the community.

Any additional infrastructure will require external funding and the sums required will be dependent on the decisions made.

A number of people in the village would be willing to volunteer to help with further work for the garden if asked as was seen at the pub.

None of the local businesses have yet been approached for sponsorship or donations so there is a potential source for building materials and equipment or funding.

A site meeting would help with deciding the design for the garden and the priorities once the weather improves.

A shed for equipment and rabbit fencing would be required.

The overriding idea is that the garden is for the whole village and not a few individuals so boundaries will have to be agreed by the steering committee.

The original plan had 10 raised beds but this may change due to the repositioning of the greenhouse. The width of the path for wheelchair access will have an impact on the layout of the raised beds.

It would be nice to approach groups to encourage gardening responsibly and sustainably and building that in to the project from the start. The clerk mentioned that approaches to groups such as the Richmondshire Rotters had been included in the original plan.

Meeting Closed: 20:10

The material on display was available for viewing with additional questions answered

Names of those interested in being a part of the steering committee were noted.

Signed by the Clerk *Lynn Watkinson*

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