

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2017 AT MILLFIELDS PAVILION AT 7.00 PM.**

PRESENT:

Cllr C Border
Cllr A Holloway
Cllr A Whyte (chairman)
Cllr M Williamson
Cllr G Norman
Cllr J Neish
Miss J Bowd Parish Clerk

23. To receive Apologies for Absence.

Cllr C Pearce- personal

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

None

25. To approve Minutes of Meeting held on 18th July 2017.

Resolved: That the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. All in favour
(Prop Cllr Holloway, 2nd Cllr Norman)

26. Christmas Tree 2017

(i) To receive an update on plans for the event.

Clerk provided a verbal update on the event to be held on 1st December 2017.

Tree and decorations being put up Wednesday 29th November.

Event starts with treasure hunt at 5pm with lights switch on 6.45pm

27. Allotments.

(i) To receive an update on garden plots.

Clerk provided a verbal summary of report provided.

- All rent received except for plot 4b(as at 13/11/17)
- Waiting list of 3.
- 2 existing tenants who wish to move plot.
- 1 tenant who has stated he will be giving plot up in near future but has paid annual rent.
- Deposits help total £550.
- Date needs to be agreed for site visit/review of maintenance (AH/AW)

(ii) To consider request to cut hedge to Falklands Boundary.

Resolved: That the Clerk get quotes for the work and bring back to the next meeting. (Prop Cllr Holloway, 2nd Cllr Neish) All in favour.

(iii) To consider replacement gates to main entrance.

Cllr Neish felt that replacement gates would be an asset to the site and suggested wooden would be in keeping with those at the cemetery.

Cllr Norman agreed.

Cllr Holloway was unsure of the need to replace what is there.

Cllr Whyte pointed out if it is agreed then funds are to be allocated in next year's budget see item 29.

Resolved: That the clerk obtain quotes for consideration at next meeting. (Prop Cllr Neish, 2nd Cllr Norman) All in favour.

28. Mill Way Cemetery.

- (i) To approve additional grave space adjacent to plot 346.

Clerk explained that the owner of burial plots 347& 359 wished to purchase a further plot for another relative. As the foot of plot 359 is not allocated as a space the Clerk has been down to site and confirmed that there is sufficient space for an additional plot and still leave 2m for access.

Resolved: That the request for the creation of an additional plot at the foot of burial plot 359 be approved. This is not to set a precedent. (Prop Cllr Neish 2ND Cllr Holloway) All in favour

- (ii) To approve use of South side of cemetery.

Clerk outlined the need to use the South side of the cemetery when request for purchase of burial plot received.

A discussion took place over the orientation of the graves, the need for a designated site for Catholic interments and the allocation of space for cremation plots on the South side of the site.

Resolved: That:

- The South side of the cemetery be opened for use.
- That an allocated site for Catholic burials on South side be reconsidered at a later date.
- That a site be set aside for cremation plots to mirror that already in place on the North side.
- That the footpath from the allotments be diverted around the edge of the site to maximize the number of plots available.
- Clerk to investigate purchase of a compost bin to be sited near the main gates. (Prop Cllr Neish, 2nd Cllr Williamson) All in favour.

29. Budget

To review the budget for items within the scope of the committee for 2018/19.

Resolved; That the budget be approved as presented. (Prop Cllr Neish, 2nd Cllr Williamson) All in favour

30. Trees

- (i) To consider crown lift to trees Millfields hedge.

Cllr Border spoke regarding the hedge to the outer edge and the need for remedial work following flailing. She also asked that consideration be given to lifting the lower branches of the trees which form part of the hedge.

Cllr Whyte stated that the trees will in time become too large and obstruct the roadway and damage the grass on the field.

Cllr Holloway suggested that the trees were not required.

Resolved: that no further action be taken at this time. (Prop Cllr Neish, 2nd Cllr Border) All in favour.

- (ii) To consider removal of tree stump Holywell Front.

Cllr Whyte advised that a local resident who is qualified in producing bat surveys has volunteered to undertake a survey on the Councils behalf.

A discussion took place as to whether this was necessary as the stump in situ is stopping traffic straying onto the common land.

Resolved: That no action be taken. (Prop Cllr Holloway 2nd Cllr Neish) 4 in favour 1 abstention.

- (iii) To consider the proliferation of hides being constructed in the woodland areas.

The Clerk tabled a letter from a forest school volunteer.

Cllr Whyte spoke about attending a session and the benefit received by the children.

Cllr Border had spoken to H Harland who confirmed that the ethos of forest school is to leave the area as it was found,
Cllr Whyte confirmed that the teachers do litter pick the area before/after each session and remove dog waste.

Resolved: That the hides be allowed but that activity in the area is to be monitored.

(Prop Cllr Neish 2nd Cllr Williamson) All in favour.

31. Items to report

- Clerk advised that Cllr Holloway is unable to attend Drainage board meeting on 6th December 2017, if any member would like to attend please contact the office.

32. To note date of next meeting – Tuesday 16th January 2018.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Chairman

Date