

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL – EXTERNAL COMMITTEE
KILN FIELDS RESERVE AND WILDLIFE VENUES SUB-COMMITTEE
NOTES OF A SITE MEETING HELD ON 31.10.19

PRESENT:

Town Councillors: Dr. Lisa Lovelidge and Russell Parkin.

Non-Councillors: Dave Bournier, Roger Finnis and Mrs. Jean Sugden.

Tenterden Town Council Staff: Phil Burgess and Lesley Owers.

1. POND CLEARANCE

We met on site at Kiln Field to see how DGLD Excavations were getting on with the pond clearance. They had cleared 50% of the pond and it looked much clearer and much bigger. There was no evidence of any Great Crested Newts at all in fact the contractor said the pond was clear and that it would have been better if they had been able to clear the entire pond now rather than wait until next year to clear the other 50%. The contractor was concerned that if we waited to do the other half of the pond until next year, then there is the possibility that between now and then wildlife would then be present in the clear water and would be disrupted by the clearance of the rest of the pond, whereas now the wildlife could come into the pond and be left alone.

It was agreed that we should approach Kent Wildlife Trust to ask them if they would permit clearance of the entire pond now rather than in two stages. Phil Burgess will email the councillors to ask for their permission to give the contractor the go ahead to do this work if KWT agree. This would be beneficial to the wildlife in the pond and would be more cost effective to TTC as the contractor's machinery, equipment and fencing was already in situ, therefore the costs charged by the contractor would be reduced.

Lesley would speak to the other committee members and Kent Wildlife Trust and Phil Burgess would contact the councillors.

2. SOWING OF WILDFLOWER SEEDS AT KILN FIELD

The Contractor offered to sow a wildflower mix with Yellow Rattle and other wild indigenous species around the southern bank of the pond as a gesture, free of charge. It had been agreed to wait to see what native wildflowers came up but it was agreed to ask the opinion of the other committee members and Kent Wildlife Trust.

3. **REPLACING PYROCANTHA IN THE MILLENNIUM GARDENS WITH
NATIVE HEDGING**

It was agreed that the maintenance team would remove the Pyrocantha in the Millennium Gardens and replace it with native hedging.