

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on Monday 9 February 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

Cllr Anderson welcomed Cllr Broughton to the meeting.

578 Apologies
All present.

579 Declarations of Interest
None received.

580 Minutes of meeting of 19 January 2015
It was resolved for the minutes to be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record

581 Matters Arising

Parish Partnership Scheme

The Clerk advised that she had emailed all the information to County. The Clerk advised County that an email would follow from the Headteacher but as yet no email has been received.

Trees on Wicklewood Way

Cllr Bubb advised that Committee that he had spoken with Mr Fisher, Borough Tree Officer and Mr Fisher is not willing to remove the tree as there is a new Borough Policy which means that trees are not removed just because they are breaking up the structure around them. Cllr Anderson advised that Mr Fisher needs to be called to inspect in the summer then he will see that several branches of the tree are dead.

War Memorial Tree

Cllr Anderson said that Mr Fisher was due to look at the tree in the War Memorial Garden but even though he has promised to come out several times he had not achieved yet or sent the relevant paperwork. **It was resolved for Cllr Bubb to take this up with Mr Fisher in his capacity of being a Borough Councillor.**

582 Rangers

Cllr Hathaway advised that she had nothing extra to report. The Clerk advised that she had added a couple of items to the list and sent it through.

583 Major Emergency Plan

Cllr Anderson reported that he still needs to speak with Kevin Kent Emergency Planner at the Borough Council

584 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.

Floral Enhancements

Cllr Hathaway said that she would like to purchase some containers to put around/under the village signs (3). Cllr Manship advised that Phobbies might be able to make them for them from tanalised timber. **It was resolved for the Clerk to ask Highways if there were any issues with undertaking this.**

Task Force

Cllr Anderson said that he would like to be able to show the Parish Council's appreciation by taking the group to afternoon tea as previous years. Cllr Anderson to speak with Cllr Payne re Chairman's allowance.

Streetlight Maintenance

Cllr Anderson said that the Streetlight Energy looks very healthy but any surplus due to savings may be needed to help pay for the replacement of the many streetlights that need maintenance work.

585 Asset Register

The Clerk advised that she had contacted Andrea Smith but had not received a reply.

586 Contracts

Streetlight Maintenance

It was resolved for Amey, K and M Streetlighting and Westcotec to be asked to tender. This to be discussed at the next meeting.

587 Actions Outstanding.

Items will be reported under Areas of Responsibility.

588 Areas of Responsibility

(a) Bus shelters/Bus Stop

Cllr Anderson reported that he had finally been able to speak with someone. It appears that the Station Road to Mountbatten stop had been agreed within the 14/15 budget but the other stops on Station Road which had been agreed with Ben Colson had now been rejected by Stage Coach. The Clerk advised that the money in the 14/15 will need to be vired to the next financial year or this will be lost. The Clerk said that it may be a good idea to get County Councillor John Dobson involved. Cllr Bubb advised that Sue Attar who still works for Norfolk Green/Stage Coach may be able to give more details.

Cllr Anderson advised that there is another company working on the route. The Link bus company. **It was resolved for the Clerk to email Sue's email address to Cllr Anderson.**

Cllr Bubb said that he felt that the bus shelter opposite the Feather which was purchased for the Village by the Late King, should be listed with the English Heritage. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to look into this.**

(b) Streetlights

Gelham Court

Cllr Anderson explained all the details regarding Gelham Court. Cllr Anderson explained that he had to release TT Jones from their contract regarding Gelham Court.

Cllr Anderson advised that the Clerk had received a call from K and M Streetlighting who maintain Freebridge Streetlights and the Clerk had asked him to give an independent view on the situation. Cllr Anderson had met with Mr Buck and had instructed him to undertake a temporary repair that Mr Buck had advised there was no reason why this should have been achieved in the first place. Cllr Anderson advised that an overhead cable had been put in place but Mr Buck come up with a solution which did not involve digging. It would involve the electricity source coming for the light from the domestic supply before any meters. UK Power Network has been asked to undertake this supply.

Cllr Hathaway thanked Cllr Anderson and the Clerk for all their work on this situation.

West Hall Road/Centre Vale/Post Office Road Swop

The Clerk went through all three quotes. **It was resolved for the Clerk to chase the last tender.**

Bank Road

The Clerk advised that the order has been placed.

Clayton Close

The Clerk advised that one of the quotes was for a different lantern. **It was resolved for the Clerk to ask the supplier to quote for the same lantern as the other tenders.**

(c) **Grasscutting**

Cllr Bubb advised he had cut his own grass recently and advised that he would think that the Parish Grass would need to be achieved in Feb/March. The Clerk advised that monies were available if a cut was needed.

(d) **Cleaning**

The Clerk advised that the FGP&A Committee were going to review the Cleaning Contract.

(e) **Litter bins**

Cllr Bubb said that the litter bin by Malcolm's bench was open and the door was flying in the wind. Cllr Hathaway agreed to check if the key she had would fit and if so close it.

(f) **Seats and Benches**

The Parishioner who enquired about a bench between Hanover Court and Budgen had enquired if a place had been found. Cllr Hathaway said that the only place she had thought might be suitable was by the telephone box but she was not entirely happy due to being by the dyke. **It was resolved for the Clerk to check the suitability with NCC Highways of this site.**

(g) **Dog waste bins/sponsorship –**

The Clerk advised that the letters have been sent but no replies as yet.

The Clerk said that no invoice has been received so far from the Borough Council and she would chase.

(h) **Footpaths and Walkways**

Cllr Hathaway advised that she had not achieved that much concerning the footpath from Semba's to the Warren. The Clerk advised that a letter had been received and a couple of visits to the office by a lady in Viceroy Close who was not happy about the footpath having an exit onto Viceroy Close. Cllr Anderson advised that this needs to be looked into and if necessary consultation but it was ultimately down to NCC.

Cllr Anderson advised that he had recently walked the route and had come across a concrete slab by the main path at the Station Road end and it had DRDC on it. Cllr Bubb said that it stands for Docking Rural District Council who were in charge of this area prior to it going under Borough Council control. Cllr Anderson was concerned that they may have been in charge of the footpath. Cllr Bubb said that he would speak with Dr Paul Richards to find out what he might know. Cllr Manship said that Mr Cross would also be worth talking to. Cllr Anderson agreed to talk with Mr Cross.

(i) **Tree Warden**

See Matters Arising.

The Clerk reported that NCC Highways had reported that the tree in Station Road had been cut back finally.

(j) **The Warren**

Cllr Anderson went through the plan regarding the pond. The Clerk agreed to email the quote from PCL Ltd regarding digging out the pond. Cllr Anderson said that he felt having the dig overseen by an archaeological person was advisable. Cllr Anderson said that he had spoken with the recent speaker at Village Voice Live and he had advised that it would not be as expensive as originally thought. He advised that there are several people who are able to undertake especially in the South Lincs area. Cllr Bubb advised that Clive Bond was leaving the Borough Council soon and he may be able to assist. Cllr Anderson agreed to contact Mr Bond

Cllr Hathaway advised that there was a teaching session/workshop at Kettlewell Lane in King's Lynn on bird box making and sowing wild flowers. Cllr Anderson said that he was unable to attend. Cllr Hathaway advised that she would try to go.

(k) **General Village Environment –
Dyke on Manor Road.**

The Clerk advised that a letter had been received by a Parishioner saying that the drains along Manor Road especially around Willow Drive were full of twigs. The Clerk advised that she had asked the Highway Engineer if this could be added to the Ranger duties and had added it to her list.

589 Correspondence –

Scooper Dooper

The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from a company from Norwich who offer lots of cleaning services etc. **It was resolved for the Clerk to ask for a**

quote to empty our dog bins especially as they clean and disinfect around the area.

The Woodland Trust

The Leaflet called The Woods Today received.

West Hall Road Development

The Clerk advised that an email had been received from NCC Highway to say that they had spoken with the contractors and informed them that they had to get the damaged verge reinstated when the development complete.

590 Items for inclusion at next meeting –
Co-Option of Cllr Broughton to this committee.

591 Date, time and venue of next meeting
Monday 9 March 2015 at 7.00pm in the Council Offices.

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

