

Thompson Millennium Green Charitable Trust

Registered Charity No. 1073130

THOMPSON MILLENNIUM GREEN COMMITTEE

REPORT TO AGM, 21 September 2015

Administration

Mike Corrie has been Chair for the past year since taking over from Laurie Hull, but has tendered his resignation with effect from the 2015 AGM in anticipation of moving out of Thompson. Chris da Rocha has operated as Treasurer and Teresa Blake as Secretary to the Trust, with Duncan Gregory, Amanda Borrows and John Scott completing the Committee.

Events and Activities

The Trust was not involved in the strategic planning for Thompson Live 7, but, again, its permission and tacit support has been acknowledged with a donation from the organizers.

The Thompson 5k/10k has been arranged for Sunday, 4 October.

The village's Saturday Bonus Ball lottery has continued to support the Green with regular donations. Mike and Paula have given notice that they will cease to administer this following the 3 October draw, but discussions are in hand which it is hoped will see it maintained as a benefactor for the Green.

Pond

When, and how, to do overdue maintenance on the pond has been a matter of some debate. A specialist company, without environmental expertise, was contacted in February and quoted £4,300 to dredge the pond and ditch, with all materials retained on site: of the money allocated by the Big Lottery in 2011 for rejuvenation of the pond, £650 remains. Whether a further environmental assessment is required, as the last one is now four years old, is also a matter for consideration.

Maintenance

Serco was appointed to maintain the open areas on a one-year contract, and has been cutting since the beginning of April. They were unable to offer a three-year arrangement so this will need to be revisited in the winter for 2016 and beyond.

The wild-flower meadows appear to have benefitted from the cut-and-clear operation last year, but are, arguably, in need of more frequent attention. Serco has provided a quote to cut-and-gather, with additional cost for removal of arisings.

Arrangements were made to remove self-set trees from the meadows (to be reused by the Parish) and carry out maintenance on other trees. Unfortunately, the contractor became indisposed and was not able to do the work before the end of the winter, so work remains outstanding.

Play Equipment

Basil Bird's legacy has, at last, been translated into the playground he wished to support. CDHWoodworks undertook the work, which included repairs and enhancements to the pre-existing equipment, and the installation has proved hugely popular. The subsequent annual report from RoSPA has identified some risks which need to be monitored and/or remedied.

Finances

The Trust's accounts for 2014 were inspected by Lisa Harrison. The total reserves were a little over £33,700 on 31 December 2014, an increase just shy of £2,000 over the year, matching almost exactly

the £2,000 fee received from Flagship Homes for the Easement discharge of excess rainwater into the Green's ditch.

The budget for 2015 predicted a deficit of approximately £22,000, the vast majority of which attributable to spending on play equipment. The final end-year deficit may possibly be less if the work on the meadows does not proceed, whilst there have been further offsets through donations from Rix Oil and TL7 (£378), for which no assumptions are made in the initial budget. The expected out-turn for the year is now a deficit closer to £21,000.

A budget for 2016 has yet to be drafted in detail, as dependent on the outcome of discussions from the AGM around anticipated work on the Pond and Meadows. Given that the primary outlay on playground equipment has occurred in 2015, the result will be closer to breakeven in 2016.

Mike Corrie

Chris da Rocha

Chairman

Treasurer

September 2015