

Minutes of Histon & Impington Parish Council Environment Committee
Tuesday 14th July 2020
7.30 pm, Via Zoom

Environment Committee Minutes

Membership: 6 + 2 ex-officio

Quorum: 3
 Appendices: 6

Agenda No:	Present: Pene Nudds (PN), Simon Jocelyn (JC), Geoff Moore (GM), Yvonne Murray (YM), Aga Cahn (AC), Chris Jones (CJ) Clerk: Theresa King	ACTION
E20/001	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Denis Payne (work), Dan Mace (work) Aga Cahn (personal), Helena Perry (absent), Walter Davey (absent).</p>	
E20/002	<p>To receive declarations of interest and dispensations</p> <p>To receive declarations of pecuniary interest from Councillors on items on the agenda – none</p> <p>To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any) - none</p> <p>To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate - none</p>	
E20/003	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p>No members of the public attended the meeting.</p>	
E20/004 004.1	<p>TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 03rd March 2020</p> <p>Chair requested changes to following items: E19/055.1 IVC and Hospital trees – PN had visited hospital in person. E19/056.3 Allotment report - References to a fence that needed repainting and paths that needed strimming are references to Glebe Way allotments, not Gatehouse Road.</p> <p>All AGREED to approve the minutes once these changes had been made and these will be duly signed by the Chair.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/PN</p>
E20/005 005.1	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>E19/057.5 Tony Hillier Sculpture paper. Cllr Jones updated the group on progress with the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with James Broder from Cambs County Council Highways divisions; discussed installation of camel sculpture on the land between B1049 and The Coppice. Given outline approval for this, needs to be one metre away from a path and road verge, approval for it to be placed further away from hedge and closer to the verge i.e. more central in this area. Parish Council will need to write to Highways once installed to state Council take on the responsibility for the sculpture in terms of maintaining and any liability / insurance; • Decision taken not to locate a statue on land at School Hill, now looking at an area of land between Narrow Close and B1049 to locate “Sewing Man” statue - from a Highways perspective outline approval for sculpture to be placed here; • Need to verify ownership of this land, gain resident approval; • Alternative location such as the corner of Cottenham Road and B1049 rejected by Highways as too close to an active junction; • Sculpture of spider now available; • CJ to provide update at Full Council meeting on 20th July, asking also for possible location of spider in a tree on Village Green; • PN added that as well as the letter for responsibility provided to the Highways department a similar letter should be provided to residents near the Narrow Lane site. <p>Other matters arising covered by Clerk’s Report and later agenda items.</p>	<p>CJ/Full Council</p>

E20/006 006.1	<p>To Receive Reports</p> <p>Clerks Report (Appx 1)</p> <p>To note, road sign cleaning: action had been taken by office for safety measures as CCC not cleaning them. YM reported Cedric Foster reported graffiti had not been removed, PN advised caution had to be taken as to remove graffiti permission would need to be sought from property owners. YM to advise Cedric Foster to compile a list for any future actions required to get best value.</p>	YM
006.2	<p>Tree Warden and Allotment Report (Appx 2)</p> <p>Items to note: Tree report item 3 Resident issue - overhanging tree in Dr's Close. PN received advice and a quote from Tates tree surgeon to fell, approx. £120. Needs urgent attention but not a hazard. PN to forward Clerk this information for progressing as a Health and Safety issue. Ash tree further into site also needs attention, PN to add to works list to discuss with Clerk. Allotments Report, Gatehouse Road item 4 – GM questioned report on little activity on site. PN detailed 7 free plots on site, 24 taken plus community allotment allocated sites. Some plot holders are obtaining plots then finding it too much work and giving up, leaving plots until renewal time. GM questioned if a water supply would encourage more activity, item is included PN reported some tests had been undertaken to see if this was possible. No real feedback from plot holders to say they needed water as plots big enough to have multiple rain collecting methods. GM suggested undertaking a review and getting feedback from plot holders. PN said that now it is possible to hold the New Plot Holder meeting this should be organised for those on the waiting list, then a discussion should be held with existing plot holders. GM offered help to do a survey. Clerk to check waiting lists and chase those who have not replied then organise meeting.</p>	PN/Clerk PN/Clerk
006.3	<p>In addition to report, YM referred to Social Media comments on tree felling at School Hill site, and asked if any trees had TPOs which they do not, however they are in a conservation area. SCDC had approved the work as part of the development of the site, which included replacement trees.</p>	
006.4	<p>Sustainability Report – none received.</p>	
006.4	<p>HICOP and HI Trees (Appx 3)</p> <p>Written report received by mail and read by Clerk.</p>	
006.5	<p>Rural Footpaths report</p> <p>GM Footpaths Warden, walked all the routes. Questions had been raised regarding Rights of Way around Abbey Farm area as estate being sold. Howard Biddell working on getting Right of Way path confirmed. Howard had talked to Cllr Jenkins re Neighbourhood plan footpaths, given names at County Council to contact and they had responded. PN explained that if a path is used for 20+ years unimpeded or challenged, a request can made to have it awarded as a Public Right of Way. Process may take several years.</p> <p>PN had also received an email regarding set aside land at Croft Close, also up for sale at £200K. Resident offering to put up money to have as public open space. PN to forward to clerk and committee. Each suggested Right of Way will need witness statements, separate statements for each footpath, and a map showing paths. PC can provide O/S maps if needed. Responses to be collated by Howard for 14th August in order to respond.</p> <p>CJ asked re bridges reported as broken on social media earlier in the year, County Farms responsible and some repairs undertaken. GM and CJ to inspect to see if repair good enough. Clerk to contact county re status of repair, if more work planned.</p>	PN GM/CJ Clerk
E20/007	<p>Other Business</p> <p>Clerk had produced and circulated Items for Decision document to support items 1-7 (Appx 4), a report for item 4 (Appx 5) and item 8 (Appx 6).</p>	
007.1	<p>Laser cut leaves purchase for Homefield Park gates. A short discussion took place over quotation. All agreed to select the quote from Essex Laser. Clerk to confirm number of leaves provided on this quote, if this price is for 12 then proposed to double order. Proposed Cllr Jocelyn, seconded Cllr Moore, all agreed.</p>	Clerk

007.2	Tree surveys. Survey done on a 3 to 5-year cycle. Discussion on FCHL land and trees – certain trees identified by PN as ones that might cause problems. FCHL to be contacted to offer PN's expertise and Tree surgeons' advice to action, and offer of survey cost in writing. YM has new contact to be provided to Clerk to contact. All agreed to progress with remainder of surveys.	Clerk
007.3	Renovation of BT Phone box. All agreed on polycarbonate windows, replacing all panes, and purchasing 4 new plastic signs. Delegated to Chair and Clerk to select best value contractor to undertake work.	Clerk/ Chair
007.4	Manor Field benches. Choice of full circle round bench with a back but no arms agreed by all. Delegated to Clerk and Chair to select best value for money installation quote.	Clerk/ Chair
007.5	Hedge planting in Manor Field. Explanation of locations for new hedges, previously thought of being done as two phases but because of impact of pandemic now being actioned as one event. Double row planting agreed, and all agreed to delegate to Clerk and Chair to action, working within budget.	Clerk/ Chair
007.6	Trees to replace dead ones in cemetery. Originally, 6 trees were planted, 2 failed for no obvious reasons. Committee all agreed to purchase replacements, delegated to Clerk and Chair to progress.	Clerk/ Chair
007.7	Update on Tree Work near 31 The Coppice. All Agreed to removal of saplings and trim of hedge, getting best value for money.	Clerk/ Chair
007.8	Public Art "Theories from Home" update. PN expressed concern over policy changes needed, if these were not acceptable then project in jeopardy. Suggested changing sequence of events, get policy work done first so as to not undermine progression of project. Clerk to confirm if we are getting 3 pillars or 6. Delegated to Chair and Clerk to progress. Pictures of mould to be circulated as now possible to have one animal mould, committee to offer their choice.	Clerk/ Chair Clerk
007.9	Tree works at Villa Road/South Road area. Resident request. PN suggested area a Public amenity, work to clear it would provide an extra play area. CCC land, Clerk to contact CCC with regard to undertaking work.	Clerk
007.10	Climate working party/climate emergency. Working party continue to discuss way forward. Energy audit on sports pavilion to be actioned to establish information on possible improvements, Clerk to action. Working document to be kept centrally. Possible use to be made of SCDC ZCC grant scheme.	Clerk
E20/008	Other Correspondence None received.	
E20/009	Date of next meeting 15th September 2020, 17th November 2020, 26th January 2021, 23rd March 2021, 25th May 2021 Workshop dates: Date to be agreed to plan future projects. Suggested w/c 17 th August, probably 19 th preferred.	Clerk/ All
E20/010	How to communicate meeting discussions/decisions and To request items for next agenda Website: Manor Field Benches, BT phone box renovation. Newsletter : none Next Agenda(s): 2020/2021 Budgets including reallocation of specified reserve; Review of Conditions of Use of Open Spaces; Street Furniture Review; Waste and Dog Bin Review including request for Litter bin for Windmill Gardens; Asset Management; Planting plan & purchase request for Holiday Inn bed.	
	Meeting Closed: 9.35 pm	