

Minutes of the 38th Open Meeting of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee held on Thursday 17th September 2020 @ 10:00am in the Council Chamber.

Present:	Hon. Cruyff G Buckley	-	Chairman
	Hon. Dr. Corinda Essex	-	Deputy Chairperson
	Hon. Russell K Yon	-	Member
	Hon. Cyril K Leo	-	Member
	Mr Derek Henry	-	Director of I & T
	Mr Darren Duncan	-	Director of ENRP
	Mr Nicky Lawrence	-	Secretary
Invited:	Miss Isabel Peters	-	Chief Environmental Officer – Item 2
	Mrs Gillian Francis	-	Deputy Chief Secretary – Item 2
	Miss Melissa Fowler	-	Tourism Manager – Item 2
Apology:	Hon. Gavin G Ellick	-	Member

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and proceeded with the Open Agenda of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

38.1 Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

38.2 Dark Skies Video Conference Session.

Committee joined Dr James Patterson via Skype to clarify issues around technical design parameters of Dark Skies compliant lighting. Members sought advice and highlighted lessons to be learnt from other countries and territories who have already made progress towards this Initiative.

38.3 Introduction to New Director of St Helena National Trust.

Members were introduced to the new Director of the Trust, Mr Mike Jervois. After working 3 years in the Falkland Islands performing conservation work, Mike has returned to St Helena to fulfil his new role. Members thanked him and the Trust for their continued efforts.

38.4 Update on Landscape & Ecology Mitigation Programme.

The Land Ecology and Mitigation Programme will come to an end in March next year. Members commended the stellar work that has been completed since 2015. The 3 main objectives of LEMP included: Reinstatement Works, Reduction of impact through design, and Land Compensation 1.5 times of the area of land affected. The team also had wider outreach through initiatives such as School Enrichment, plant giveaways and collaboration with the EMD. Statistics show that over 100,000 plants and 350,000 seeds have been planted on over 25 hectares of land.

38.5 Proposed siting of Rockfall Memorial Fountain.

The Land Development Control Authority rejected the proposed siting of the Rockfall Memorial Fountain in front of the Canister. Reasons included visual obstruction from vehicles parked in front of the Memorial as well as restricted pedestrian movement. Members considered the concerns raised, but didn't feel the objections were fully justified.

It was agreed for an application for a temporary siting to be progressed to gauge practicality and public reaction.

Action: Director of I & T

38.6 Matters arising from Open Minutes of 20th August 2020.

Cycling Proficiency Course.

Chairman will pursue this matter with the Police Inspector.

Action: Chairman.

SHG & SHNT Marine Centre Collaboration.

The Director of ENRP said there is nothing further to report but he still awaits the Letter of Intent from the St Helena National Trust.

The Chairman then asked for this item to be removed from the Agenda as this work is being progressed.

Dark Skies Legislation (Control of Artificial Light at Night Ordinance).

Committee will await feedback from James Patterson, finalise legislation and bring back to next meeting.

Action: Legal Draftsperson/Members

38.7 Any other urgent business.

Briars Retaining Wall.

Members were reminded of a commitment made to a resident of the Briars to have a retaining wall re-instated under the R2 Project which is due to commence soon. The wall was removed a few decades ago to allow the widening of the Field Road turning.

The Secretary was asked to check Archives for correspondence relating to this matter.

Action: Secretary

Fence line from Half Way to White Wall.

A member reported the deteriorated condition of the fence line and asked that the ownership be determined and have the fence removed or replaced.

Action: Director of ENRP

Access across ANRD Land.


A resident of Longwood would like access across ANRD land to his property near St Mark's Church. The Director of ENRP said that the resident should write to ANRD outlining his proposal and Staff will assess the land. He will be informed of the way forward following this.

Renewable Energy.

The Chairman asked if has a bid been made for Renewable Energy by the ENRP Directorate. The Director replied that a bid has been made for Solar Power in the former ADA Buildings in addition to the pack house. Application has now been made to ESH for funding.

There being no further business Committee moved to the ENRC Closed Agenda at 12:40pm.

The next Open meeting of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee will be held on **Thursday 15th October, 2020 @10:00am in the Council Chamber.**

Confirmed..........Date.....7/10/20.....