

Minutes of Meeting: Town Environment Committee
Date and Time: 10 January 2024 19.00
Venue: The Old Courthouse

Present: Cllrs L Harris (Chair), P Rainbow, K Roberts, J Berridge, P Harris, J Bostock, M Brock, S Perry, P Brooker

In attendance: Abi Brackenbury, Deputy Clerk

Questions from Members of the Public - None

Minutes

TE 24/01/48 Apologies for absence

TE 24/01/49 To receive any declarations of interest, under the provisions of sections 26-34 and Schedule 4 of the Localism Act 2011

TE 24/01/50 Approval of Minutes of previous meetings:

50.1 Town Environment Committee Minutes 8 November 2023 – previously circulated - approved

50.2 Matters Arising

Cllr Rainbow asked why the “art gallery” notice board remained empty since it was refurbished. The keys had been misplaced since it had been painted. AB will see if the ground staff can replace the lock but stated that no agreement had been formally made as to who would “curate”. AB also stated that we need to investigate the process much further to establish if items would be insured for instance and how it would be managed and by who.

Cllr Roberts questioned the bike racks available - AB confirmed there are two in the resilience shed, 1 had been promised to the scouts and we are still waiting for confirmation from the minster/refectory where they would like their positioning.

Cllr P Harris confirmed he would set a date for a Comms Meeting asap.

TE 24/01/51 Chair’s Notices

Cllr L Harris thanked the flood forum, volunteers and staff for their work during storm henk and advised that there was to be a flood forum meeting to raise concerns and feedback early next week.

Cllr S Perry proposed to ask Full Council for a full update on when the Bund will be in place , with a formal date for the expected project completion.

Proposed by Cllr S Perry Seconded Cllr J Berridge UNANIMOUS

Cllr L Harris to ask NSDC for the results of the NSDC Non glyphosate weed trial and would sight of their press release or possibility of a joint press release.

Cllr P Harris asked the NEBCC WG to investigate lower carbon fuels, aspen and HVO and report back to TE.

TE24/01/52

Courthouse Maintenance

52.1 Approval of Damp proof quote – further investigation into the costing and feasibility of a phased approach. Also to have a report to check the gullies and drainage and other potential issues. Cllr J Berridge stated it was essential work to retain the fabric of the building.

Cllr S Perry questioned if the £4k maintenance figure is enough?

Cllr M Brock agreed it was critical work but needs to be phased for cost and operational viability.

52.3 Discuss prevention of flooding at the Old Courthouse – agreed to obtain quotes for a submersible pump similar to the one which is installed in the cellar on the Courthouse side.

It was Proposed to go to Full Council for phase of the work and submersible pump quote, check gutters and look into staff disruption and time.

Proposed by Cllr L Harris Seconded Cllr J Berridge UNANIMOUS

TE 24/01/53

Events –

53.1 Costing breakdown 2023 events - noted

53.2 Community Garden Party 09 June 2024 (80 Year VE Day) – agreed to discuss at MWG

53.3 Review of Martyns Law - <https://www.protectuk.police.uk/martyns-law>
Noted – will await further information from Parliament

53.4 Events program 24/25 – Cllr P Rainbow advised that the Minster has its 140th anniversary of becoming a Cathedral.

Cllr p Harris would like us to be better prepared for anniversaries and we should have a timetable of key anniversaries for significant events across the town.

Cllr K Roberts to contact the NT Workhouse regarding plans for their 200 year anniversary.

TE 24/01/54

Parks and Open Spaces

54.1 Tree inspection to date – noted

54.2 Weed control alternative – previously circulated

Proposed Cllr L Harris Seconded M Brock UNANIMOUS

54.3 Review of Squires Pond Project -re planting is most crucial Cllr K Roberts will get in touch with Rebecca at NTU to see what they can do to help.

54.4 Beryls Meadow update – agreement with works schedule reached Ivan taking lead and Green Southwell are happy with the approach.

TE24/01/55

Communications update

55.1 Agree communication budget - PH to convene comms meeting

55.2 Agree a monthly comms plan – PH to convene comms meeting

TE24/01/56

Review of proposed budget - noted

TE24/01/57

Review of Public Protection Orders – response required by agreed with addition of Alcohol dispersal orders for STC land, no BBQ's and no ball games on Higgins Mead

TE 24/01/58

Policies

None

TE 24/01/59

Items for Communication

None noted

TE 24/01/60

Items for discussion at next meeting

None noted

TE 24/01/61

Date of next meeting 13 March 2024

Abi Brackenbury
Deputy Clerk to the Council

04/01/2024