



Tattenhall & District Parish Council
Informal Meeting – Ha-ha Maintenance
5th October 2023

PRESENT

Parish Council – Ann Wright (Clerk)

CW&C – Dr James Dixon (CW&C Built Environment Officer (Conservation and Design))

Purpose of Meeting: To discuss maintenance of Ha-ha.

The Clerk met Dr Dixon at the Ha-ha the review maintenance works the following matters were discussed:

- It was noted the Ha-ha is in a generally good condition.
- It was agreed the metal brackets and barbed wire need to be removed, as the brackets erode and move they will act as leavers and lift the sandstone blocks.
- It was noted there are some small bulges in the ha-ha which need to be monitored.
- It was discussed if the ivy and moss should be removed from the wall. Dr Dixon agreed he would seek advice from Roger Goulding (CW&C) regarding the issue and the impact its removal would have on biodiversity.
- Some sections of the wall appear to have been repaired using cement mortar, these repairs should be replaced with lime mortar.
- It was discussed that for the long-term preservation of the ha-ha the whole wall should be pointed, and the necessary repairs/localised replacement of stones undertaken.
- It was noted there are some large voids visible in sections of the ha-ha, these need to be assessed.
- Dr Dixon confirmed he would speak to the archaeology service at CW&C as to whether it would be advisable to undertake an archaeological survey of a section of the ha-ha ditch, it was noted it was possible to undertake this as a community project including the primary school and residents.
- Dr Dixon confirmed he would investigate if the ha-ha is listed and would pursue its listing if it isn't.
- It was suggested that the project should seek to include the whole ha-ha not just the cleared section.
- Dr Dixon confirmed he would assist in drawing up a scope of works for the project which could include a range of community involvement including people taking part in the repair works, pointing and any archaeological surveys.

Ann Wright
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