

John Fullbrook

From: Steyning Parish Council - Clerk
Sent: 24 September 2020 13:46
To: John Fullbrook
Subject: FW: Abbey Road

ITEM

8.1.3

From: Sent: 18 September 2020 12:29
Subject: Re: Abbey Road
To: Steyning Parish Council - Clerk <clerk@steyningpc.gov.uk>

Thank you John for the prompt response giving clarity about the ownership. Local feedback indicates that there has been insufficient consultation. Together covid and the acrimony at the Parish Council has limited local people to be involved with matters. Previously when the environment agency had plans for the green there was a well attended public meeting. There hasn't even been a flyer through the letterbox until this very late stage. It's a fait accompli. People's intentions and enthusiasm are always good at the beginning but often ebb over time. We fear it would become an overgrown eyesore. It will create a barrier to the outlook. It's not too late to engage with local residents who want to be involved and consulted. This could be a really great project

On Fri, 18 Sep 2020, 10:01 Steyning Parish Council - Clerk, <clerk@steyningpc.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear

Thank you for your comments below.

The land is owned by the Parish Council and is designated village green status, and the Abbey road enhancements have been discussed at great length by the Council in public meetings over the last 2 years and with residents and many wildlife professionals, within working parties, from the Environment agency and the Sussex Wildlife Trust to name only two. In terms of this project the initial approach was to improve grass and tree cutting regime to promote both greater resident use and wildlife diversity. This next phase of works does include hedge and tree planting which was initially put forward by a group of residents keen to promote a 'greening' approach in the Steyning Parish. The height of the hedge will be managed by the council moving forward and I'm sure will be kept to a level so as not to obscure the attractive green panorama beyond, rather the intent was to continue to increase biodiversity and biomass at Abbey Road, with this planting and also a more hands on approach with the pond management nearby.

I will of course pass this correspondence onto the appropriate council committee members today for them to add comments if they wish and to take into account in regards their future approach to this matter.

Yours sincerely John

Sent: 18 September 2020 09:24
Subject: Abbey Road
To: Steyning Parish Council - Clerk <clerk@steyningpc.gov.uk>

Hello

We received a hand delivered letter from yourselves yesterday evening. We were horrified at the plans to plant a hedge adjacent to Abbey Road with little or no consultation with residents. As far as I understand this area does not have Village Green status. I know that the Parish mows the grassy areas once a year, but I don't know who owns the land. A new hedge will completely obscure the view and open aspect from Abbey Road. Yes I am completely in agreement with more trees and bio diversity being encouraged in Steyning and on green spaces, but please don't allow this to go forward ruining the outlook. It could be done better.

What permissions have been sought? What consultation has there been? Please can this be forwarded to the appropriate councillors and committee urgently.

Yours