



ATTLEBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee Held on Monday, 18 March 2019 at 6.00 pm in the Town Hall

Present:

Cllr T Crouch – presiding
Cllr B Bulmer Cllr V Dale Cllr T Taylor
Cllr S Taylor
In attendance – Gina Lopes – CEO and Clerk to Attleborough Town Council
Trisha Drewery – Clerk’s Assistant (minute taker)
3 x Public
Dist. Cllr K Martin

ENV068.18) Apologies for absence

Cllr Bond - Holiday

ENV069.18) 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

ENV070.18) Public Participation

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

ENV071.18) Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 18 February 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2019 were noted.

ACTION: CEO

ENV072.18) Open Spaces

a) Attleborough In Bloom

Discussion took place; points included:

- It was queried whether it was appropriate to allow individual businesses to place their own signage on the planters to which they have donated. However, it was noted this may cause a cross-over as to whether the signage became advertising rather than a donation, which may incur VAT charges.
- Consistency of the signage was the preference of Members.
- It was suggested the letters could include an additional sentence such as ‘any donations would be welcomed’.
- A4 certificates could be given to display in windows to businesses who have donated for a named planter.

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

RESOLVED to increase the lower donation to £25.00 and upper donation to remain at £50.00.

b) Anglia In Bloom

Discussions took place; points included:

- Cllr T Taylor suggested the Town Council purchase a second hand polytunnel to be placed on an allotment; stating the cost would be one outlay and could save money long-term.
- Having a polytunnel would enable growing on plug plants and seeds for future 'Anglia in Bloom' planting.
- Cllr S Taylor stated her disappointment at lack of interest by Members; as in the past Councillors used join in when the planters were being prepared.
- Suggestions were made regarding how to form a group:
 - current litter picking volunteers could be contacted to ask if they would be willing to help.
 - local schools and nurseries could be invited to be involved.
 - The Town's Horticultural Society could be contacted.
 - A local resident has offered to advise on planting schemes.
 - There is a potential to access grant funding.
 - A press release could be issued seeking volunteers.
- A representative from the 'Community Garden Project' could be contacted in the future.
- The CEO sought clarification as to who would head the group; Cllr T Taylor confirmed she is happy to take responsibility as lead.

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

RESOLVED the CEO would contact existing volunteers and the representative from the Horticultural Society to start a community planting group.

ACTION: CEO

ENV073.18) Update on Masterplans and S106 Funds

- An informal meeting has been held with relevant parties to progress the S106 funds.
- The CEO has met with Phil Doyle, Play Consultant, to progress the Master Plans.
- £72,000 of S106 funding has been identified for Blackthorn Road, with potential for additional funding for the smaller areas listed within this area.
- The London Road Master Plan needs some adjustments prior to being presented to the Environment Committee.
- Breckland District Council have a newly designated S106 Officer; the CEO will arrange to meet to seek re-allocation of funds for the Attleborough Town Council London Road area.
- Having Consultant design specific Master Plans should aid the release of S106 funds by Breckland District Council.
- Discussion needs to include clarification of existing S106 funds are site specific.

ACTION: CEO

ENV074) Long Jump Pit Update

- Representatives from the Attleborough Athletics Academy have attended several Town Council meetings; however, progress is limited.
- The Office is still waiting for written confirmation that the pit meets UK Athletics specifications.
- A formal design of specifications has been requested and is also awaited.

- The Town Council have requested written clarification from the Athletics Academy as to whether planning permission is required from Breckland District Council's Planning Department.
- The Athletics Academy solicitors have suggested there is a lease agreement with the Town Council.
- Members voiced their concerns regarding the above and it was agreed no further action can be taken until the requested information has been received. Advice regarding the lease is being sought from the Town Council's Solicitor.

ENV075) Correspondence

None received.

The meeting closed at 6.35 pm

Public Participation Notes:

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

- A resident queried why the Cemetery gates had remained locked all weekend over of the 9 and 10 March 2019. Members responded the gates are being locked in the evenings following advice from the Police in response to the Cemetery being targeted for incidents of vandalism and thefts as a temporary measure. Unfortunately, the gates remained locked over the weekend as Councillors who were aware of the situation did not contact the Caretaker to request the gates be unlocked once the error was known. An apology has been made by the Town Council and after discussion with the Police it has now been agreed the gates will remain unlocked.
- Resident spoke of his disappointment that the Breckland District Council Planning Committee meeting held on 15 March 2019 had been so well attended it resulted in some members of the public having standing room only. Members responded that the change in venue from the original booking of Connaught Hall was a decision made by Breckland District Council.
Resident also spoke of his concerns that Breckland District Council did not mention Attleborough within their 'Invest in Breckland Prospectus' which was approved at their Cabinet meeting held on 19 March 2019; stating the Town "needs to be well represented".