**Minutes Environment Committee 12th March 2024**

 **Present:** Cllr K Phillips (CH), Cllr J Garner, Cllr D Wall, Mrs T Rhodes (Greenfield & Grasscroft)

**599. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Linda Dawson, Helen Bishop and Mavis Bingley.

**Absent:** Cllrs Meg Birchall, S Al-Hamdani, A Wrigley

**600. Declarations of Interest:** None

**601. Minutes from meeting Monday 30th January 2024**

Agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman at the meeting.

**Matters arising**

**Community Toilet Scheme – Finger Posts and Window Stickers Tally**

Jeff gave an update summarised below, on his survey of the Community Toilet Scheme

*(Below is the text of the Community Toilet Scheme on the SPC website. The survey results have been added in green and red, with comments in red).*

Saddleworth Parish Council created its community toilet scheme to ensure that residents and visitors can still access toilets across the area, in particular after the closure of public toilets previously maintained by Oldham Council.

Businesses allow members of the public to use their toilet facilities free of charge during normal opening hours and without the need to make a purchase. Participating premises display a sticker indicating that they are taking part in the scheme.

The current businesses currently participate in the scheme:

* Saddleworth Craft Co-operative, Delph - Finger Post (FP) Yes, Outside Window Sticker (S) Yes.
* The Junction Inn, Denshaw – FP No, S No
* The Gate, Diggle - FP No, S No.
* The Swan, Dobcross – FP No, S Yes.
* The King William IV, Greenfield – FP Yes, S No.
* The Little Shop, Uppermill - FP No, S No.
* The Civic Hall, Uppermill - FP Yes, S No (where put it?)
* Limekiln Café, Dobcross – FP No, S No.
* Grandpa Greene's , Uppermill= FP No, S No.

9 locations. Current number of Finger Posts ( signs) =3; Stickers=2. (Only the Civic Hall Finger Post actually states where the Community Toilet is located).

The scheme is designed to serve the more distant communities across Saddleworth.

A discussion took place, noting the Lime Kiln and Greene’s were not part of the PC Scheme.  It was decided that Jeff would establish pursuit of low cost options using existing artwork etc to improve signposting and sticker options and that SPC village notice boards should display locations and opening times. **Action JG and Site Manager**

**602. Update on Grouse Shooting/Rewilding Progress**

A lively discussion took place, led by Cllr Wall. It was agreed that separate meetings would take place with representatives of United Utilities (ShelinaBegum), and RSPB ( Kate Hanley) at Dovestone.DW would facilitate this. **All Parish Councillors would be invited.**

United Utilities - Wednesday 12th April 1pm – meeting at Dovestone Carpark

RSPB – Monday 13th May 1pm –meeting at Dovestone Carpark.

**603. Energy survey report**

Deferred to next meeting as report would not be available until 15th March

**604. Pollution of the River Tame in Delph** deferred due to low attendance of key players at meeting

**605. Update on Tanner’s Mill** deferred due to low attendance of key players at meeting

**606. Items for the next agenda**,Update on Grouse Shooting/Rewilding Progress Energy survey report Pollution of the River Tame in Delph

**Next meeting: Date to be set following AGM**