

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – September 2016

Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 28th August 2016 at 18.00 in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT: Cllrs C Weir (Chair), J Dargue, M Horn, H Lewis and K Morrison with the Clerk; Miss E Brown. Bill Stott and Lee Taylor from AAHS were present.

Actions

37: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr T Barton – Holiday. The apologies were accepted.

38: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: None.

39: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

39.1: Amble Allotment Holders Society Report – The 2nd annual inspections had taken place. The re-inspections would take place on 24th October at 10am.

All allotments have had the appropriate action taken. The process of removing structure would be a long one.

It was noted that recently 12 allotments had been broken into on Percy Drive. The Council informed of the deployable CCTV cameras that the County Council would be installing in the town and also of our own investigations into CCTV systems.

AAHS encourage Members not to store expensive tools/machines at the allotments. Individual crime numbers were requested for all 12 break in. Cllr Horn would raise the issue at the next CoSH meeting.

The clear numbering of plots within both allotment sites was imminent.

Full details of the Committee membership including contact details were to be forwarded to the Town Council.

Mr Taylor was currently reviewing the Society's insurance policy particularity regarding public liability.

The Town Council were not in agreement of a container being located at the entrance of the Percy Drive Allotments and suggested that the Society should look at extending the existing building. A letter would be sent to the association asking if they would be willing to contribute to the further works to the west entrance which cost £300 net.

Clerk

There were currently 17 people on the waiting list for allotments.

40: CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:

The contents of the Clerk's Report and any matter arising were considered.

40.1 Allotment Wynd entrance water diversion – This was ongoing

40.2: Planting update and suggested requirements – report of meeting (Appendix 1) It was agreed that the two oak trees would be planted in the tree line between section P and J, K, L and one would be planted on the grass verge on the eastern boundary of the Co-operative/Tesco Express car park.

40.3: West Cemetery soil storage – report from Cllr Horn/Weir visit to Cemetery (Appendix 2)

– The soil storage was to be progressed with costs to be returned to the October meeting. Option 1 was extending the existing gateway, uncovering the existing hard stand to make open soil store. Option 2 was to uncover the existing hard stand and extend towards the fence, lopping branches.

Cllrs Horn and Weir were to plan the area of hard core for the Clerk to obtain prices.

40.4: West Cemetery footpath improvements – Not considered urgent at present.

40.5: East Cemetery Walls – quotes for repointed requested by 31st July – No quotes had yet been received.

40.6: Paddlers snagging list – The paint colour codes for the trim trail equipment were required for future information. NCC Officer Emma Evans was looking onto the issues with the rower. A hole was to be drilled through the cement to allow the drainage of water near the pump. The Members expressed their dissatisfaction of the contractors and Fresh Air Fitness. The art work of the telescope was to be checked as the website was printed as www.amble.go.uk. The cover for the water pump was required urgently.

Horn/Weir

Clerk

40.7: Update on snagging list of new acquisitions – awaiting response.

40.9: Wet pour issues – Temp patching of wet pour and turfing of damaged area where wet pour was not required has been done.

40.10: Drainage on concrete area – A gully clearer had been brought in by NCC to unblock the drain, regular clearing would be required.

40.11: Replacement of bins on the promenade, Broomhill Street and Island View – The bins were now in place.

40.12: Leazes Street Litter issue update – A meeting was to be organised by Paul Jones to

Chair's signature.....

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – September 2016

discuss the issues in this area.

40.13: Bus shelter survey – update on works – A repaint of the Church Street bus shelter was considered for spring, the artist would be asked for prices. Under the seat would also require painting. It was suggested the bin here should be repositioned closer to the bus departure point – a position would be agreed after the meeting.

40.14: Sodexo seat – update- A bench had been made as agreed and would be located between Panhaven Road and Island View. The Commemorative seats required more work due to their sharp edges.

40.15: The Environmental Operatives timesheets and diary will be available to view in the office on Thursday from 12pm (they are for noting work carried out and not intended for the purposes of monitoring time/movements) – The work sheets were not available.

40.16: Memorial bench update – The seat was to be installed imminently.

40.17: Water bowser update – potential alterations; Cllrs Horn and Weir were to have a look at the bowser

40.18: History trail update – the fish boards had been approved and anything further would be returned to the committee for any update

40.19: Comments from site visit – It was agreed to leave the cemetery gates unlocked but shut for a 6 month trial provided there were no incidents of anti-social behaviour.

- The hedge behind the cremated remains sections should be cut to 5ft in height.
- Some perennials from the fountain should be moved to the cremated remains bed.
- Weed killing of the brambles was required.
- Paths were to be edged, it was noted they had been weed killed.
- The boundary fence between the paddock and the cemetery the Environmental Operative was to nail together to make it more secure.
- Consideration should be given to allowing the grass to grow over the old footpaths.
- The gravediggers wood and corrugated iron should be removed from the cemetery or if left placed in the compound.
- Weed of the allotments fence line were to be dealt with.

40.20: East Cemetery grass cutting - Due to the seasonal conditions the Clerk had requested additional cuts of the East Cemetery in October.

40.21: Update on Remembrance Day preparations – Arrangements were underway and progressing well.

33: COMMUNICATIONS: None.

34: AGENDA ITEMS: None.

35: INFORMATION ITEMS: None.

36: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting date will be held at 6.00pm on 27th October 2016 in the Council Office.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Grave digging – contract

Contract up for review in April but would be discussed at a later date.

Chair's signature.....