NOTES OF ZOOM MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 8.2.21 AT 6.00pm

Councillors Present:

George Fussey – Chair Sue Evans Douglas Hill

Malcolm Leach

John Lovell

Yvonne Olney

Ken Robertson

Linda Tarbox

Also Present:

Bob Austen Claire Taylor

1. Welcome:

The Mayor welcomed everybody and thanked them for their attendance. This meeting would discuss Signposting the Wild Verges.

The Town Clerk apologised for his delayed attendance owing to internet malfunction.

2. Signposting the Wild Verges:

The Mayor explained the genesis of the circulated report which originated from discussions at the Eton Wick Snagging List Group. He reminded members of the no mow strategy applied to certain verges by RBWM, an initiative now employed by many other councils both to save money and improve biodeiversity. The objective is an educational one, namely to promote the plan for wild verges along Eton Wick Road, covering both Eton Wick and Eton with the message 'Do Not Cut Yet'.

It was agreed that an aluminium sign would be more durable, these would cost in the region of £25 each.

It was decided that Eton Wick and Eton Porny Schools be asked to produce a design each for the poster and Cllr Tarbox would organise this with both schools.

Action: Cllr Tarbox

The timing of the 1st cut is mid/end of March and so the signs would need to be ready for April/May. Cllr Tarbox suggested that half term would be an ideal opportunity for children to make their designs with their parents, as a homework project.

It was agreed that the message should be very clear with no excessive detail. The signs would include an ETC URL code to enable those interested to find out more information from the website.

The project is sponsored by ETC and so the signs would need to reflect this.

The proposed design and costings should be ready for approval at the next ETC meeting on 4.3.21. Action: Ms Taylor

Action: Ms Taylor

The 'Do Not Cut' message would need to follow on from 'Verging on Wild'.

The initiative needs coverage on the ETC website and social media.

Ms Taylor will send round a revised design.

3. Conclusion:

The Mayor thanked Ms Taylor for her excellent work on this project and the meeting concluded at 6.42pm.