



Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cynghor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

Report

Agenda Item 7

Meeting: Environment Committee
Date: 9 June 2022
Report Author: Assistant Clerk

Environmental Update

Introduction

1. This report updates Members on progress in relation to current projects. The report includes notes of the recent AGM of Radyr Woods Wardens.

Key Issues

2. Key Issues are set out below:

2.1 Radyr Woods

Furniture

A decision was made to replace two of the benches initially in Radyr Woods with Black recycled plastic ones. The Assistant Clerk has researched options for the benches. This will be discussed with the Radyr Woods Wardens. There has been no progress on this due to Covid restrictions.

The Radyr Woods Wardens are considering relocating the disabled bench back to the previous location.

Ash Die-back

Cardiff Council has earmarked the trees for another inspection in 6 months' time which would be in April 2022. Cardiff Council will continue to inspect until such time as the trees will need to be felled. There is one tree next to a car park and property and Cardiff Council have forwarded their findings on to the Arb Management Team so a tree inspector can take a look and programme any future action. The tree has a unique tree reference number 170M. The Council should contact Cardiff Council Parks Department to request another inspection.

Information Boards

Members agreed that all four existing boards should be replaced and a fifth new board be installed at the Danescourt entrance to the Woods. Members also agreed to accept a quote from a local business for materials for the boards of £829 + VAT with design, labour and installation provided free of charge in support of the Community. Cllr Vina Patel has met with the supplier and designer. It is understood that the text for the boards has been agreed with the Chair of the Radyr Woods Wardens. Details of progress to be reported

John Scott Memorial

A stone has been selected and prepared for the Plaque on the new Memorial Bridge. A date for the presentation has been agreed for Saturday 11 June at 9.00 am.

Radyr Woods Wardens AGM

Notes of Councillor Tyrone Davies attached.

2.2 Windsor Gardens

Enhancement Proposals

The Council wishes to improve the appearance of Windsor Gardens and the Granny Park in Morganstown. Tenders/ quotations to be invited.

2.3 Pentwyn Park

Fencing Adjacent to Footpath

At the February Full Council members agreed that quotes could be sought for extending the retaining wall to hold back the car park. No progress on this yet.

2.4 Tree Surveys / Tree Works

Tree works and tree surveys in all woodland and land owned and managed by R&MCC are well behind schedule following 2 years of Covid. The last tree surveys were carried out in 2017 and only hold for 5 years. We need to source a suitable tree consultant to undertake the surveys and this was agreed to be progressed with the new Council in May/June.

In Dan-y-Bryn Woods a resident has reported that a number of large Ash Trees have been dying back in recent years and may be diseased. It was noticed that there has been significant reduction of foliage and an increase in dead twigs falling into their garden. Two other residents whose properties border Dan-y-Bryn Woods have reported there are 2 Oak trees in the Woods which appear to be diseased. They have been monitoring the trees for a couple of years and have noticed significant reduction of foliage and an increase in dead branches. The Ash Trees are on the Tree Survey Report to be felled. The management agreement states that permission would be needed from Cardiff Council for any tree work.

Members agreed to commission a tree surgeon to inspect a number of trees at Dan-y-Bryn Woods and on land close to Ffordd Las that have been identified as a concern, in addition to the recommended maintenance work in Radyr Woods. The Clerks should consult with Cardiff Council about whether any support for tree works is available.

Any existing trees of concern in the various parcels of land are likely to be identified on the previous Tree Surveys and can all be addressed by the appointed tree consultant.

2.5 Large Oak Tree – Woodfield Avenue

Advice was sought from Cardiff Council regarding the above Oak tree. Consent is required to carry out any work on “live” attached branches. The Council has

approved the appointment of an arboriculturist to make an assessment and provide a work specification who will carry out the survey in the coming weeks. A price has been agreed.

Financial Implications

3. Financial implications have been approved and included within approved budgets.

Links to Corporate Objectives

4. The Annual Report confirms the Council's objective to contribute to a Healthier and Resilient Community

Staffing Implications

5. n/a

Risk Management Implications

6. These are referred to in the Council's Risk Assessment Schedule

Legal Implications

7. The projects can be delivered/has been delivered using powers available to the Council under the following legislation:

Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 – s6
Local Government Act 1972 s111

Recommendation

8. It is **recommended** that:
 - (1) the report is noted.
 - (2) enquiries are made to identify and appoint a consultant to undertake tree surveys referred to above.
 - (3) Members consider the issues raised at the Radyr Woods Wardens AGM.

Radyr Woods Wardens AGM 23 May 2022

Venue: Radyr Tennis Club

Notes Taken By: Tyrone Davies

Officers elected: Mike Clarke (Chair), Barry Warmisham (secretary) and Caroline Dallimore (treasurer). Nick Dallimore was also appointed Quartermaster (in charge of supplies/equipment).

Work carried out discussed:

- A stone had been chosen and positioned to commemorate the commitment John Scott had given to Radyr Woods. A cast iron plaque had been purchased and will be attached to the stone. A date for a little presentation was agreed, i.e. Saturday 11th June at 9am. John Scott's sons will be invited and Rod McKerlich to be asked to unveil the plaque. This might be followed by a small tea party (funded by RMCC?) at the OCR?
- A bridge has been fixed.
- All equipment has moved from John Scott's land
- Woods litter rota is working and woods better/cleaner than ever!
- The fence around the compound is now complete.

Contributions from CCC and RMCC have been well received, financial and equipment, e.g. litter pickers.

Future work discussed:

RMCC had facilitated a tree survey (2017-22) which recommended lots of tree work - only some recommended work has done.

A new tree survey is needed and recommendations acted upon. Need a tree expert to do this!

The disabled bench still in storage, we need to consider resiting. The previous complainant has moved house now.

N.B. Radyr Wardens may well be considering projects and may well make bid for monies from RMCC.

Tyrone Davies mentioned the Jubilee Trees we are getting - siting discussed. There is no room in woods, in fact a thinning out exercise needed which will cost! However, ash die back and Beech trees coming to the end of their lives will thin tree cover over next 20 years.