



ATTLEBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Queens Square, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 2AF
Tel: 01953 456194 - email: enquiries@attleboroughtc.org.uk

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee Held on 20 June 2016 at 6.00pm in the Town Hall

Present:

Cllr G Ellis	Cllr T Crouch – presiding upon election	
Cllr J Burton	Cllr T Taylor	Cllr S Taylor
	Cllr V Dale	Cllr J Blyth
	In attendance – Gina Lopes, Town Clerk	
	Anne Willett, Clerk's Assistant	
	Sarah Watts, Office Assistant	
	4 x public	

01.16) Election of Committee Chairman for the municipal year 2016-2017

On the motion of Cllr S Taylor, seconded by Cllr Burton, it was
RESOLVED to elect Cllr Crouch as Committee Chairman for the municipal year 2016-2017

02.16) Election of Committee Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2016-2017

On the motion of Cllr S Taylor, seconded by Cllr Dale, it was
RESOLVED to elect Cllr T Taylor as Committee Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2016-2017

03.16) Apologies for absence

None – all present

04.16) Declarations of Interest in items below

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

05.16) Public Participation

RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned to allow the public to speak – Please see “Public Participation Notes” attached

06.16) Minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2016 were noted

07.16) Environmental Matters

a) To discuss trees - Mr Neil Thomas (Tree Surgeon) was asked to advise the members on the tree work he had identified and he confirmed he had visited the sites and that some work was urgent but not all. He confirmed that he had insurance cover for £10 million but was not insured to carry out tree surveys. Cllr Blyth raised concerns that no costs were listed for the work and there was some discussion.

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

RESOLVED to approve the high priority tree work as listed

Cllr Burton requested that out of hours emergency contact numbers are supplied and Mr Briggs (Head Groundsman) confirmed he would attend for emergencies if required.

b) Neil Thomas Contract – The Clerk advised that there was no written contract on file and Cllr Crouch confirmed that Mr Thomas' appointment was in the minutes and agreed at one day a month at £400. Mr Thomas advised that the Council could employ a large company to do a tree survey and they would then be bound to carry out the identified work or have a regular tree surgeon to look at their trees and make safe. Mr Thomas confirmed that the second option had previously been approved by Breckland District Council.

On the motion of Cllr S Taylor, seconded by Cllr Burton, it was

RESOLVED to retain Mr Thomas for one day a month and, if emergency work was necessary, Mr Thomas would be called in at his daily rate of £400.

c) Attleborough in Bloom – Cllr Crouch reported that the tubs are planted out and signs in place. Thanks were expressed to the office staff for their help and also to the grounds apprentice for weeding Queen's Square. It was confirmed that a new flag had been ordered for the Square flagpole

d) Summer watering – Cllr Crouch reported that on inspection the compost in the planters was very dry and suggested that the tubs are watered twice a week.

e) Moving of plant tubs & to consider new purchase – Cllr Crouch advised that some of the tubs had been vandalised and also that several were placed together and felt it would be better to spread the tubs. For further discussion at the next meeting

f) Cemetery - locking of gates – Cllr Ellis advised that he was attending the next day when the new alarms would be fitted, however, felt the cemetery gates should also be locked to prevent access. This was briefly discussed and some members did not want the gates locked.

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

RESOLVED not to implement locking of the cemetery gates

g) Update on design of new cemetery space – The plan from Plandecil was briefly considered and Cllr Taylor expressed disappointment that no provision was made for ethnic burials. The Clerk stated that she understood that the burial land had already been consecrated and this was queried. Cllr Blyth suggested members should visit the cemetery to see the layout. For further discussion at the next meeting

h) Discuss new meadow layout for Gaymers – Cllr Crouch advised that Mr Thomas (tree surgeon) would provide a report on Gaymers

i) Breckland Voluntary smoke free code – Cllr Burton stated that there had been a lot of publicity on the smoke free code and also noted that a child from Attleborough had won the poster competition.

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

RESOLVED to support the smoke free code and display the posters

06.16) Other matters –

a) To discuss progress of Decoy Common – deferred

b) Extra meeting to be held on 6 July 2016 - cemetery visit at 6.00pm and meeting at 6.15pm

Meeting closed at 6.45pm

Public Participation Notes

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak and comments received included the following:-

- Dist Cllr Martin asked members to carefully consider the proposal to lock cemetery pedestrian gate as many users attend very early in the morning