

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on Monday 9 March 2015 at 7.00pm
at Council Offices, Post Office Road

Present Cllr B Anderson, Cllr K Hathaway, Cllr Manship

In Attendance: Cllr I Broughton, Borough Cllr A Bubb & The Clerk

592 Apologies

All present.

593 Declarations of Interest

None received.

594 Minutes of meeting of 9 February 2015

It was resolved for the minutes to be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record after the following amendments. 581 remove new Borough Policy should just read Borough Policy and 588 should be Feathers not Feather.

595 Matters Arising

Trees on Wicklewood Way

Cllr Bubb advised that Committee that he had not been able to get in contact with Mr Fisher, Borough Tree Officer and had left messages for him to ring.

596 Rangers

Cllr Hathaway advised that she had nothing extra to report.

597 Co-Option of Cllr Broughton

Cllr Hathaway proposed Cllr Broughton to be a member of this Committee; this was seconded by Cllr Manship. **It was resolved for the Clerk to recommend to Full Council that Cllr Broughton be co-opted on to this Committee.**

598 Major Emergency Plan

Cllr Anderson reported that he had contacted Kevin Kent Emergency Planner at the Borough Council and left a message for details of the Role of the Parish Council in any Emergency Plan.

599 Current Financial Position

The Clerk handed round the budget figures the committee looked at the budget line by line and were happy with how the budget stands. The Clerk advised that the bill from Amey for Gelham Court is now correct and the Clerk has passed for payment. The bill for the dog bin emptying has been received for eleven months at £2082.00.

Task Force

Cllr Hathaway said that she was thinking that the 8 April as the day for the Task Force Thank You Tea. Cllr Bubb said that he is sure there is a walk that day. Cllr Hathaway said that it could be morning coffee instead of afternoon tea. **It was resolved for Cllr Hathaway to check the date and best time and the Clerk to book with the Coffee Shop.**

600 Asset Register

The Clerk advised that she had not received a reply from Andrea. The Clerk advised that the asset register needed to be completed by 30 June to go off to the External Auditor with the accounts. Cllr Anderson said that the items could start to be listed with in the next month, as the nights get lighter.

601 Contracts

Streetlight Maintenance

It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to draft a tendering contract based on our current and previous contracts.

602 Actions Outstanding.

Items will be reported under Areas of Responsibility.

603 Areas of Responsibility

(a) Bus Shelters/Bus Stop

The Clerk had forwarded some emails from Cty Cllr Bird regarding Lynx asking for some new bus stops. Cllr Anderson reported that it seems that they are asking for some of the stops that the Council have been asking for. Cllr Anderson said that it is not good at the moment with two buses following each other 30 seconds apart. Cllr Anderson to contact Cty Cllr Dobson and advise.

Cllr Anderson said that he had started work on getting the Bus Shelter listed with English Heritage but needed more background history. Cllr Bubb said that Elizabeth Fiddick would have the information required. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to speak with Elizabeth Fiddick.**

(b) Streetlights

Gelham Court

Cllr Anderson explained that Gelham Court apart from the light in the alley way is complete. Cllr Anderson to speak with K and M Lighting Services regarding the need for UKPN to sort overhead cable is necessary. Cllr Anderson explained that Maurice from K & M had informed him that the 35 SOX have 30w in the base also so more like 65W charge in total. Cllr Anderson said that it was even more savings when moving to LEDS.

West Hall Road/Centre Vale/Post Office Road Swop

The Clerk advised that she still had not received the quote. **It was resolved for the Clerk to chase.**

(c) Grasscutting

The Clerk advised that Mr Lee is going to cut the grass in certain areas where is it getting long and untidy out of this year's budget.

(d) Cleaning

Cllr Anderson said that after speaking with Mr Lee re the contract he is concerned as Mr Lee has been undertaking for nearly 20 years and now suddenly everything needs to be changed and Mr Lee does so many other activities for the Council and does not want to upset him especially as going out to tender no other contactor has ever been interested. **It was resolved for Cllr Bubb to check how often the Borough Parks are attended to and report back to the next meeting.**

(e) **Litter bins**

The Clerk advised that the Borough is saying the bin is ours and we have to repair. Cllr Bubb advised that if the Borough had given us our new bin back instead of an old tatty one then the Council would not be in this position. **It was resolved for the Clerk to get back to the Borough Council and advise this.**

(f) **Seats and Benches**

The Clerk advised that she has received an email back from County regarding the possible bin by the telephone box in Manor Road. County would like a plan of the where the bench would be placed and what kind of bench it would be. **It was resolved for the Clerk to time out the cost of purchasing an engraved bench from Mencap. At the same time the Clerk to ask re planters for the floral enhancement.**

(g) **Dog waste bins/sponsorship –**

The Clerk advised that she had not heard from any vets regarding sponsorship. **It was resolved for the Clerk to chase.**

The Clerk advised that she had contacted Scooper Dooper regarding emptying the bins but they required £2.00 per week which did include clearing round the area but this is much more than the Borough Council at £1.25 per week.

(h) **Footpaths and Walkways**

Cllr Bubb advised that he had spoken to Simon Beales regarding the footpath from Semba to the Warren. Mr Beales confirmed that Docking were in charge of footpaths at the time of transfer to the Borough Council. Mr Beales said that the documents may have been destroyed in a flood in 1978 when lots of documents were lost when the storage area got flooded. Cllr Bubb advised that he then spoke with Matthew Henry and he agreed to look up and see if documents still exist or had been lost. Cllr Bubb agreed to chase Mr Henry. Cllr Anderson had spoken to Mr Cross and he did not know but felt that Mrs Schorah may know.

Cllr Hathaway advised that the Task Force had collected 9 bags of litter from areas including Station Road to The Warren, Burma Close amenity area, Bank Road and the footpaths around the outside of the Recreation Ground. A further two bags of litter, including a considerable amount of bagged dog faeces, was collected from the footpath between Tudor Way and Saxon Way following a complaint from a resident who kindly assisted with the clean-up. Cllr Hathaway said that it was in a terrible mess. It is not know who owns this path but perhaps the Rangers would keep this area tidy. **It was resolved for the Clerk to add to the Rangers list.**

The Clerk advised that she had not been able to find out the ownership of the path at St Nicholas Close. Cllr Bubb felt that it was the responsibility of the houses either side. **It was resolved for Cllr Bubb to speak with one of the households.**

(i) **Tree Warden**

See Matters Arising.

(j) **General Village Environment –**

Dyke on Manor Road.

The Clerk advised that she had a long conversation with Gaywood Internal Drainage Board who explained that they use to be employed by the Parish Council to clear out the drain around the Sport Ground every two/three years. They advised that this dyke was the responsibility of the County Council. The Clerk advised that County had confirmed and would get the dyke cleared.

Recycling Centre

The Clerk advised that since Cty Cllr Dobson said that it was not happening for County saying that it might happen and is being reconsidered.

Road Sign

Cllr Hathaway advised that the Junction Sign at Heath Road is flat. **It was resolved for the Clerk to report to County.**

Grass Verge

Cllr Bubb reported that the verge just after the cottage after the roundabout coming into the village is badly churned up because cars pull up there. Cllr Bubb advised that there is nowhere for cars that may have taken the wrong turning etc to check so they pull up on the verge. **It was resolved for the Clerk to report to County.**

Planters

Cllr Bubb has asked the Borough Council if they had any spare or redundant planters that the Council could have. Cllr Bubb showed the Committee a picture of some. **It was resolved for Cllr Bubb to find out where they were and for Cllr Hathaway to have a look.**

604 The Warren

Cllr Anderson advised the committee that a quote for £1900.00 had been received to dig out the pond. **It was resolved to accept this quote.** Cllr Anderson said that if the pond did not naturally fill up perhaps the fire brigade might help.

Cllr Anderson advised that he had contacted four archaeological persons three in Norfolk and one in South Lincs regarding undertaking a survey whilst the dig is taking place. He advised that he had not heard back from any as yet.

605 Correspondence –

The Woodland Trust

The Leaflet called The Woods Today received.

606 Items for inclusion at next meeting –

Nothing at this time.

607 Date, time and venue of next meeting

Monday 20 April 2015 at 7.00pm in the Council Offices.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 8.40pm.