

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on Monday 8 July 2019 at 19:00
at The Loft, Dersingham Village Centre**

Present : Cllr B Anderson, Cllr C Shepherd, Cllr B Hopkins, Cllr R Frost, Cllr A Bubb & Cllr M Haizelden

In Attendance Cllr C Hipkin, The Clerk and 4 Members of the Public.

181 Apologies

Everyone Present.

182 Declarations of Interest

None received.

It was resolved to open the meeting to allow A member of the public to speak.

A Parishioner explained she had come to the meeting to ask for the basketball hoops or at least one to be put to the correct height so that teenagers can actually play correctly. The Parishioner explained that she felt that there was no equipment that can be used for senior teenagers to use. Several play basketball and want to train locally but they can place the ball as it is not at the correct height. The Clerk advised that in the recent RoSPA report it was advised that the backboard is broken and the hoop should be mended or replaced. Cllr Hopkins advised that they were secondhand from the Community Centre and were damaged when put in place. The Chair agreed to go and look. **It was resolved for Basket Ball Hoops to be placed on the next agenda and the Clerk to find out the cost of a new hoop.**

The Parishioner also advised that the broadwalk on the Common has lifted. **It was resolved for Cllr Bubb to take to Dersingham United Charities.**

It was resolved to take item 4 before item 3

183 Election of Co-Opted Member

It was resolved for Mr Alan Green to be Co-Opted onto this committee. The Chair welcomed Mr Green as a member.

184 Skatepark – Tender opening, Legal Issue & Planning. Agenda item 3 & 13.

The Clerk advised that only one tender had been received. Cllr Shepherd advised that in it was going to be over £25,000 and financial regulations advise that it should be placed on Contracts Finder. **It was resolved for the Clerk to place on Contracts Finder with a closing date so that it can be taken at the next Environment meeting. The Clerk also to contact all companies that she went to tender with that it was now on Contracts Finder and no tender has been open and if in agreement with the company who submitted would be taken with any new tenders.**

The Clerk had forwarded an email from a Legal company regarding advise over Village Greens. Cllr Shepherd advised that she felt there was not enough information given. **It was resolved for Cllr Hipkin to obtain names of three legal companies that the Council can obtain quotes for the legal advice from.**

Cllr Shepherd advised that it would be good to see Feltwell and talk with some of the group regarding funding, pitfalls etc. **It was resolved for the Clerk to get in touch with Feltwell's Clerk and see if a meeting could be arranged.**

Cllr Hipkin and members of the Public Left the meeting.

185 Minutes of the Recreation & Environment Committee Meeting held on the 10 June 2019. It was resolved for the minutes to be signed by the Chair as a true record.

186 Rangers

Cllr Bubb advised that the road sign when coming into the village from the south needs to be more visible and the vegetation needs cutting back. **It was resolved for the Clerk to report.**

187 Current Financial Position

The Clerk handed round the budget sheets. Cllr Shepherd asked that in future these need to come out with the agenda. The Clerk advised that depending when the meeting was the budget sheets might not have been balanced. The Clerk advised that she was prepared to have a training session on account reports, if felt it would be helpful. The Clerk advised that the figures re the Reserves were now all nett.

188 Areas of Responsibility

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

Nothing to report/

(b) **Streetlights**

The Clerk advised that Opus had sent an email with the voice recording but she was unable to open on the office machine. Cllr Shepherd advised that the amount quoted was still cheaper so felt it not necessary to take any further and accept the £30.00 credit made to the account. **This was resolved to take this course of action.**

(c) **Grasscutting**

Cllr Bubb advised that the verge on Station Road needed cutting urgently. The Clerk advised that she had already report to NCC Highways. Mr Green asked about the allotment hedge. Cllr Bubb advised that Dersingham United Charities undertake this once the nesting bird season is finished.

The Clerk advised that the grass around the Village Sign in her opinion needed cutting as it seems disrespectful. The Chair and Cllr Bubb were in agreement. Cllr Shepherd advised that it was resolved for this to be left for nature and Parishioners should appreciate the area because of this. Cllr Anderson said that the decision was less than six months so without a letter from Councillors with four signatories this item could not be taken further.

(d) **Cleaning**

Nothing to report.

- (e) **Litter bins**
Nothing to report on Litter Bins. The Clerk advised that a Parishioner had asked to borrow part of the Task Force Cleaning equipment. The Clerk advised that though a good gesture but with the need for PPE, Risk Assessments and trade waste disposal. **It was resolved for the Clerk to contact the Parishioner and advise that it was not possible at this current time.**
- (f) **Seats and Benches**
Nothing to report.
- (g) **Dog waste bins/sponsorship –**
The Clerk advised that all sponsorship had been taken up apart from two bins. These to be offered to the other sponsors or be offered to a business.
- (h) **Footpaths and Walkways.**
Nothing to report.
- (i) **Tree Warden**
Cllr Anderson advised that Ash Die Back was now noticeable. The Clerk asked if the Council were going to look at the trees within the 18 months re the tree survey report. **It was resolved for Cllr Anderson and Cllr Shepherd to look at these trees.**
- (j) **General Village Environment –**
Cllr Bubb advised that the stones around the end house by the roundabout were back again and found these to be dangerous to road users. The Clerk advised that they were put there before by the owners because the school bus was waiting there until school pick up time. **It was resolved for Cllr Bubb to speak with Sally Bettinson.**

189 The Warren

Cllr Anderson advised that he was meeting with The Norfolk Wildlife Trust had been delayed to Tuesday 16 July and he would undertake a species list of the diversity of the plants. This would enable him to undertake the Management Plan for the Warren.

190 Risk Assessments

The Clerk advised that she now had the maps from Cllr M Shepherd so she could go out to tender for the annual risk assessments.

191 Recreation area

a) RoSPA Playground Inspection Report. The Clerk went through the report and there were a few low risk items advised which were mainly surfaces needing attention, apart from the basketball hoops which were damaged and the skate trainer has worn on the edge of the board.

192 War Memorial & War Memorial Gardens

The Clerk advised that the company had sold all the old sleepers that do not leek tar etc. The next best thing was to go for Oak ones and she advised the prices that had been received. The Clerk advised that she was waiting for a start date from the contractor but hoped that it would be undertaken soon. It was also noted that work

had started on the tidying up. **It was resolved that a shrub purchase and planning meeting was needed.**

193 Bank Road Licence

The Clerk had emailed round the email regarding the condition the land could be handed back. **It was resolved for the Clerk to ask the Borough Council for a Condition Report on take over.**

194 Policies -Relating to Environment

Cllr Shepherd advised that there were a number of Policies relating to Environment. **It was resolved for Cllr Shepherd to send round drafts and the item to be placed on the next agenda.**

195 Correspondence –

a) Letter From Opus Energy. This item taken under Streetlights. (188B)

b) Email from Parishioner re Village Walk Around. The content was noted.

c) Letter from NCC Highways – Re Parish Partnership. **It was resolved for Parish Partnership to be placed on the next agenda.**

d). Email from Parishioner re Metal Detecting. **It was resolved for the Clerk to contact the Parishioner and advise that Metal Detecting would not be allowed on parish land.**

196 Items for the Website.

Nothing at this time.

197 Items for inclusion at next Meeting

Same agenda plus Basketball Hoops & Parish Partnership.

198. Date, time and venue of next meeting

Monday 9 September 2019 at 7.00pm in The Loft, Dersingham Village Centre.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 20:45pm.