

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

NOTES of the meeting of the HINCHINGBROOKE COUNTRY PARK JOINT GROUP held in the Countryside Centre, Hinchingsbrooke Countryside Park on Friday, 10 October 2014.

PRESENT: Councillors T Hayward and R J West

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors B Hyland and T D Sanderson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Arnold, J Craig, N Green, P Hobbs and Mrs H J Taylor.

1. QUORUM

Arising from the meeting being inquorate, Members noted the following matters:-

(a) Staffing

Members were advised that since the Group's previous meeting both Maggie O'Hare, Café Supervisor and Jackie Elliott, Countryside Centre Assistant had retired.

(b) Volunteers

Members noted that the number of volunteers for the period April to August 2014 was 614, providing 3684 hours of work.

(c) Wider District

Members noted that a range of work had been undertaken in other parts of the District under the Countryside services remit including replacing a section of barbed wire fencing at Wilhorn Meadow and hay cutting at Paxton Pits.

(d) Park Management

It was noted that that the play equipment in the park had been fenced in, a small bridge had been replaced on the southern shore of the lake and the balancing pond at Christie Drive had been planted with over 300 wild flower plugs.

(e) Anglia in Bloom

Members were pleased to note that the Park had won a gold award plus for the best biodiversity project. Not only was this a significant accolade for the District Council but reflected the hard work by staff and volunteers alike.

(f) Countryside Centre

Details of the number of users of the Countryside Centre for the period March to September were presented.

(g) Events and Activities

Members were presented with details of the events over the summer period.

(h) Friends of Hinchingsbrooke Country Park

It was reported that the Friends of Hinchingsbrooke Country Park had been involved in the Parks 25th Anniversary Garden Party in April and had also contributed to the fence around the play area.

Chairman