

Notes from CIL group meeting 4th June 24

Present: Kate Dickson, Richard Dickson (RD), Neil Eaton, Zoe Leventhal (ZL).

Apologies: James Kennedy, Andrew Milton

Current projects

Kenilworth School. The grant for sound and light equipment for the school, was agreed almost 12 months ago. It is the largest grant ever agreed. We are still awaiting acknowledgement from the school that they will be drawing down the funds when they have payments to make. RD and the Clerk have both chased. Most recently the headteacher has promised that a response will be sent soon.

Natural Flood alleviation – Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT). We have received a report of the work that has been undertaken in phase one, and an outline of the further work planned. This outline is soon to be formulated into a formal proposal and will then be examined by the working group to ensure that it qualifies to go forward for consideration by the full council. WWT have offered to brief the council on the proposal, and we hope to have this briefing prior to our July Town Council.

Potential projects

Castle Access -We recognise that this is a project that has been investigated over many years and that there is an identified need for this to happen. Any potential project would include English Heritage (EH) as well as WCC. ZL has recently met with Matt Bulford (MB) at the Castle to walk over the site, and it is hoped that the current work in the Castle to improve the walkways, would improve the desire of EH to expand the pedestrian access offer. We noted that improvements would correlate with our desire to make Kenilworth more accessible.

Recommendation- the CIL group recommend that ZL as ward councillor and representative of the CIL group, should meet with MB, to formulate a proposal to go forward to WCC, to look at the feasibility for a safe pedestrian right of way linking the Castle with the Abbey Fields and with the Town Centre.

Pavement between the new Thickthorn estate and the bus stop on Leamington Road.

The need for a walkway linking the Kenilworth Gate housing development, with access to the town centre has been identified by Councillors and residents.

Recommendation -the CIL group recommend that they approach WCC to look at the feasibility of improving this access.

Solar panels for tKC – the idea of looking at helping with the cost of low energy improvements had been previously suggested. Further enquiries have now been made and the improved certainty of the longer-term future lease for the centre, means that other grant streams are likely to be available. If in the future, there was a need for investment in this way then tKC could approach the CIL group for consideration.

Public open space in the town centre

Committee members noted that investigations were being made at WDC, and that the neighbourhood plan town centre policies were likely to be reviewed. Following this, there may be a call for funds, in relation to a public open space in the centre of town.

Skateboard Park

The project to improve the Skateboard Park is still ongoing.

Cllr Kate Dickson