

Minutes, Environment Committee held 12 December 2022 at Saddleworth Civic Hall.

Present Cllr K. Phillips (CH) Cllr M. Scholes, Cllr J Battye

556. Apologies for Absence Cllr Al-Hamdani; Cllr L Dawson;

557. Absent: Cllr D Simpson

558. Declarations of interest, None declared

559. Minutes of meeting held 10th October 2022

Agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman at the meeting.

560. Warm Spaces Civic Hall

Cllr Phillips updated the committee on the progress so far; we have trialled 4 weeks now and only one or two people attending each week. There was some discussion around how we could improve on this, with more advertising, changing the timings etc. Cllr Battye suggested we engage a speaker at each session which may encourage more footfall. It was agreed that Cllr Phillips would propose to Full Council on Monday that we extend the trial into January, and if there is still insufficient uptake we would make the decision not to continue. Cllr Phillips advised there were volunteers in place for all four Fridays in January.

561. Proposed Allotment extension

It was noted that the Environment Committee appear to be in direct conflict with the Asset Management Committee over this proposal. There was some discussion around the financial implications of the costs involved to SPC and the very low return on this investment. Also discussed was the effect on the flora and fauna of the area. It was proposed that the Environment Committee ask the Assets Management Committee to prepare a cost benefit analysis and feasibility study on the proposal to develop the site.

The Clerk confirmed that as requested by the Committee at the last meeting, she had been in touch with the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit and they had agreed to conduct a Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) survey in the Spring.

562. Items for the next agenda

Ecology SBI Survey

Warm Spaces

Next meeting Monday 13th March 2022 at 18.00hrs