

**Minutes of Environment Committee held on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 7pm in Eye Town Hall Council Chambers, Eye.**

**Present: Cllr. Smith (Chairman), Cllr. Hudson, Cllr. Henderson, Cllr. Ager, Cllr. Crispin, Cllr. Salter, Cllr. Byles, Cllr. Hill and Cllr. Walker.**

**Also present: Town Clerk and 4 members of the public**

**02/2023-95 Apologies and Approval of Absences**

There were none.

**02/2023-96 Members Declarations of Interests and Consideration of Requests for Dispensations**

There were no declarations of interests or requests for dispensations.

**02/2023-97 Public questions and community announcements**

Queries were raised by residents regarding the play area at Oak Crescent, it was felt things hadn’t been made completely clear but once explanations had been voiced the queries were resolved.

**02/2023-98 Meeting closes for public participation.**

Formal Meeting Agenda as follows: -

**02/2023-99 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2023**

The minutes were agreed. Cllr. Smith proposed and Cllr. Walker seconded. All in favour.

**02/2023-100 Chapels and Cemetery – Chair**

1. Verbal update

Cllr. Smith had liaised with the person who was organizing the volunteer group, all looking positive. A suggestion was made to contact the Victorian Society regarding some of the older graves.

1. Volunteer Group

A poster would be going up soon to ask for volunteers. Around 12 volunteers had come forward so far.

1. Noticeboard (Locality Fund)

Locality grant to be applied for, the preference was an oak noticeboard, free standing with perspex front A1 size.

1. General signage (Locality fund)

Locality Grant to be applied for to cover all signage required.

1. Surveys for the chapels (Locality Fund)

Locality Grant to be applied for, one chapel to stay as a chapel for services; weddings, funerals etc. The other chapel had been discussed to be used for storing historical items, amongst other things.

**02/2023-101 Highways**

1. Ongoing issue with blocked drain in the central part of the town

Cllr. Smith mentioned that volunteers were required for logging blocked drains around the town. Once collated the information would be reported to Highways.

Hedges – End of March 2023 to get hedges cut due to bird nesting season. Hedges should not intrude on to the pavement and be so far away from the road. More information can be found at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads-pavements-and-verges/trees-grass-and-weeds/trees-and-hedges>

The Proludic quote included 2 picnic tables, price included fitting onto the grassed area, it would be better to be installed on a hard standing. Cllr. Henderson received a quote, Proludic quoted over £1000, Cllr. Henderson got another quote from a separate 003contractor who would only charge £200 per standing.

Proposal – Eye Town Council funding to be used to pay the onsite contractor at Oak Crescent to undertake installation of hard standing for 2 benches (recycled plastic).

The proposal was agreed. Cllr. Henderson proposed Cllr. Walker seconded.

**Action: Town Clerk to contact contractor and arrange installation.**

Landscape plan for Oak Crescent – Latest version of the plan Cllr. Hill had issues uploading but should be fine now.

Opening day for Oak Crescent - £150.00 from Proludic for refreshments. MSDC to open play area 18/03/2023 would be a possible date, to be confirmed.

The Mayor to mention opening of the play area on Park Radio.

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**02/2023-102 Community Centre: Joint Programme** **update – Cllr Crispin and Cllr Walker**

1. Verbal update

A good meeting was recently held. Football Federation meeting held recently also. All going well.

**02/2023-103 Financial Management – Cost Centre (Environment Committee) Summary attached.**

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|  | Current spending against cost centre – Committee to consider:   * 1. Variations from planned expenditure   2. Review of earmarked reserves   3. If necessary, discuss mitigating actions or solutions   No queries, reports noted.  Cross Street - Cameras for the car park, public toilets, library and new offices would be installed in the coming months. | **Chair & Town Clerk** |

**02/2023-104 Allotments Chair**

1. Verbal update

There had been 3 potential new plot holders.

Cllr. Smith commented that the land above the allotments a suggestion had been made to lease the land for animal grazing. Professional advice would need to be sort first.

**02/2023-105 Public Toilets update Chair**

The flooring had been replaced and several positive comments had been made already. The deep clean would be completed tomorrow 8th February 2023.

**02/2023-106 Agenda items for next meeting**

No items mentioned.

Cllr. Hudson asked if horses were allowed to be ridden in The Pennings? It was unclear as to whether it was allowed.

**02/2023-107 Next meeting 7th March 2023**

**02/2023-108 Meeting closed 19.50**