

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON  
TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017 AT MILLFIELDS PAVILION AT 7.45 PM.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr C Border (chairman)  
Cllr A Whyte  
Cllr G Norman  
Cllr A Holloway  
Cllr M Williamson  
Mr G Britton (Co-opted member)  
Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)

43. To receive Apologies for Absence.

Cllr J Neish  
Cllr C Pearce

44. To Receive Declarations of Interest relating to items on the agenda.

None

45. To approve Minutes of Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**Resolved:** That with the minutes 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 be signed as a true record.

All in favour. (Prop Cllr Williamson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Norman) All in favour

46. Garden Plots:

(i) To receive an update on the garden plots.

Clerk advised that since November meeting 3 half plots have been taken by new tenants. Advert will be re-run in the next edition of The Villager. 1 full plot and 3 half plots still vacant.

47. Trees:

(i) To review tree survey report quotes for category 1 work.

Cllr Whyte queried whether tree 500 is on Parish Council land. Cllr Border confirmed that it is not along with trees 893-897 which appear on the main report therefore no work will be carried out on these trees.

Cllr Border spoke regarding the pollarding of trees at St John's Church as this may be a more cost efficient way to deal with them. Cllr Whyte noted that one quote mentioned the possibility of bats in the tree.

Cllr Holloway asked that the Clerk check the Council's insurance for work in the cemetery relating to the grave stones, he also asked about the power cables and asked that clarification be sought on the exact work to be carried out on one of the quotes.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk look into the issues raised and arrange for Bridget Halford from HDC to visit Holywell to offer advice on the work to be carried out on the Limes. (Prop Cllr Holloway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Border) All in favour.

(ii) To consider matters relating to trees Overcote Lane playing field.

The letter from resident regarding leaves in garden from tree on Overcote playing field was discussed at length.

Whilst there was empathy for the more elderly residents it was felt that this matter was not one for the Parish Council to resolve. During winter months there are no grounds staff although until the end of October the groundsmen to mulch leaves when grass cutting the field.

It was suggested that Good Neighbours may be able to help.

Cllr Whyte noted that some of the trees identified are on the tree survey report for pruning

**Resolved:** That the Clerk write in reply to residents letter coving the points raised. All in favour.

Letter from residents in Arnold Close asking for the removal of between 2 and 4 trees which block their daylight was debated at length.

It was noted that the trees were in situ before the houses were built.

It was also commented that the trees would need to be checked for bats before any work carried out.

Residents need to be made aware of the potential increase in light pollution form the tennis courts.

**Resolved:** That the residents be permitted to fell 2 trees at no cost to the Parish Council cost subject to:

- The trees being checked for bats.
  - Work to be carried out before bird nesting season.
  - Clerk being provided with details of contractor to be used and a method statement and copy of public liability insurance.
- (Prop Cllr Williamson 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Holloway) 4 in favour 2 against.

(iii) To consider damaged Ash tree, Falkland's walk.

Clerk reported that on 16<sup>th</sup> January a tree surgeon made the tree safe.

Wood left on site. Await invoice for work done.

Cllr Border has visited the site and whilst the uprooting has caused the development of a large hole she considers the tree is now safe.

48. To review cemetery regulations and fees.

Clerk produced a report based on fees from other Councils to show a comparison. It was noticeable that for the transfer of burial rights, additional memorial inscriptions and the erection of a headstone Holywell-cum-Needingworth is considerably cheaper than other Councils.

**Resolved:** That fees for the transfer of burial rights be raised to £50

The fee for the erection of a memorial be raised to £95

The fee for an additional inscription on a headstone be raised to "65.

(Prop Cllr Williamson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Holloway) All in favour.

**Resolved:** That the cemetery regulations be amended to state that a full burial plot cannot be purchased for the sole interment of cremated remains.

(Prop Cllr Williamson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Holloway) All in favour.

49. To review the Ouse Valley Way report.

Cllr Holloway asked if the marathon is to go ahead in 2017 that the organisers are asked not to paint white lines on the roads/footpaths in the village of Holywell as they are still visible.

Mr Britton commented that there is no mention of the Ramblers Association being involved.

Cllr Border suggested that an advert be placed in The Villager for a footpath co coordinator as mentioned in the report.

Resolved: That the Clerk pass on the comments raised and arrange for the advertisement in The villager (Prop Cllr Williamson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Holloway) All in favour.

50. To receive a verbal update on the Christmas tree project.

Cllr Whyte summarised the project and reported very positive feedback from residents.

Cllr Williamson raised the location again on behalf of Cllr MacPherson.

Members felt that the 'switch on' should be better publicised for 2017.

Resolved: That the Clerk speak to CCC Highways re the location of the tree in 2017 to see if a suitable site can be found on the High Street.

(Prop Cllr Williamson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Holloway) All in favour.

51. To note the Natural Level newsletter

**Noted**

52. To approve dates for Great British Spring clean event.

Event scheduled 3-5<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk arrange an event for Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, meet 10am Village Hall car park. Advertisement to be placed in The Villager, on website and noticeboards.

All in favour

53. Items to report

- Mr Britton reported the kerb damage on Mill Way causing mud on the footpaths. Clerk confirmed that in the absence of grounds staff the matter had been reported to CCC.

54. To note date of next meeting – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

**Noted**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Chairman

Date