

Clerks Report – Amenities Committee – 31st March 2022

Prepared by Suzanne Moore

117: ALLOTMENTS:

117.1 To receive a report from AAHS

Members are asked to note the contents of the update.

117.2 To receive a finalised copy of the Amble Allotment Holders Society Rules and Regulations

A finalised copy of the Amble Allotment Holders Society Rules and Regulations has been received, a copy has been forwarded to all Councillors.

117.3 To receive an update re: rodent control training if available

AAHS to update at meeting

117.4 To receive a report regarding reinstatement after storm damage

AAHS to update at meeting

119: ASSETS REPORTS:

119.1 To receive an update on seats at Bay View

A sample of the new polyboards to refurbish the seats has been ordered.

119.2 To receive an update on placement of ATC seat plaques

NCC staff will be given the plaques and instructions regarding positioning to enable the work to be carried out during routine checks and maintenance work.

119.3 To receive an update on progression of asset remedial work being carried out

To give a chance for works to be carried out due to the storms and back log of work, there is no report or update available. An update should be available at the next Amenities meeting

119.4 To discuss damage to bus shelters

The roof inside the bus shelter BS11 on Links Avenue has been damaged. Staff are unsure as to whether the damage stems from the external roof. There is also a small hole appearing on the back wall of the bus shelter that needs filling

The bus shelter BS4 has also got some damage to the external brick work at the back of the bus shelter.

Members are to determine the way forward

119.5 To note and discuss issues and agree any actions required from the February/March report.

The asset report on Bins has now been completed and attached for information.

Members are asked to review the remedial works highlighted in the reports and determine the works - and order - to be carried out

Due to the large volume of photographs within the report, these can be viewed at the office but will also be available at the meeting to view before any decisions are made

120: TOWN:

120.1 To discuss the request for business advertisement on town bins

Members are to decide whether they wish allow advertising on town bins, if so to confirm which bins.

120.2 To discuss an equipment loan deposit system

Members are to decide whether they are to proceed with the equipment loan deposit scheme, and if so, determine costs for individual items.

120.3 To discuss quotation to restore the Radcliffe School memorial

Staff contacted several Stone Masons and provided photographs, however, only one has responded to provide a quote for the following works:

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As the lettering and stone are badly weathered, it would be hard to paint inscription with it being rustic (weathered) rather than flat and smooth. It may possibly need the lettering deepened.

Estimated quote for cleaning and painting of lettering:

£400 No Vat

Members are asked to decide if they wish to proceed

120.4 To receive an update on Clock Tower electrics and lighting

We are currently waiting on a date from the electrician to repair the electrics and the lighting. Staff have contacted the contractor several times stressing the urgency and were informed they were extremely busy for the next month but would get back to us with a date.

121: CEMETERIES:

West Cemetery

121.1 To receive an update on new seat purchase

A new Georgian seat has been purchased to replace the seat on the drive, as the seat which is there at the moment will be relocated to replace a broken seat at Bay View

121.2 To receive an update on the tree survey

A full tree survey took place on the 22nd of March, to include the trees at the West Cemetery, Memorial Gardens and possibly 2/3 trees at the East Cemetery.

Report to be circulated once available and work determined.

121.3 To receive an update on Storm Damaged Memorial repairs

Work is due to start soon on the Memorials that were damaged in Storm Arwen. The Stone Masons have confirmed that the gantry crane they will use is a portable one so no damage will be caused to the drive surface or grassed areas.

Family members of a damaged memorial were informed of the repairs due to take place.

121.4 To receive an update on Drive repair

No update available, Staff have chased up.

121.5 To discuss drainage at Section P

The area has large patches of waterlogging which could cause problems in the future. Members are to discuss possible remedial actions.

East Cemetery

121.6 To receive an update on the gate repair

The contractor is just waiting to finish a job to make space in the workshop, this should be all done in April, then work can begin to repair the East Cemetery gate.

122: PLAY AREAS:

Paddler's Park

122.1 To receive an update on personal memorial seat and seat base

The personal memorial seat and seat base are now fully installed.

122.2 To receive an update on repair to the air walker

No update available. Staff have chased up.

122.3 To receive an update and discuss quote on telescope cleaning

Staff contacted the company where the telescope was originally purchased and after looking at the most cost-effective solution for the service of the telescope head they have provided the following quote:

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As the key locking nut is missing / lost a visit to the site from their Leeds Engineer is required to 'break in' and remove the telescope head - **£400.00**

Cost of service of telescope head including hand painting due to salt damage - **£500.00**

Cost of replacement key bolts and key - **£50.00**

Replacement side pivot bolt assembly - **£40.00**

Transport for head to go to their Winchester workshop and return to us for local refit - **£75.00**

They will provide the paint for local painting of the telescope stand.

They do manufacture a winter service cap that will be needed to cover off the telescope head when it is removed. They will need to check stock for this model as they no longer manufacture them. This would be recommended and they will confirm whether they have stock - **£275**

Total for works as above £1065 and £275 for the cap if available - all plus VAT.
For information the telescope was purchased for £3280 exc VAT in 2016.

Members are asked to decide if they wish to proceed

122.4 To receive an update on flooding issues if available

No update available, Staff have chased up.

122.5 To receive an update on the water feature if available

ST Controls will be in touch by the end of March to collect the water feature, to take to their workshop to vandal proof it.

123: TOWN FURNITURE e.g., bus shelters, bins, noticeboards, seats:

None

124: COMMUNICATIONS:

124.1 To note contact regarding gravedigging procedures

The Clerk was made aware of an incident at Amble West Cemetery during a recent interment. An internal investigation was carried out by the funeral director involved which uncovered a communication error, and all affected parties were informed.

124.2 To note contact regarding damaged flowers at the West Cemetery

Unfortunately, a floral tribute was damaged; however, this was due to a misstep by a mourner at another funeral. The family accepted this.

125: AGENDA ITEMS:

125.1 To receive an update on the erection of dog signs at the welfare

The dog signs have now been erected at the welfare; however, the contractor has been contacted to relocate 1 of the signs as it has been incorrectly placed. No response yet.

125.2 To receive an update on reinstallation of bus stop signage at bus shelter

The bus stop signage at the bus shelter outside Amble Health Centre that was damaged during Storm Arwen has now been reinstated.

125.3 To discuss damage to coal truck

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The coal truck that is the responsibility of Amble Inn is in terrible disrepair. Members are to discuss action to be taken.

126: INFORMATION ITEMS:

126.1 To note fire extinguisher service and PAT testing has been carried out

A fire extinguisher service was due to be carried out on the 22nd of March, but had to be rearranged for the 6th of April

PAT testing was carried out in the office on the 3rd of March

126.2 To note the planting of some 'whips' at the West Cemetery

Whips were planted on the border of section P with the assistance of members of Amble Youth Project and other volunteers. NCC will be asked to plant the remaining whips by the cemetery entrance and along section N border.

126.3 To note planting of Downy Birch to grow for natural burial plots

30 Downy Birch whips have been placed inside the spoil area where they will grow on and can possibly be used to plant on each plot of the natural burial section

126.4 To note culvert location

A photo has been taken showing the culvert location, the area still needs to be measured for a more accurate location.

126.5 To note cemetery fountain maintenance

ST Controls are due to come out at the end of March to clean the fountain and turn on the water. This will also turn on the water tap for visitors to the cemetery