

TPEG - Tankersley and Pilley Environmental Group

Meeting on Monday 13 January 2020 in Tankersley Welfare Hall

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Meeting of 14 October – Matters Arising
3. Other Activities Undertaken
4. Financial Matters – Appendix A
5. Physical Assets – Appendix B
6. New Tasks to be undertaken
7. Suggestion for a Change of Governance – Appendix C
8. Date of Next Meeting
9. Any other Business

TPEG Expenditure 2018-2019

Date	Details	Authorisation	Amount (£)
October 2018	New Head for Strimmer	David Shearn	15.60
	Litter Picking Hoops	David Shearn and Christine Robinson (only original members active)	48.13
September 2019	Hedge Trimmer	Group by email	146.99
	Petrol	David Shearn	12.78
	Pebbles and Paint for Village Stones	None	30.93

Current Balances: Bank £269.80, Cash £120.40 TOTAL: £390.20

Possible TPEG Expenditure

Details	Possible Amount (£)
Taller stakes for oak and horse chestnut trees already planted by TPEG in Welfare Hall and Lidgett Lane playing fields – 6 * 1.65m x 75mm @ £4.19 each (Earnshaws)	25.14
Pack of ties (Amazon)	15.69
Two stoke engine oil (B&Q)	9.99
Strimmer Line (Amazon)	9.95
Petrol – depends on summer	15.00
Repairs and service for strimmer (new clutch, support bracket, plug, air filter, etc)- notional figure	70.00
Ear defender and safety goggles for use with hedge trimmer (B&Q)	4.42
TOTAL	150.19

Authorisation of Expenditure

TPEG is invited to agree a policy. One possibility might be:

Essential expenditure – consumables and repairs – does not need any special authorisation.

Other expenditure to be approved by the Group, at a meeting or by email

A possible extension might be that small items of expenditure can be approved by the chair: a limit might be imposed such as £20.

TPEG Physical Assets at 4 January 2020

Grass Strimmer – heavy duty, petrol motor, purchased approx. 2004. Associated equipment includes petrol can, helmet, padded trousers.

Hedge trimmer – petrol motor, purchased 2019. Bought by TPEG; grant provided by Parish Council for general running costs as they did not want to fund trimmer retrospectively.

Loppers * 4 – provided by Ward Alliance in 2014

Saw for cutting thicker saplings – transferred from Parish Council in 2004.

Billhook – pretty useless, transferred from Parish Council in 2004.

Spades: two standard, one small border, one pointed shovel - transferred from defunct bowling club

Rakes * 3 - transferred from defunct bowling club

Litter pickers * 6 – from BMBC

Litter picking hoops * 4 – bought by TPEG

Litter picking hoops * 8 – provided by Company Shop

Black plastic litter bags, about 300 – provided by the Company Shop

High viz jackets with TPEG logo * 25 – from Jock, partially distributed.

High viz jackets plain * 6 – from BMBC

Change of governance

A suggestion from Chris Hirst – extract from an email

For your info, we currently have over 140 people who like, and follow the TPEG Facebook page, and over 30 people who receive the email update from the website that we post. That list is increasing on a weekly basis

I appreciate some of those may be duplicates, but it is clear that the interest, and support for TPEG is growing.

TPEG is waking up again with a new energy, commitment and support from many areas, which need to be encouraged

It also appears that we could now have more than one project running at any given time, and as such I would like to make the following suggestions for the way forward.

- At the moment we have 3 nominated posts on the TPEG Committee - Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. I would like to suggest that we add 2 more posts. Both Project managers, one for Tankersley and one for Pilley.
- That we should separate the Chair and Secretary to 2 separate individuals.
- That decisions are made, and voted on by those 5 posts, with the chair having the deciding vote in the event of a tie.

The reasoning for the above.

- Currently voting is on a very informal basis.
- Depends on the strength of individual characters at a meeting
- The decision could be swayed one way or another by an individual gaining, or losing support from the floor at any meeting.

Further:

- That the meetings are more structured and formal in basis.
- That individuals are given actions as a result of meetings, and that those individuals report back to the next meeting with updates.
- For the sake of transparency and fairness that only 1 half of a 'couple' should be part of the voting committee.
- We may need to adjust the Constitution document accordingly.
- We should create an agenda for each meeting, and circulate it in a timely manner before each meeting, with a view of informing and encouraging participation from others.
- The agendas and minutes should be openly available through the TPEG website for transparency.

I know that these are quite significant suggestions, but we do need to formalise things a little more.

Comments from David Shearn

We currently do not have a committee: the chair's role is essentially a coordinating one, the secretary produces the notes of a meeting and papers for the next one, and the treasurer is, not wishing to demean the role, a book keeper. The only 'committee' is the group as a whole and significant decisions are made either at group meetings or by the group by email (e.g. the purchase of the hedge cutter). Essential decisions, e.g. to buy some petrol for the strimmer or undertake a repair, have been made by the individual looking after the equipment, i.e. me.

TPEG has historically worked as a collaborative. Before the days of social media we met monthly, perhaps unnecessarily often, and a great deal was achieved. Now we meet less frequently, say every three months, to discuss significant matters, but in between all sorts of tasks can be identified and acted upon such as the recent splendid litter clearing in the Parish and the next phase of the dipping pond project. The community Facebook account has been a great help in this and has encouraged many people to get involved. TPEG has its own web site and Facebook account. We have community, voluntary action working very well. It is hard to see how a committee could make any improvements: indeed it would add a layer of unnecessary bureaucracy, and lack democracy.

The proposal will be discussed at the meeting and a vote taken – this is allowed by the constitution. For any decisions where a consensus is not reached a vote will be taken; otherwise there is no point.

If anyone would like to take on the role of secretary and take minutes, that will be fine by me.