



ARBORICULTURAL WORKING GROUP – MINUTES

**Growth and Infrastructure
Planning & Regeneration Services
including Building Consultancy
Tues 9th Jan 2018
4.00pm-5.30pm ROOM 134**

ATTENDEES	
<p><u>Internal Attendees - Borough of Poole:</u> Andy Osborne - (AO) – Senior Arboricultural Officer (Planning) CHAIR Gabriella Cobelli (GC) – Business Support / PA to Julian McLaughlin James Roberts (JR) – Arboricultural Officer</p>	
<p><u>External Attendees:</u> Martin Saxon (MS) - Apex Tree Surgeons Andy Scott (AS) – Scott Tree Services Mark Hinsley (MH) - Mark Hinsley Arboricultural Consultants Andrew Cleaves (AC) - Tree Call Consulting</p>	
APOLOGIES	
<p><u>Internal:</u> Trevor Maynard – (TM)– Arboricultural Officer (Environmental Services) Richard Genge – (RTG) – Planning and Regeneration Manager Sue Ludwig- (SPL) – Business Manager</p> <p><u>External:</u> Mark Wadey - Barrell Tree Consultancy Wayne Doe - W.T.Doe Tree Surgeon Ltd</p>	
AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
<p>1. <u>Introductions and minutes of the last Regular Arb WG Meeting 12th Oct 2017</u> The minutes from the last meeting were in draft form hence, the group discussed and agreed the notes in detail at the meeting. <u>Points were raised as follows:-</u> <u>Appeal Data</u> See item 3. <u>TOR</u> See item 2. <u>Membership of the Group and Invites to Future Meetings</u> John Hearne has completed a membership form - unfortunately he could not join the meeting today. GC has also sent invites out to the AGM in March 2018. (Post meeting note: AGM now moved to 18th April 2018). <u>Frequency of Meetings</u> There was also discussion about frequency of meetings and the suggestion GC sent an electronic invite to all external attendees to ensure dates are in the diary. The AGM date is on the last page and the dates for 2018-2019 are yet to be confirmed. It was agreed that perhaps 2 meetings plus the AGM were sufficient. <u>Tree Work Application Guidance</u> Due to workload pressures and sickness this has not yet been reviewed. There was suggestion of conducting a training session once this piece of work had been completed. <u>Action: AO to speak with RTG on his return with a view to bringing this back to the next regular meeting with perhaps a</u></p>	<p>AO/RTG GC to add to next agenda</p>

	<p>view to doing a training session in the future sometime.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion around the above points and also other agenda items from the previous meeting, around Biochar and its use.</p> <p>Hedges (item under AOB)</p> <p>This discussion was around occasions when planning applications require some of a hedge to be removed, meaning that agents have to go through a condition removal process to allow the hedge to be removed. <i>(Post meeting note: GC spoke to RTG - who will raise this at the DM meeting in Feb and update the group at the next regular Arb Working Group meeting).</i></p>													
2.	<p><u>New Group Terms of Reference</u></p> <p>AO suggested that the new TOR should read as follows: <i>"To work together in the best interests of Poole to ensure that the community and the Borough of Poole achieve the best quality for sustainable development and green infrastructure outcomes in an open and transparent way".</i></p> <p>Attendees were in agreement with the new wording.</p>													
3.	<p><u>Comparison between the TWAP appeal data for 2017 and 2016</u></p> <p>AO collated some appeal info in the absence of SPL as follows:-</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>2016</u></th> <th><u>2017</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1060 TWAPS received</td> <td>1000 TWAPS received</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18 appeals in total (1.7%)</td> <td>10 appeals in total (1%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Appeals allowed = 3</td> <td>Appeals allowed = 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Appeals dismissed = 15</td> <td>Appeals dismissed 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Appeals uplift = 0</td> <td>Appeals uplift = 2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A brief discussion took place amongst those present and various points were raised around the process.</p> <p><u>Action: It was agreed for AO to collate some more information on refusals and bring this back to the next regular meeting for a further overall discussion as this would give a better overall picture.</u></p>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	1060 TWAPS received	1000 TWAPS received	18 appeals in total (1.7%)	10 appeals in total (1%)	Appeals allowed = 3	Appeals allowed = 3	Appeals dismissed = 15	Appeals dismissed 5	Appeals uplift = 0	Appeals uplift = 2	AO
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4.	<p><u>AGM Focus</u></p> <p>AO asked those who external attendees present at the meeting today whether anyone would be willing to volunteer to do a short presentation (maximum 10mins) as a summary of the topics which have been discussed throughout the period of 2017-2018, though not everyone apart from AC had attended both meetings.</p> <p><i>(Post meeting note: GC will be emailing Tree Call direct).</i></p>													
5.	<p><u>Tree Wardens - Discussion</u></p> <p>AO wanted to gauge opinion around the table on the possibility of having Tree Wardens in the future and how we might establish these in Poole. There was a representative from Treeconomics which led to a discussion on tree wardens.</p> <p>Various opinions were put forth - one thought was that it would inevitably save the Arboricultural Officers time if someone else reported any unauthorised work and this would extend to checking up on any tree implants, helped also by the community who would act as eyes and ears and there may be some in the community that would be willing to take this up on a voluntary basis.</p> <p>BBC did have a tree warden by the name of Nick Shearer.</p> <p><u>Action: AO to speak with the Team at BBC to find out more and to find out from the Tree Council whether there is any Tree Warden training available.</u></p>	AO												

6.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u> <u>Statutory Heights</u></p> <p>AS raised this for clarification. On the TWAP information sheet there is information relating to pruning to statutory heights over public highways and pavements. Pruning to provide up to 5.2 metres clearance, but the old contract appeared to say 5.3m. After much discussion it was agreed that the correct height was 5.2m.</p>	
<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u> <u>A&D plus Arb Working Group AGM</u> Wed 18th April 2018 6.00pm-9.00pm Committee Suite-1st Floor Civic Centre (was Wed 28/03/2018) <u>2018-2019 Meeting Dates are To be Confirmed</u></p>		