

ATTLEBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee Held on Monday, 15 August 2016 at 6.00pm in the Town Hall

Present:

Cllr T Crouch – presiding

Cllr G Ellis Cllr J Burton Cllr V Dale (from 6.10pm)

Cllr T Taylor Cllr S Taylor

In attendance – Gina Lopes, Town Clerk Trisha Drewery, Admin Assistant (minute taker) 5 x public

29.16) Apologies for absence

Cllr Dale had advised she may be late

30.16) Declarations of Interest in items below

- a) To receive and consider declarations of interest None
- b) To receive and consider any requests for dispensation of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest None

31.16) Public Participation

On the motion of Cllr S Taylor, seconded by Cllr T Taylor, it was **RESOLVED** to allow the member of the public to speak under Agenda item 5a) as they had attended for this purpose.

<u>32.16) Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 18 July 2016</u> Noted the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 18 July 2016

33.16) Gaymers

Discussion took place regarding the appropriateness of planting a hedge to deter dog owners from walking straight onto the children's play area. Cllr Dale stated that that a hedge would not be suitable as dogs can go through hedges.

It would be better to totally fence the children's play area, as it would then avert dogs from soiling this area or jumping up at children playing on the park. Photographs of the park situation were presented for information by Cllr Dale. The Clerk confirmed that Steve Hall and the Play Consultant would present their report on all play areas at the Council meeting on 5 September 2016. Members had previously agreed phase 1 for the assessment of all areas and would need to decide how to progress with designs and new equipment etc for the next phases

RESOLVED that the Clerk would obtain quotes for both wooden/picket and also wire fencing for the play area for further consideration by committee members

ACTION: CLERK

34.16 Carnival permission

Sam Aghabi, Carnival Committee, was invited to discuss the recent advertisement of the 2017 Carnival dates. These had been advertised in Issue 8 of Attleborough Matters as being on the 8 and 9 July 2017, however, members were unhappy as these dates had not been approved by the Council. Mr Aghabi explained that there had been a tight deadline for the advertisement to be submitted which had complicated seeking permission and that he had planned to do so retrospectively. Members expressed concern that the dates given may not be available but confirmed that the Council fully supported the Carnival Committee. However, it is necessary to ensure that the correct procedures are followed regarding approval so as to not set a precedence. The Council wished to encourage communication between the two committees. Mr Aghabi agreed he would send a retrospective email to the Council office to request approval regarding the advertised dates and would also confirm date of the next Carnival AGM date, as requested.

35.16 Licence - Recreation Ground

The Alcohol Licence for the recreation ground was discussed and Cllr Dale felt this should be fully discussed and sorted out before the next Carnival. There was a suggestion that any of the staff could supervise the bar but Cllr Ellis expressed concerns regarding this arrangement and suggested the current licence holder for the Town Hall would be more suitable. Cllr S Taylor was not in favour as she felt bar prices would be too high for groups that would use the recreation ground for events. All information is needed regarding the different kinds of licence available and for further discussion in two months' time

ACTION: CLERK

36.16 Other environmental matters

a) Request for a memorial bench

A request from a member of the public seeking permission to place a memorial bench was considered. Debate took place regarding the suitability of placement in either Queen's Square or the Cemetery. It was confirmed that one memorial bench had already been installed in the cemetery site.

On the motion of Cllr Ellis, seconded by Cllr Burton, it was

RESOLVED that the Cemetery was the most suitable place and the family may purchase a memorial bench but it must be in the same style as the existing bench

b) Queen's Square

Cllr S Taylor praised the Groundsmen for the attractive appearance of Queen's Square saying that they had done a good job. However, the lack of rain has affected the quality of planting. Cllr Couch stated that the excessively hot weather is causing some appearance issues with some plants and they requested that the grounds staff water the plants. The Clerk advised that the groundsmen are already watering as often as possible but would pass on the request

b) Tree management strategy

Briefly mentioned and confirmed that Mr Thomas was unable to attend this meeting but would attend a future meeting

c) No Smoking Policy signs

Cllr Burton queried whether the No Smoking Policy signs were being displayed and the Clerk confirmed they had been received from Breckland and given to the Head Groundsman and believed they were now in place but would check

d) Goal Posts

The progress of the surfacing of the goal posts was queried and the Clerk informed the committee that she is awaiting the pricing for this.

e) S106 funding for play areas

Cllr Burton asked the Clerk to confirm if the funds had been received for the MUGA and the Clerk advised that the application had been submitted for £39,900 and the outcome was awaited. Cllr Ellis advised that he had looked into this previously and it was suggested to move the MUGA from London Road to the Recreation ground and make a new area. The Clerk confirmed she had met with the Play Consultant and Breckland Officer to identify available funds and advised that there was a query over funding for London Road as may not be the Council owned site, yet to be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 6.30pm