

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – March 2016

Memorandum of proceedings of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 31st March 2016 at 18.00 in the Town Council Office, Fourways 2, 6 Dilston Terrace, Amble, preceded by a site visit of the West Cemetery at 17.00.

PRESENT: Cllrs J Dargue (Chair), H Lewis, with the Clerk; Miss E Brown.
NCC Neighbourhood Service Area Manager – Ray Wealleans
Robert Arckless

Actions

43: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies had been submitted from Cllrs Cassidy, Morrison, Watson and Weir.
It was noted that Cllr Robinson had submitted his resignation form the Council.

The meeting was inquorate, and the following notes would be a memorandum of proceedings.

44: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: None.

45: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (maximum 15 minutes)

45.1: Amble Allotment Holders Society Report – Members were not in attendance.

45.2: Ray Whealleans – NCC Neighbourhood Services Manager – The NCC contract details was discussed. The contract would be required working no less than a 37 hour week over 24 weeks working Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. If an Operative from the Amble area was employed, they could be based the Amble depot and have use of a vehicle on a daily basis. ATC would fund the RoSPA training and weed killing training, if required.

46: CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:

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

46.1: Date protection Act tenancies – It was suggested to recommend that AAHS amend next years tenancy agreement to state that information would be shared with ATC as landowners.

46.2: Acklington Road Bus shelter – mural project – A date was awaiting for a meeting between Cllr Weir and JSCS.

46.3: Noticeboard Updates – It was noted that the town trail map required updating for the fish information boards. The flag stones were still to be installed at the noticeboard next to the Best One shop on Links Avenue.

46.4: Stores & Equipment register and purchases update – The Environmental Operative had updated the register which now required checking, monitoring and the disposal of unrequired goods.

46.5: East Cemetery Mapping – This was ongoing

46.6: Floral Planters & Planting update – The planting was all in hand.

46.7: Paddlers Park Signage Update – The signage order had been placed and was due to arrive for installation imminently.

46.8 Paddlers Park Official opening update – An update would be provided at the Town Council meeting.

46.9: Beacon lighting event - All arrangements were underway with licences application submitted for regulated entertainment. Catering was being investigated.

46.10: Paddlers Park Fun Day –The creation of posters and flyers was underway for this event

46.11: West Cemetery Walkway improvements – Quotations would be progressed.

46.12: West Cemetery Soil Storage – This item was ongoing.

46.13: Out of hours telephone – The NCC contract would provide an out of hours contact over weekends from May to mid- September. Police should already have Office staff contact details in case of emergency at other times.

46.14: Community litter picks – The litter picks had been advertised.

47: AGENDA ITEMS:

47.1: Park franchise opportunity – The franchise opportunity had not been progressed due to the snagging issues that were being worked through on the site.

47.2: Paddlers Park future maintenance – Contract details were being finalised; all maintenance issues would become ATC's responsibility once NCC contractor guarantee period expired.

47.3: To consider quotations for new play equipment – Quotations had been requested for priorities which included slalom type poles, monkey bars, Swings for adult use, a ball shoot and a telescope. This would be deferred to Full Council.

47.4: To consider plans for the Community Awards/Garden awards – A working party would be considered at the Town Council meeting.

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47.5: Update on the Town Trail – Permissions had been requested from land owners but to date no responses had been received. As it was over 4 weeks, further letters would be sent stating that if a response was not received within a week, permission would be assumed and the work would be progressed.

47.6: To consider a survey of unused burial plots – This would be deferred for a future project.

48: COMMUNICATIONS:

48.1: Letter from tenant – Percy Drive allotments – The Clerk read out the letter from the tenant. A reply would be sent thanking for the response and assuring the tenant that we do not wish him to give up his allotment. Members considered what had been said and in view of his comments the Council would ask AAHS to monitor the situation and review it in the future. AAHS would be copied into the response.

49: INFORMATION ITEMS: None.

50: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting date will be decided as the Annual meeting of the Council

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Comments from Site Visit attended by Cllrs Dargue, Lewis, the Clerk and Mr Waugh.

Weed killing on various areas of the tarmac was required

The drive required edging

Moss killing required

Sunken graves in Section M to be addressed.

The area between the Cremated Remains Section and the boundary was still awaiting return to grass and border.

The gate at the office entrance of the compound was to be repaired.

The office areas required tidying and cleaning; this to be done on a regular basis.

Equipment and spares should not be stored in the office areas therefore more storage facilities in the Machine Store would be looked into after surplus equipment etc. was either sold or disposed of.

The compound still required tidying and disposal of surplus materials.