

Present: Cllrs. Ferneyhough, Rogers
Non-voting Member: Andrew Eastham

In the Chair: Cllr. Hawes

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Also present: 1 Member of the public (arrived at item 5.2)

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Goldie.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Eastham disclosed personal interests as follows:

- Membership of Tollesbury Sailing Club.
- Mr Eastham works for Fellowship Afloat Charitable Trust (FACT) and is a Director for Tollesbury Saltings.

3. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

4. Minutes

Minutes of the Meetings held on 25th September 2023

Resolved: the minutes for the 25th September 2023 represented a true account of the proceedings of the Meeting. Unanimously agreed by those who were present.

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

5. Risk Assessment

5.1 Risk Assessment Report

The Risk Assessment Report of the bi-annual inspection carried out on 9th January 2024 was received and noted.

Action: Clerk to speak to the Risk Assessor to enquire whether water testing was required outside the season when the pool may be used by cold water swimmers.

A resident arrived at the meeting.

5.2 Recommendations

The Committee discussed the recommendations from the Audit and Risk Assessment report. A working party could carry out most of the items identified.

Action: Mr Eastham to look at the depth markers and explore options.

Action: The Chairman will look at the “Bathe at Your Own Risk” sign near the marina.

Action: Chairman to speak to the Marina to confirm ownership of the fence and share the findings of the Risk Assessor.

6. General Maintenance

The Committee worked through the Woodup Pool annual work schedule.

Action: Clerk to book the toilets for the season. One toilet will be booked from 24th May 2024 until 30th September 2024, and one will be booked from 22nd July 2024 until 2nd September 2024.

Action: Cllr Rogers will speak to the sea scouts about their proposed use of Woodup Pool for water activities in 2024.

Action: Clerk to speak to Brightlingsea Lido to determine how often their pool is dredged and who carries out the dredging.

It was agreed to hold a working party on Sunday, 12th May 2024, between 10 am and 12pm to carry out some of the general maintenance, i.e., cutting back the brambles, raking the sand, cleaning benches and picnic tables, cleaning the BBQ, cleaning signs, etc.

Action: A notice will be published inviting residents to attend the working party.

It was agreed to see if more sand was needed for the 2024 season at the working party.

7. Woodup Pool Information Evening

The Chairman reported there had been several queries regarding the operation of Woodup Pool. In the interest of transparency, a Woodup Pool information evening has been arranged for Tuesday, 9th April 2024, in the Pavilion at 7pm.

The meeting's purpose was to give anyone interested in the pool information on how the pool is run and maintained.

Action: The Chairman will prepare a notice to publicise the event.

8. Other Matters

The Clerk reported that she had received an email from a Professor at the University of Cambridge. A student has been working on collections of cockles made by Boyden and Russell, published in 1972. These are unique samples collected in the late 1960's, along with valuable data on temperature and salinity, etc. Some of these collections come from Tollesbury Swimming Pool. They would like to collect some more cockles 50 years on from the original collection and undertake a comparison of features like shell growth rate, thickness, etc., which may all be determined from the dry shells and also to investigate whether those shells have different contaminants in them, which may indicate levels of pollution. Those dry shells from each site would be sufficient, but if a few live cockles could also be collected, that would unlock more data. They would also measure salinity while we were there. Early analysis of data from other sites indicates substantial changes in the shells of some populations over the last 50 years of environmental change. The collection would take about 1 hour.

The Committee was happy for the student to carry out the collection of cockles and would be interested in hearing their findings.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 22nd April 2024 – 6pm – Woodup Pool

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 7.45pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....