

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – November 2017

Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 30 November 2017 at 18.00 in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble.

PRESENT: Cllrs C Weir (Chair), J Dargue, M Horn, I Parks, K Morrison, T Hinton and Miss V Smith.

Actions

44: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr H Lewis – holiday
AAHS

45: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: None.

46: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

None.

46.1: Amble Allotment Holders Society Report
There was no representative from AAHS

47: CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:

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

- The fence behind Northumbria Terrace has been mended.
- The painting of the office space at West Cemetery has been done. Dimensions of the room have been given so that shelving can be purchased.
- PAT testing has been arranged for 7th & 11th December 2017
- Munchy the caterpillar, segment has been replaced.
- A meeting has taken place with Fresh Air Fitness and it was resolved to replace the double air walker with the newer model, replace 2 thai chi spinners and repaint / refix as appropriate. Confirmation has been received and a quotation for the works has been received.
- NCC have been asked to visit Paddlers Park at varying times of the day. It has also been reported to NCC about Council vehicles driving on the grass at Paddlers Park.
- Plastic spikes have been ordered for Church Street bus shelter, a risk assessment has been done and we await signage before installing them. Signage has been ordered.
- The plants have been ordered and will arrive in Mid May to the prison and will be collected by us for planting in Mid June.
- The paving outside JCSC has been weeded and cleared.
- The East Cemetery front wall has been repaired

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- The posts for Paddler Park p22lay equipment have been collected from HMP Northumberland and have been installed. Instruction plates to be fitted when found The compass for The Mound wall has also been installed.

48.1 Allotments

Apologies were received from AAHS. An update was received for reporting.

48.2: Allotments updated Rules and Regulations

The Allotment Rules and Regulations have been reviewed and updated. They have been sent to print ready to be distributed in January 2018.

48.3 Vandalism of East Allotments

Vandalism of the East Allotment occurred on 15th and 17th November with 20 broken locks and damaged doors. Members of the AAHS are reluctant to report the vandalism to police as they feel there is a lack of police action. The vandalism has been reported as one crime number despite there being 20 different allotments damaged. AAHS have encouraged members to report to police.

The clerk reported the vandalism on behalf of ATC. Unfortunately, due to the lamp post and the CCTV camera not being connected there was no CCTV footage of this particular area. The power issue has now been resolved and the camera will be switched on asap. Cllr Horn was requested to raise this as an issue at the next COSH meeting.

MH

48.4 East Allotment no:59

Allotment number 59 has had the collapsed fence temporarily shored up and is awaiting a new tenant.

48.5 Noise from early morning cockerels

The cockerels were no longer at the allotment since the complaint was made. AAHS have written to NCC but is yet to receive a response, specifically regarding the LED lighting at the allotments confusing the birds. AAHS made aware, in their report, that the East Allotments were situated on the outskirts of Amble and now find themselves in the middle of a residential area in the town that is increasingly expanding.

48.6 Cemeteries

48.7: Cemetery compound update & update from Operative

The Clerk updated that the storage area the old office at the West Cemetery has been cleared out, prepared and painted. Shelving needs to be ordered and pallets in place.

CLERK

The lean to shed base has been complete.

CLERK

The Clerk to query if this issue regarding double charging has been resolved for this year.

Pat testing has been arranged for 7th and 11th December 2017 which will also include the heater in the old office at the West Cemetery.

The pavement at the West Cemetery gates has not been mended as the materials would not set properly in Winter. The Clerk was advised to explain to any residents who raise the issue, that the Council are aware and will be looking to resolve this next year when the weather is warmer.

CLERK

The Clerk is to request if Tony Dunn can remove the elder shrubs at the new gate when he is next in the cemetery.

Cllr Morrison queried whether there were any rules for scattering ashes in public places.

48.8 West Cemetery Footpath quote

CLERK

A quote has been sought but it was agreed to discuss this issue at Full Council. The

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clerk to seek further information regarding the exact location and size of area.

48.9 East Cemetery Walls

The front and back of the front wall at the East Cemetery has been complete. The next section will be done in the warmer weather.

CLERK

48.10 Grave Digging Contract

This item was to be moved to Full Council.

48.11 Play areas

48.12 Report of Paddlers Park inspections

The metal posts for the trim trail equipment have now been installed and are awaiting the instructions to be mounted.

CLERK

Cllr Morrison raised the issue of stones being picked away on the cliff wall under Cliff House, leaving a mess over the footpath. The Clerk to raise the issue with the operative and ask to keep a check during his daily checks. The Clerk to ask the police if they are aware of any of these issues and if they could check the CCTV. The Clerk to request if the CCTV of Paddler Park can be checked once a week.

CLERK

The pump has been turned off at Paddlers Park. There is still doubt as to where the restrictor is in the system.

Cllr Weir and the Clerk met with Fresh Air Fitness regarding the trim trail equipment. A quote had been received and included a labour charge. It was agreed to proceed with the repair work and then hold further discussions with NCC regarding these labour charges given that the equipment was installed by NCC recommendation This is to be agreed at Full Council.

CLERK

48.13 Report of Philip Drive play area inspections

Nothing to report.

48.14 Town furniture e.g. bus shelters, bins, noticeboards, seats

48.15: Church Street Bus Shelter update

The Polyurethane Floor Screed that had been previously agreed cannot be laid unless temperatures are around 20 degrees. The Clerk is to ascertain what other options are available and report back to the meeting. The Clerk to also find out what other materials are used in other bus shelter floors by NCC.

CLERK

Cllr Morrison to follow up with the wall mural invoice

KM

48.16 Planting

The planting order has been placed for summer bedding plants to include Marigolds, Begonias and Dahlia's. The spring bulb planting has been done, there are no spring bedding plants ordered. The plants will be delivered mid May and collected ready to plant in mid June.

CLERK

The coal truck planters at Percy Drive and Paddlers Park require some TLC. The clerk to research winter flowers and purchase. Additional compost will be required in order to raise the levels of the beds so that flowers can be seen.

CLERK

The rockery at High Street Garden needs tidied up. The bed next to the rockery also needs TLC. The lavateria was removed as it was thought to be dead. More will need to be planted.

It was queried whether the agreement that each Cllr was responsible for the notice boards in their wards was still in place as it had been noted that old information was still being displayed. It was agreed that whoever puts notices up should try to take them down and remove any old posts at the same time. The Clerk to check all notice boards once a month and tidy up. The Clerk to also ask the operative to be aware of any old

ALL

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information being displayed. The Clerk to look to get more noticeboard keys made if possible.

49: COMMUNICATIONS:

None

CLERK

50: AGENDA ITEMS:

50.1 Cemetery Fees and Charges

This would be discussed in more detail at Full Council.

JD

50.2 CCTV Signage

Cllr Dargue to take a look at what is installed at Alnwick. Prices have been obtained for A4 and A5. Cllr Dargue to also ascertain what materials they are made of. Cllr Dargue to take photos and report back.

50.3 Dilston Terrace beds

NCC have queried if we intend to have spring planting in the Dilston Terrace beds and whether we object to them removing the plants and putting them in other planters at Leslie Drive and Runciman Way. VS to ask NCC to prepare them for winter and make them aware that spring bulbs are still in place. Further decisions on spring planting will be made in the future.

CLERK

50.4 Digital Mapping Software

The clerk reported that all bins, planters, seats and noticeboards were now plotted and labelled on the software. Work has begun on plotting the West Cemetery. The plots have been numbered and other areas are identified. It is hoped that this task would be something that the new Admin Assistant could take on once she is settled in to the role.

50.5 New CCTV location

The CCTV camera used with Cllr Clarks Members Small Schemes budget will be placed on Percy Street and will show Newburgh Street including the junction with Leases Street. Further information from meeting with Alncom will be discussed in Full Council.

CLERK

50.6 Footpaths

Cllr Weir reported that a lot of the footpaths in the town are in need of repair and requested that this should be taken to Full Council for further discussion and possible inclusion in the next LTP. The Clerk to look on NCC website for a map of footpaths. Queries were raised regarding the path at the end of West Avenue past the Cemetery and whether this was a bridle way. Cllr Weir to raise with AONB.

CLERK

CW

50.7 Sodexo meeting update

The meeting with Sodexo is due to take place on 7th December at 2.30pm. The Clerk to confirm venue. Agenda items to include plant pots, bench ends & ROTL Scheme.

CLERK

Cllr Weir, Lewis and Morrison will attend the meeting. Cllr Dargue would also like to begin dialogue with them about the possibility of them printing the ATC xmas card for next year. Cllr Hinton to liaise with Cllr Weir around Cycle Racks.

Cllr Weir met with representatives from Sodexo in relation to the RAF Acklington Memorial. RAF Boulmer and the RBL are very interested in attending the inauguration event and would request some representation from ATC

CLERK

50.8 The Wynd Wall

This item will be discussed at Full Council

51 INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

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52: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting date will be held at 6.00pm on 25th January 2018 in the Council Office.

The meeting closed at 19.07

53PRIVATE

Agenda Items

53.1 Land Sale

To be discussed at Full Council

CLERK

53.2 SLA

To be discussed at Full Council

CLERK

53.3 PreApp

To be discussed at Full Council

CLERK

The meeting closed at 7.15pm