

Meeting	Goose Management Scrutiny Review Task Group
Date	26 January 2016
Present	Councillors Kramm (Chair), Gunnell and Richardson, Ms Mortimer & Mr Eastham

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### **1. Appointment of Chair**

Resolved: That Councillor Kramm be appointed as Chair of the Task Group.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, Members were asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests they may have in the business on the agenda.

Councillor Richardson declared a personal interest as he is on the Foss Internal Drainage Board and as a Haxby Town Councillor.

### **3. Public Participation**

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

### **4. Goose Management Scrutiny Review Report**

Members considered a report which introduced information in support of objective (i) of the review remit for the Goose Management scrutiny review, and asked the Task Group to formally agree the remit and methodology for the review.

It was clarified at the start of the meeting that the wording of the Aim would be amended as follows, to ensure that the review incorporated other gardens and parks affected:

To improve the experience of residents and visitors to public parks, gardens and open spaces by examining the geese (and other water fowl) related problems affecting Rowntree Park and the University **and other affected sites**.

Members received a presentation, the slides of which are attached to the online agenda for this meeting for information. The presentation led in depth discussions around:

- The history of goose management in York and a summary of the principle problem areas
- Estimated numbers of geese in the City and the species found in York
- Current actions, in particular egg treatments
- Other actions considered, in particular the possible use of fences, how to discourage the public from feeding the geese and scaring techniques
- Currents costs of managing Geese
- Confirmation that there has been no confirmation of any health issues in people associated with Geese

Members noted the presentation and requested that further information on any policies used locally or nationally to control the geese population.

Resolved:           That the Task Group:

- (i)   Formally agreed the review remit, future meetings dates and review methodology detailed in paragraphs 3&5 of the report.
- (ii)   Considered the information provided in the powerpoint and requested further information on any other local or national geese management strategies.

Reason:            To progress this scrutiny review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols.

Councillor Kramm, Chair

[The meeting started at 4.00 pm and finished at 5.50 pm].