

.Minutes of the Environmental Committee
Held at the Civic Hall Lee Street, Uppermill
On Monday 18th June 2007

There were present Cllr. Mr. K. Hulme – Chairman
 Cllr. Mrs. A. Parry – Vice Chairman
 Cllrs. Mr. K Begley & Mrs. A. McInnes,
 Tony Marlor, Clerk of the Council,
 Graham Parker & Jackie Night (Greenfield & Grasscroft Residents
 Association)
 Graham Gibbons (Groundwork Oldham & Rochdale)
 Doug Murray – Oldham Countryside Service
 David Caddick

47. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs. Mr. B Cullen, Mr. R Franklin & Mr. A Hodgkiss
 Alicia Marland – Grotton Residents Association

48. **Minutes of last meeting – Matters arising**

Minute 35 – Heritage Festival. – copy of the draft programme received, covers all South Pennine area. Raise at Finance & General Purposes meeting, assistance with distribution of programme, and facilitating events that support the programme

49. **Recycling** – Need to encourage Councillors and others to identify sites suitable for recycling facilities and disposal of other materials and the possible use of Section 106 monies to fund them.

50. **Himalayan Balsam** – Graham Gibbons updated the meeting on the current progress with the plans. Work has been undertaken with Delph Primary, St Chad's Primary and Greenfield St Mary's schools. Community events have been run in Uppermill, Diggle & Delph. The planned event in Grasscroft and Greenfield had to be postponed, a new date will be arranged. Funding of £1,000 has now been received from the Peak Park, it is proposed that this money is used to fund further events. Further work is planned in Grotton and the Delph Donkey in Dobcross. The Home Safety Quiz at the Civic Hall on 3rd July will be another opportunity to give out information. The issue of Himalayan Balsam on private land was also discussed, it was agreed that details of sites and owners should be passed to either Graham or the Clerk, a letter could then be sent to the landowner. Information will be obtained from DEFRA on the official status of Himalayan Balsam

51. **Right of Way Improvement Plan** – Consultation on the Right of Way Improvement Plan will be start in the next few days, the deadline for responses is 7th September 2007. The Parish Council is a statutory consultee, It was agreed that the matter be referred to Finance & General Purposes committee with a recommendation that the Plan is discussed at the next meeting of this sub-committee on 16th July. All Councillors will be invited along with John Walton from the Ramblers Association and Jean Tennant from Pennine Bridleways. An invitation will also be given to Terence Cavanagh, the Oldham Rights of Way Officer to explain the back-ground to the document.