



EYE TOWN COUNCIL

**Notes from the Environment Committee of Eye Town Council
held on 1st December at 7:00 pm as a remote meeting using Zoom.**

Present: Cllr Smith, Walker, Hudson, Potter, Henderson. One member of the public

1. Apologies and Approval of Absences
2. Members Declarations of Interests and Consideration of Requests for Dispensations

None received

3. Public questions and community announcements

3.1 Commemorative Wildflower Meadow/Garden

Pauline Diamond explained her idea for a field of dreams to remember the last year and people who have lost their lives due to the Covid pandemic. She would also like to see sculptures as part of the trail, including bat boxes and conservation opportunities.

Cllr Henderson reported that others are also thinking of the same idea. One suggestion has been for a commemorative walk. From the Rettery towards the school. Volunteers would need to make a proposal to the landowner.

Cllr Smith advised that the Council was implementing a wildflower meadow at the cemetery and would assist where possible.

Cllr Potter suggested the Pennings as an option. This is the property of MSDC and would need to be approached for permission.

Meeting closes for public participation.

Formal Meeting Agenda as follows: -

4. To receive and confirm the minutes of the last meeting on the 6th October 2020.

Proposed Cllr Smith, Seconded by Cllr Henderson - all in favour

5. Play & Skate Parks

5.1 Skate Park bin – request to add to MSDC's emptying schedule.

The Street Carer has requested that the litter bin located outside of the Skatepark be added to the schedule for emptying by MSDC. She has experienced difficulty in accessing the Community Centre with her car to make the collection as the gate is often closed and her cart is too heavy to push back up the hill when full.

The Clerk reported that this would cost £37.13 per year for collection.

Agree to request MSDC include the litter bin located outside the skatepark on their emptying schedule.

Proposed by Cllr Mike Smith Seconded Henderson – all in favour.

Cllr Smith would like to investigate an electric litter picking trolley for the Street Carer in the future.

Cllr Smith reported that the fencing around the skatepark is doing its job. There have been no attempts to break-in.

Pocket Park – some apparatus needs to have some work to make safe or to be removed.

Cllr Smith reported that the Skatepark would remain closed whilst Eye is in Tier 2 as only organised supervised outdoors sport is permissible. Clerk to circulate guidelines from Sport England

6. Allotments

The Clerk reported that there were still six outstanding payments for this year's fees. A final warning will be given before the agreements are terminated. Cllr Smith requested the list of outstanding invoices.

Cllr Smith has asked for a quote for the water tank lids and clearance of two of the plots which had been left from the previous tenants in a bad state.

Cllr Smith hadn't been able to burn the waste as planned at the allotments as he had discovered a hedgehog in the pile. He will remove the pile and dispose of separately.

7. Cemetery & Memorials

A keypad lock has been installed on the chapel on the advice of the police and our insurers for security purposes. There have been reports of inappropriate use of the chapel. The code can be requested by genuine users to either Cllr Smith or the Town Clerk. There is a notice on the door informing people how to do this.

Works to tree has been completed by the grass cutting contractor. This was required to for health and safety reasons.

The cemetery gates have been removed for health and safety reasons. It appears that someone has removed the iron works from the gates which is disappointing. Cllr Smith feels that they are beyond economic repair. Having the gates removed has made access to the cemetery easier so it may be that these are not replaced. The contractor has agreed to cut back the hedging to give a clearer view exiting from the cemetery.

8. Highways

Cllr Smith is concerned about the closure of Lowgate Street and has been trying to find out how long this is going to continue.

Cllr Smith is going to ask the editor of the Eye Magazine about responsibility of homeowners with over hanging hedges.

8.1 Market Place review

The Clerk reported that a further application has been received for an allotment stall. However, the current site of the market cannot accommodate any further stalls safely. Find out who at MSDC we need to talk to move the location to the Cross Square behind the Handyman and the Co-op.

The committee discussed other options which might be available. Agreed that Cllr Smith should pursue who the appropriate officer is at MSDC through Cllr Gould and what permissions might be required to re-locate the market area.

9. Public Toilet

Cllr Smith is pleased with the staffing arrangements for the toilets. The cleaning rota is working out well giving both operatives time off over the weekend.

Cllr Smith reported that MSDC are looking into CCTV for the Cross Street, car park and the public toilet, a further meeting had been held with Cllr Gould and other MSDC officers. Awaiting details and quotations.

Cllr Hudson left the meeting at 8:00 pm.

10. Risk Assessment Review Approval 2020

10.1 Skatepark Risk Assessment

10.2 Play park Risk Assessment

Cllr Potter had carried out a visual assessment of both sites. Pocket Park gate closes very quickly and could be an issue for parents with prams. Minor works to be completed for a new rules of play sign at the entrance to the Skate Park.

Propose that the Skate Park and Play Park Risk Assessments are approved by Full Council.

Proposed Cllr Potter, Seconded Cllr Walker - all in favour

11. Reports and Updates - None Received

12. Any other business

Skatepark CCTV camera is not operational. Cllr Smith has returned it to the supplier. A replacement is in place. It is thought that the camera is in warranty so should not require any expenditure.

Cllr Potter asked if when replaced the CCTV camera was replaced that the footage would be available to the Town Council.

Cllr Smith said that this should be possible to set up when it is replaced.

13. Next meeting 5th January 2021