

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on Monday 13 July 2015 at 7.00pm
at Council Offices, Post Office Road

Present Cllr B Anderson, Cllr K Hathaway, Cllr Manship & Cllr I Broughton

In Attendance: Borough Cllr A Bubb, The Clerk & One Member of the Public

640 Apologies

It was resolved to accept apologies from Borough Councillor A Bubb.

641 Declarations of Interest

None received.

642 Minutes of meeting of 8 June 2015

It was resolved for the minutes to be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record after the following amendment Cllr Tony Bubb and Cllr Judith Collingham were not present at the last meeting.

643 Matters Arising

Everything covered on the agenda.

644 Rangers

The Clerk read out a letter from NCC Highways regarding the drain on the corner of the junction of Chapel Road and Hunstanton Road and the over hang on the drain which they are going to remove and clean out the drains in the area.

At the top of Chapel Road around Beck House the pavement is being obstructed, and also the conker tree on the corner of Chapel Road and Manor Road around Jannoch's Court needs attention. **It was resolved to add these items to the Ranger List.**

645 Major Emergency Plan

Cllr Anderson advised that he had received the information from the Clerk but had not been able to access the information at yet. The Clerk advised that at a recent conference there was a talk from the County Resilience Team. There is a template that you fill in to get you started on the process. The Clerk said that it would be a good to pull this off and start to fill it in at the next meeting. **It was resolved for the Clerk to pull off the template for the next meeting.**

646 Current Financial Position

The Clerk handed round the budget sheets. The Clerk advised that the virements for the streetlights were agreed at the FGP&A meeting last week. (see attached budget sheets).

647 Contracts

Streetlight Maintenance

The formal contact has been signed and returned.

Cleaning Contract

It was resolved for everyone to review and pass on to Cllr Anderson. By the September meeting. If there is a need, special meeting will be called during the recess.

648 **Actions Outstanding.**

Items will be reported under Areas of Responsibility.

649 **Areas of Responsibility**

(a) **Bus Shelters/Bus Stop**

Cllr Anderson still has not been able to contact Elizabeth Fiddick. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to continue to try and get hold of Elizabeth Fiddick.**

The joint meeting regarding the buses has not been arranged yet. The Clerk advised that she had received a letter today to inform the Council that the Coach Hooper bus is going out to tender now that Stage Coach want to change to a two hourly service compared to a one hourly previously.

(b) **Streetlights**

West Hall Road/Centre Vale/Post Office Road Swop

It was resolved for the Clerk to place the order to the lowest quote.

(c) **Grasscutting**

Cllr Hathaway advised that Mr Lee had not cut the side of the Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that she had asked him to complete. It appears that Cllr Hathaway means the Bank Road footpath. The Clerk advised that the road was private and she had a conversation with a gentleman who lives down there who wanted to get the brambles cut back and make tidy and was prepared to help to achieve this. The Clerk advised as Private Road, the Council do not have authority. Cllr Bubb suggested that a quote is achieved to tidy the area up and then ask the residents if they were prepared to pay for it between them. Cllr Hathaway said that the footpath runs down by the fence would NCC Rangers be prepared to tid the footpath up. **It was resolved for the Clerk to put on the Ranger List.**

Cllr Broughton has not been able to talk to the houses in Viceroy Close that join Broadlands Close bank regarding the trees that Mr Lee informed that Council had been planted. **It was resolved for Cllr Broughton to check out with the owner or get the address details and the Clerk to write.**

The Clerk advised that she had received an email from a Parishioner wanting the frequency of the grasscutting on the land between 28 and 30 Philip Nurse Road the same as the other areas. **It was resolved for the Clerk to issue Mr Lee with a revised contract increasing the cutting in this area by two.**

(d) **Cleaning**

Cllr Bubb reported that the bus shelters still have not been swept out properly. Cllr Bubb also reported that the noticeboards all need cleaning. **It was resolved for the Clerk to ask Mr Lee to undertake.**

- (e) **Litter bins**
The Clerk advised that she had not heard anything from the Borough since Cllr Bubb was due to take up again. **It was resolved for the Cllr Bubb to take up with the Borough Council again.**
- (f) **Seats and Benches**
The Clerk advised that she that she had received lots of letters from people all the way down Manor Road a lot not in the consultation area all against the proposed bench. Most cite anti-social behaviour, but reports from the Police prove that there is no great issue with anti-social behaviour but because of the amount of objections then NCC have advised that they would not issue a licence. The Committee are really unhappy regarding this decision but feel they have no option but to write to Ms Murray explaining the situation. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to draft a letter to be sent.**
- (g) **Dog waste bins/sponsorship –**
New stickers have not been received. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to chase the new stickers.**

The Clerk still has not been able to undertake wording for dog fouling signs for the Sport Ground. **It was resolved for the Clerk to check out wording etc four were needed in total.**

Cllr Hathaway had pinpointed the area that Dersingham United Charities have requested a dog bin to be placed. **It was resolved for the Clerk to undertake a consultation of the area before applying to NCC Highways for a licence.**

- (h) **Footpaths and Walkways**
Cllr Hathaway advised that the Clerk had purchased another battery for the Task Force but Cllr Hathaway advised that it was not easy as it could only be charged on the strimmer and it was held in place with lots of screws so not very practicable to undertake when out and about.

The footpath between Budgen's and Gelham Manor is not passable the problem is the Council cannot undertake as it does not own. The Clerk advised that she had been informed that the Catholic Churches hedge needs cutting. **It was resolved for the Clerk to contact the Catholic Church asking them to cut.**

- (i) **Tree Warden**
Cllr Anderson still has to contact Mr Yeoman's over crowning the trees on the Recreation Ground. The Clerk informed Cllr Anderson that Recreation Committee would like him to ask Mr Yeoman's if he was prepared to take the Christmas Lights in the tree down and put up higher and also put the new lights in the other trees. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to undertake.**

Cllr Anderson also advised that the suckers in the railings on the Recreation Ground were from the Tree of Heaven trees, which are not native to this country and will not be affected by brush killer.

Cllr Anderson also advised that the Clerk had given him the Managers

details of Mr Fisher who has not got back to him for several months about the Lime Tree in the War Memorial Garden. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to contact his Manager.**

The Clerk advised that at the recent conference she had attended. The Insurance talk focused on getting trees checked regularly and inspected by a Tree Surgeon on a regular basis every two or three years and monitored by someone on a monthly basis. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to check all the trees and if necessary to get Mr Yeoman's to check them out.**

(j) **General Village Environment –**

Trod, Flashing 20mph Signs & Bollards Doddshill Road

The Clerk advised that it is hoped for these to be achieved over the summer holidays. Cllr Manship advised that the poles for the lights are already in place.

Dog Fouling Stickers

The Clerk advised that a Parishioner had attended the office for some stickers. The Clerk had put some through the Parishioner door that evening but the gentleman had returned them because he was not prepared to put stickers with fairies on outside his property and said it was a joke. The Clerk advised that that is all the stickers that are currently produced by Keep Britain Tidy. The Clerk also advised that you now have to purchase they are no longer free.

650 The Warren

The Clerk advised that she had not been able to obtain a successful quote regarding the pond but had some numbers to try. Cllr Anderson reported that he had also contacted four firms and one had quoted £6,000 and another one was very excited about the prospect of undertake the project. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson to invite the firm down two were enthusiastic for a site visit.**

The Clerk advised that she had received a couple of emails regarding the landscaping of the Warren. One from the member of the public present. **It was resolved for the meeting to be open to allow for the gentleman to speak.** The gentleman advised that several dog walkers had approached him and advised that they thought the depth at the outer edge of the pond needed to be deeper. Cllr Anderson advised that advise would be sought from the site visit and if necessary the contractor would return and make any modification. **It was resolved to close the meeting again.**

651 Correspondence –

Letter from NCC re the Partnership Scheme for 2016/17. The Clerk advised that any scheme needed to be with them by December but the earlier the better.

652 Items for inclusion at next meeting –

Partnership Scheme.
Streetlights in Orchard Close

653 Date, time and venue of next meeting

Monday 14 September 2015 at 7.00pm in the Council Offices.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35pm.