

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16TH MAY 2019

Voting members present: Cllrs: J Bryson S Browning, L Deely, T Gibbs, L Moores, P Moores, F Partridge, H Partridge, P Tilzey and N Tucker

Officers present: Mr K Cornwell – Town Clerk and RFO (TC)

Mr S Hayes – Facilities Manager (FM)

Mrs T Gliddon – Committee Administrator (CA)

Meeting Start time: 6.30pm

In the absence of a Chairman for this inaugural Environmental Committee the Deputy Mayor took the Chair.

E/01/19

Election of Chairman

Cllrs J Bryson and L Deely were nominated and seconded.

Resolved: that Cllr J Bryson be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

E/02/19

Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllrs L Deely and P Tilzey were nominated and seconded.

Resolved: that Cllr P Tilzey be elected as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

E/03/19

To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllrs S Browning and P La Broy. Non Committee member Cllr P Kelly.

E/04/19

To receive registered and non-registered disclosable pecuniary interests and non-registerable interests

None

E/05/19

Dispensations: to consider requests for dispensations

None

E/06/19

Public participation – a maximum of 15 minutes for public present to make comments concerning the business of the committee (maximum of 2 minutes per person - dependent on numbers present; questions must be directed through the Chairman)

None

E/07/19

To receive a report from Bude Friends of the Earth on their activities on Town Council and other sites around the town

With the agreement of the Committee the member representing the Bude Friends of the Earth (FoE) was invited to speak and answer questions during this item. Discussion took place regarding the Community Orchard and the various flower beds including Neetside and the Crescent Car Park, with FoE explaining their future planting ideas for some of the areas and their hope to include the community participation in the planting process.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

E/08/19

To discuss the strategic objectives and priorities of the Committee

The TC distributed a paper outlining the objectives and priorities of the Committee. Discussion took place.

Resolved: to note the paper

E/09/19

To receive a report from the Facilities Manager

The previously circulated report was discussed. The FM updated the Committee on various items:

Bencoolen Play Park - the use of Rugby Club land for site storage.
Grass Cutting – Green Infrastructure 4 Growth areas. The CC SLA, both the FM and TC have met with CC representatives to look at the current SLA, which is outdated. Good progress is being made with new maps and pricing.
Pitch & Putt – new signage is in place at the entrance and the matting for the tees has been purchased.
Sand Dunes – The TC reported that a report from CC was due in early June.
BSTC vehicles – discussion took place regarding replacement or new purchases with consideration to be given to green options.
Resolved: that the report be noted.

E/10/19 **To agree sites for tree planting following the offer from Holsworthy & District Lions under the Woodlands Trust scheme**

Resolved: to agree to plant trees at the NE section of Tree Fields (Stamford Hill), following the offer from Holsworthy Lions Club, in conjunction with Bude Friends of the Earth in an advisory role.

E/11/19 **To authorize the purchase of a new tractor along with the trade-in of the existing vehicle**

Discussion and questions to the FM and TC took place.
Resolved: that the BSTC keep the current tractor that is in use, with a review to take place in twelve months time.

E/12/19 **To authorize the purchase of an Auxiliary Vehicle for Castle / Facilities Staff**

The FM took questions from the floor regarding the purchase of a new vehicle.
Resolved: that the FM be authorized to source a suitable hybrid vehicle for use by BSTC staff.

E/13/19 **To establish a working group to evaluate the Bencoolen Play Park tenders**

Resolved: that Cllrs: J Bryson, P Tilzey, P Moores and N Tucker form a working group to evaluate the Bencoolen Paly Park tenders. Any Cllrs interested are invited to attend. The date of the meeting to be agreed.

E/14/19 **To discuss the planting regime with regard to the visual and environmental impact of the flower displays**

Cllrs reported that members of the public had been unhappy with the sight of empty beds during the Easter period. The use of shrubs and over planting bulbs was discussed. It was agreed the FM would look at ways forward with the planting regime and report back to the Committee.

E/15/19 **To agree the design of the parking spaces at land to the rear of the Crescent**

Discussion too place regarding the size of the parking spaces and surfacing of the area.
Resolved: to mark off the area for five car parking spaces and restrict any further parking of vehicles either end of the parking area.

Meeting closed 8.20pm

Chairman’s Signature.....Date.....