

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – JANUARY 2016

At the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 28th January 2016 at 18.00 in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT: Cllrs J Dargue (Chair), H Lewis, K Morrison, and J Watson and with the Clerk; Miss E Brown.
AAHS Committee Members Michael Forrest and Michael McDonogh

Actions

35: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs K Cassidy, K Morrison and P Robinson – The apologies were agreed.

36: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: None.

The Clerk would check whether dispensation were an annual requirement.

37: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

In accordance with Section 1(d-g) of the ATC Standing Orders members of the public present may address the Council at this point on the agenda. The Council/Committee reserves the right to respond or debate the issue at a later date.

37.1: Amble Allotment Holders Society Report – AAHS informed that their Secretary position was still unclear, The Society was reminded that the Council would be willing to provide temporary admin support if required.

It was noted that the AGM was due to be held on 2nd Monday in April; inspections of plots would take place around Easter weekend.

Fly tipping – windows were still being left at the entrance of the Percy Drive site under the ‘no fly tipping’ sign. The windows were of no use to the Society. The Council’s Environmental Operative would be asked to remove them when Council was hiring a skip to dispose of items. However this was not a long term solution so an article would be posted on social media and in The Ambler to discourage the public from fly tipping here.

Clerk

A letter would be sent to the tenant who was blocking the walkways once the Society had provided the Council with the contact details.

Clerk

Cllr Lewis queried whether the Society Insurance policy included Public liability cover other than for its members following the recent gales blowing a structure into a walkway on the site.

38: CLERK’S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:

RECOMMENDATION - To note the contents of the Clerk’s Report and any matter arising be considered.

38.1: Date protection Act tenancies – The Clerk was investigating whether the contact details of the plot holders could be shared with the Council as the landlord of the site or whether they were exempt from sharing under the data protection act. The Society were asked to state sharing of information on their tenancy agreements.

Clerk

AAHS

38.2: Acklington Road Bus shelter – The back and the side heading towards Togston had now been filled in with the steel panels. JCSC was being asked about potential involvement in a mural project for these panels.

38.3: Central Ward Noticeboard Update – The Clerk was investigating the costs of replacing the glazing and the back board. Members agreed to delegate a sum of £200 to re-glaze and paint the back board.

Clerk

It was noted that the East ward notice board could use some flag stones in front of it. The Clerk would progress this. This was noted that permission would need to be sought from NCC and that the VG shop should also be informed.

Clerk

38.4: Stores & Equipment register and purchases update – The Clerk was working on a template asset register for stocks and stores. It was anticipated this would be complete prior to the grass cutting season.

Clerk

38.5: East Cemetery Mapping – The Clerk provided an update on the plotting out of the East Cemetery to the mapping software. Mr Bell of Belair Cottage had agreed to provide copies of the documentation from the purchase of his property so that the Cemetery boundary could be clarified.

Clerk

38.6: Floral Planters & Planting update – It was agreed that the pipe for the Christmas tree in the High Street garden should be capped and covered with a slab and planting in a pot.

Clerk

It was agreed to approach NCC regarding the Dilston Terrace planters asking if they will split the perennials and move some to the Church Street planter and Lindisfarne Road, move the remaining perennials to the back of the planters. The Council were willing to purchase other plants if NCC were willing to plant and maintain the beds still. If NCC were not agreeable to this the Town Council would take responsibility for the Dilston Terrace planters. NCC would be reminded of their responsibility for looking after the Lindisfarne Road beds.

Plants for Dilston Terrace would be shades of red, yellow, purple/blue or orange/peach.

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Cllr Weir was to ask Park Leisure if they were willing to look after the South roundabout planting. The Clerk was to purchase 4/5 Ceanothus bushes to be planted under the central ward noticeboard.

38.7: Paddlers Park Signage Update – The Clerk was investigating having the signage for the trim trail equipment engraved and mounted on box posts whilst also pursuing the other agreed signage. Cllr Weir would ask if Sodexo could make the posts.

Weir

39: AGENDA ITEMS:

39.1: Memory Box for Paddlers Park Update – It was agreed to add the Paddlers Park opening event and memory box content to the Town Council agenda for further discussion.

Council

39.2: Paddlers Park franchise opportunity – Members agreed to put a tender out for catering and children's amusements.

Clerk

39.3: Paddlers Park future maintenance – This would be discussed further with Neighbourhood Services for a short term contract exclusive to Amble to include 24 weeks from opening date to include weekends and 3 days per week. Information to come to full Council meeting.

39.4: West Cemetery walkway improvements – Members agreed that the Clerk should seek quotations for improvements to the footpath that commences between sections A and B as some of the kerbs required replacing.

Clerk

39.5: West Cemetery soil storage – The Clerk had been investigating a soil box for a constant supply of soil in the West Cemetery but this was proving to be costly. Members requested the Clerk investigate a fenced area with concrete base that could potentially be screened by planting.

Clerk

39.6: Out of hours number – The Clerk was requested to investigate a re-direction from the office line to the out of hours mobile and the fees payable to staff for holding the mobile.

Clerk

40: COMMUNICATIONS:

40.1: Broken fence at King Edward Street and dog fouling (missing signage) – The Clerk had reported the broken fence to Neighbourhood services who were investigating whether funding was available to fix it. The dog fouling issue would be reported to the dog warden.

Clerk

41: INFORMATION ITEMS: None.

42: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Amenities Management Committee would be held on Thursday 24th March at 6.00pm in the Council meeting room; to be preceded by a site visit of the West Cemetery at 5.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.