

## **AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AMENITIES COMMITTEE – MARCH 2022**

Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 31<sup>ST</sup> March 2022 at 6.00pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr Parks (Chair), Cllr Bewley (Vice Chair), Cllr Lewis, Cllr Morrison  
Wayne Elliot (AAHS Secretary) S Moore - Minutes

### **113: APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE:**

Cllr Weir – Accepted

Cllr Dargue – Accepted

### **114: BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE:**

Item not discussed

### **115: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:**

None

### **116: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

No members of the public were present except for Mr Elliot

### **117: ALLOTMENTS:**

#### **117.1 To receive a report from AAHS**

The report from AAHS was noted.

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

Members all received a finalised copy of the Amble Allotment Holders Society Rules and Regulations. It was discussed with Wayne that item 6.8 needs to be altered from 16 square metres to 15 square metres to correspond with other mentions.

The A.G.M. was going to be held in November when new rents would be set.

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

Wayne informed members that there were 4 willing members to take part in the rodent control training, 2 from the East Allotments and 2 from the West Allotments.

The price for the training course is £61.95 which includes 5 learning modules all 1 hour each. As previously agreed, ATC to pay 50% of the total cost up to £200.

The suggestion that AAHS implement a clause to pay a percentage of the full cost of the training course should the person vacate their allotment within a certain amount of time after completing the course, was felt to be sensible.

#### **117.4 To receive a report regarding reinstatement after storm damage**

Members were informed that any damage caused during the storm was on the way to being restored- delays were due to lack of materials and tradesmen.

### **119: ASSETS REPORTS:**

#### **119.1 To receive an update on seats at Bay View**

It was noted a sample had been ordered for comparison before ordering the materials.

#### **119.2 To receive an update on placement of ATC seat plaques**

Ongoing as seats were maintained

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

Awaited from contractor

**119.4 To discuss damage to bus shelters**

The roof at Links Road required attention. Contractors would be asked to quote for a basic new roof and cost to remove the shelter whilst the Clerk ascertained if this was still on a bus route. Quotes to paint this and the small the Acklington Road one would be requested. The Church Street one required remedial work to the mural as well as some painting to the roof and floor- quotes would be requested.

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

Report was noted

**120: TOWN:**

**120.1 To discuss the request for business advertisement on town bins**

Due to graffiti and damage concerns members did not agree to any business advertisement on the town bins at this time.

**120.2 To discuss an equipment loan deposit system.**

It was determined that small items would require a refundable deposit of £10 and larger ones £20 - forms would be amended.

**120.3 To discuss quotation to restore the Radcliffe School memorial**

Members discussed the quotation of £400 to restore the Radcliffe School Memorial and agreed to go ahead with the work. Staff to contact contractor to begin work.

**120.4 To receive an update on Clock Tower electrics and lighting**

Delays were due to awaiting the electrical contractor. He would be contacted for a firm date as the Clock parts were awaiting installation. If no date could be confirmed, then it would be ascertained if any other local contractors were available to quote.

**121: CEMETERIES:**

**West Cemetery**

**121.1 To receive an update on new seat purchase**

Members were informed that a new Georgian seat has been purchased to replace the seat on the drive, as the seat from the drive will be moving to Bay View to replace a recently broken one there.

**121.2 To receive an update on the tree survey**

Members were informed the tree survey had taken place. Staff to circulate report once available and any required work would be carried out

**121.3 To receive an update on Storm Damaged Memorial repairs**

Members were informed that work was due to start on the memorials damaged in the storm soon, and that family members had been informed. Members were also updated on the gantry crane that will be used by the stone masons, as there were concerns of this causing damage to the surrounding areas but as this is a portable one no damage will be caused. Staff to contact stone masons for a start date

**121.4 To receive an update on Drive repair**

Members were informed there was no update available. Staff to chase up.

**121.5 To discuss drainage at Section P**

A drainage consultant would be asked to attend a site visit to discuss solutions to some water problems here.

**East Cemetery**

**121.6 To receive an update on the gate repair**

Members were informed that the gate repair is next on the contractors list. Staff to contact contractor and ask how long gate will be away once taken to repair

**122: PLAY AREAS:**

**Paddler's Park**

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

Members were informed that the seat base had been laid and seat was now installed.

**122.2 To receive an update on repair to the air walker**

Members were informed the repair was still ongoing. Staff to chase up.

**122.3 To receive an update and discuss quote on telescope cleaning**

It was determined that the cost of repair was too expensive compared to the usage involved. It would be left in situ for now.

**122.4 To receive an update on flooding issues if available**

Members were informed this was still ongoing. Staff to make enquiries to more senior officers as this had been outstanding for a long time.

**122.5 To receive an update on the water feature if available**

Members were informed the pump had been collected today 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**

An interment was delayed due to an inability to lower the casket into the prepared plot. On investigation it was confirmed by the Funeral Director that the wrong size had been entered on the interment form and the Council's contractor was not at fault. The Clergy present was informed of the outcome and assured that there were strict administration procedures in place for interments and provided these were adhered to by the Funeral Directors there should not be any problem.

**124.2 To note contact regarding damaged flowers at the West Cemetery**

A floral tribute on a recent interment was damaged. It was discovered this was accidental by a mourner attending the next interment. The family accepted the apology.

**125: AGENDA ITEMS:**

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

Members were informed that all dog signs have now been erected, and the sign to be relocated has been done.

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

Members were informed that the bus shelter signage out the Amble Health Centre has now been reinstated. Staff to contact highways due to a missing bus sign on Percy Drive that was also damaged in the storm.

**125.3 To discuss damage to coal truck**

Staff to write to Amble Inn, who had taken on responsibility, urging repairs to this floral display in a prominent position leading to their establishment as well as being on one of the main entrances to the town. Details of the work carried out previously on the council's trucks would be included.

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### **126: INFORMATION ITEMS:**

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

Noted PAT testing complete and extinguisher service booked.

#### **126.2 To note the planting of some ‘whips’ at the West cemetery**

Planted on section P by volunteers and Amble Youth Project. NCC to plant section N border and place Dog Rose among the shrubs at the entrance.

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

These had been planted for now to grow on in the Spoil area

#### **126.4 To note culvert location**

It was noted that a photograph of the culvert’s location had been taken. It was suggested that the area possibly needs mapping for future location reference. Staff to map.

#### **126.5 To note cemetery fountain maintenance**

It was noted that SD Controls came out today to clean the fountain and turn the water on. However, the water main could not be located - staff to clarify

### **127: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next Meeting date will be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022, in the Town Council Office, Top Floor, Fourways 2, Amble NE65 0DT.

Under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public will be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda due to their sensitive nature.

### **PUBLIC VERSION OF PRIVATE**

#### **128.1 To receive an update on cemetery repair**

A contractor had to carry out remedial work. It was agreed to pay the invoice submitted.