

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 Monday, 20 February 2017 at 6.00pm in the Town Hall

Present:

Cllr T Crouch – presiding

Cllr J Burton Cllr V Dale Cllr T Taylor

Cllr S Taylor Cllr G Ellis

In attendance – Gina Lopes – Clerk to Attleborough Town Council Trisha Drewery (minute taker)

3 x public

62.16) Apologies for absence

None as all member's present.

63.16) 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.

64.16) Public Participation

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

65.16) Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 21 November 2016

Noted the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 21 November 2016.

66.16) Quotations

a) Tree Survey -

A short discussion took place; points raised included:

- The Clerk informed members that the second quote from Steven White did not include Decoy Common at £250.00; taking the quote total to £1,000.00.
- To ensure that the person appointed to undertake the survey provides the required qualifications and liability insurance to be held on file.
- During the discussion, a query was raised as to whether the Groundsmen could trim any lower branches from trees to save on costs incurred from the Tree Surgeon.

- The Clerk reiterated that, prior to undertaking any work for the Town Council, the Tree Surgeon must always discuss work to be undertaken.
- It was confirmed that one Groundsman has a chainsaw licence and recommended that the Town Council Office investigate the cost of chainsaw courses for other relevant Groundsmen to be qualified.

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

RESOLVED to accept and approve the quote from Andrew Coombes to carry out a survey of all the trees for a total cost of £897.00.

b) Shredder -

There was a short discussion; comments included:

- The Eliet Pro 5B PTO chipper/shredder ABM system and PTO at a cost of £4,600.00, was the preference of the Groundsmen.
- That there is limited capacity to store a larger machine.
- It was queried whether it was possible to hire a machine for the season but the groundsman advised that hire shredders are scarce.

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

RESOLVED to accept the quote for the Eliet Pro 5B PTO chipper/shredder ABM system and PTO at a cost of £4,600.00.

ACTION: CLERK

67.16) Allotments

a) Allotment rent

Discussion took place and the points included:

- The current Allotment Tenancy Agreement states that 12 months' notice must be given to tenants regarding any rise in rent.
- The previous rental is 0.1724 pence per square metre and a rent rise has not been implemented for several years; suggested that for ease of calculation it should be 0.20 pence per square metre.
- Letters will need to be sent to allotment tenants by June 2017 giving notice that the new charges will begin in June 2018; an acknowledgement slip is to be included at the bottom of the letter for tenants to confirm receipt and return to the office.
- A query was raised regarding the available water supply for the new allotments which are to be supplied by Taylor Wimpey as part of the new build on London Road. Taylor Wimpey have agreed to install two containment water tanks; which would allow natural ditch water to be directed in to the containers for use on the allotments. It was reported that the ditches at the new area of Grosvenor Park are currently overgrown and dry but the land is waterlogged

On the motion of Cllr Crouch and seconded by Cllr Dale it was

RESOLVED to approve a rental increase to 0.20 pence per square metre for each allotment plot; to begin in June 2018.

ACTION: CLERK

The meeting closed at 6.30pm

Public Participation Notes:

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak and points raised included the following:

- A resident queried whether Heavy Goods Vehicles are allowed to park in the Football Club car park overnight; lorries have been noticed arriving at 11 pm and not leaving until 11 am. This is causing damage to the car park surface. Additionally, there are noise disturbances due to drivers using mobile telephones and radios.
- There is a notice on the gate to say "no parking", however, there are no restrictions as it is not a locked car park. The Clerk to send an email to notify the Police so that they are aware.