



EYE TOWN COUNCIL

AGENDA

Minutes of the Environment Committee of Eye Town Council held on 6th October at 7:00 pm as a remote meeting using Zoom.

The Committee acknowledge the sad news of Cllr John Blake's passing. John was a valued member of this committee. Our thoughts go out to his family and his partner Judith at this terrible time. A minute's silence was held out of respect.

Present: Cllrs Smith, Walker, Henderson, Potter, and Cllr Byles

1. Apologies and Approval of Absences

Cllr Hudson, O'Mard

2. Members Declarations of Interests and Consideration of Requests for Dispensations
None received

3. Public questions and community announcements

Meeting closes for public participation.

Formal Meeting Agenda as follows: -

4. To receive and confirm the minutes of the last meeting on the 1st September 2020 (attached).

Proposed by Cllr Smith, Seconded by Cllr Walker. All in favour.

5. Play & Skate Parks

5.1 Purchase of Heras fencing

This issue was raised at the last F&G Cllr Smith was concerned that we do not have any fencing if the skate park has to be closed due to lockdown or any other reason. Cllr Smith has received a quotation for fencing with a gate for £900.00. Cllr Smith has also looked at the cost of hiring the fencing which for a two month period would be £700.00 feels that it is better value to purchase the fencing which can then be used for other Council projects.

Propose a virement from the 192 Street Light Replacement cost code to the 196 Skate Park Improvement cost code in order to make the purchase of the fencing.

Proposed by Cllr Smith, Seconded by Cllr Henderson. All in favour.

5.2 Anti-Social behaviour at Skate Park

Police investigations are on-going the purchase of the fencing will deter anti-social behaviour at the skate park.

6. Allotments

The Clerk confirmed that all the allotment invoices have been sent out. One complaint has been received about increase in allotment fees. The Clerk has responded.

Still a high demand for allotments.

At least three allotments need some maintenance doing before spring to enable them to be let out.

The water butts' lids need replacing. Cllr Smith looking into costings for these.

HOLDERS are putting waste on the pile which had previously been fly tipped. Cllr Smith will put a notice un after burning the waste which is there after the 5th November.

7. Cemetery & Memorials

7.1 Registration of Cemetery Land

Cllr Byles gave some background on the cemetery and the lack of deeds for this land. Town Council's are required to register their land if you acquire the land.

The cemetery is made up of three parcels of land. Kelly's directory has identified when the land was purchased or donated to the town. Cllr Byles will put together an application to the land registry taking legal advice.

- Legal requirement
- Legal protection
- Future development opportunity

£500 has already been set aside for the land registration the balance of costs to be take from the Business Support COVID Grant.

Propose that Council instructs Cordelia Hall of Winkworth Sherwood , Solicitors, 2 Chawley Park, Cumnor Hill , Oxford OX2 9GG to register cemetery land for legal cost and disbursements for not more than £1000.00

Proposed by Cllr Smith, Seconded by Cllr Henderson. All in favour.

Cllr Byles left the meeting.

7.2 Cemetery Projects

Cllr Smith gave some background on the projects for the cemetery which were previously circulated. These projects will be funded from the £10000 Business Support Grant received from MSDC.

CLlr Smith asked if the projects was accepted by the committee. All felt that this was a good idea and could be added and updated as a live document.

Call out for volunteers has been made for volunteers through social media. The role of the volunteers will be to give a general tidy up for the outside of the list.

CLlr Potter – really enjoys the Christmas tree, which is in the open chapel in December, would it be an idea to use this opportunity to advertise for volunteers.

The wildflower meadow has been sown and seedlings are showing which is promising.

8. Highways

Issues at the Rookery with wind damage which has been partially cleared as there is a dispute on who owns the bank.

Overhanging hedges causing obstructions in several areas in Eye. CLlr Smith to give the Clerk a list so the properties can be written to.

9. Public Toilet

9.1 Options for toilet cleaning

The Clerk reported that no applications have been received for the advertisement for a toilet cleaner.

Option 1

Review of working pattern and hourly rate for cleaner. Re-advertise position on this basis.

Disadvantages

- Liability for staffing the toilets remains with the Council

Advantages

- Review of salary will be less than the cost of contracting out.
- Continuation of service.

Option 2

Investigate out-sourcing the contract –

Disadvantages

- Cost. Expectation is that this is likely to be at £20 per hour which would lead to an estimated contract cost of £14,500 the current budget provision is £11,120.
- TUPE transfer of current staff – we need to take legal advice on how this can be included in the contract if possible.

Advantages

- Liability for staffing the toilets is removed from the Council

Committee agreed to discuss option one with the current cleaner in the first instance. CLlr Smith to arrange to meet with the staff member.

10. Reports and Updates

Nothing to report

11. Any other business

Cllr Potter asked whether there were any costs for the moving of the skate park to the other side of the Community Centre playing field. Cllr Smith reported that the costings were not all currently available, he was also looking for grants which might be available.

12. Next meeting 3rd November 2020