

Minutes of the Environment and Open Spaces Committee Meeting of Hessle Town Council held on Tuesday 22nd September 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom conference call in line with the temporary powers enabled by Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020.

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Tuesday 22nd September 2020, 7.30pm

Minutes

Members present: Councillors; P Davison, B Carroll, V Padden, A Potter, M Sutton

Advisory Members present: (Non-Voting) Ms G White-Hessle and District Gardening Association (HDGA)

Apologies received from: Councillors; J Bovill, D Cross and A Nolan

Clerk: Joanna Render

The Chair of the Council, Cllr Phil Davison took the first item on the agenda.

19086 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN- To ratify the decision made at the meeting of Full Council on the 15th September 2020 that Cllr Potter take over as Chair of the committee.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved – To ratify the decision of Full Council on the 15th September 2020 that Cllr Potter take over as Chairman of the Environment and Open Spaces Committee for the remainder of the current municipal year.

19087 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Potter thanked members and duly took the Chair. He thanked Cllr Sutton for her hard work during her period in office.

19088 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN-To ratify the decision made at the meeting of Full Council on the 15th September 2020 that Cllr Margot Sutton take over as Vice-chairman of the Committee.

(Potter/Padden)

Resolved-To ratify the decision of Full Council on the 15th September 2020 that Cllr Sutton take over as Vice-Chairman of the Environment and Open Spaces Committee for the remainder if the current municipal year.

19089 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Sutton thanked the members and accepted the office of Vice chairman for the reminder of the current municipal year.

Cllr Davison left the meeting.

19090 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – The Chairman will now read out the following-“Members must declare their pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in items at this meeting-rather than personnel and prejudicial interests-and ensure that they act appropriately”

None received.

19091 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING- To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd July 2020 and authorise the chairman to sign

(Sutton/Carroll)

Resolved-That the minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd July 2020 are a correct record and the Chairman was authorised to sign.

19092 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS – To receive such communications as the Chairman may wish to lay before the committee.

None received.

19093 ALLOTMENT INCOME & EXPENDITURE-Committee to note the Income & Expenditure to 31st July 2020

(Potter/Padden)

Resolved – the Allotment Income & Expenditure as at 31st July 2020 was noted.

19094- BOOTHFERRY ROAD, FERRIBY ROAD, AND TOWER HILL ALLOTMENT SITES

- a) Allotment Warden's Report: Noted. The warden continues to do an excellent job over all sites.
- b) Inspection of Plots: The clerk advised that she does try to visit the plots every 4 weeks, depending on the time of year and following the plan given to her by Mrs Rowe. The next visit is due to take place on Friday 25th September. The Clerk advised the new Chair of the 3 letter system, and the process for the termination of a tenancy agreement for the non-maintenance of a plot. The HDGA are happy that the visits have resumed, and advised that many of the new tenants are doing excellent jobs.
- c) Gardeners Association: To consider and discuss the report from the HDGA. Cllr Potter went through the report. The continued good work of the Allotment Warden was noted. The request for permission to install a container on site was dealt with under item 19095.

Concern has been raised over the erection of a large poly-tunnel on plot 9 on the Boothferry Road site. Some neighbouring tenants are concerned that it may cause surface flooding and overshadow some plots. The Clerk advised that the tenant on Plot 9 had been invited to attend the meeting, but was not present. He had forwarded photographs and an explanation on how it was to be constructed and how he intended dealing with water collection, watering and flooding. The Committee discussed this, along with the concerns. The Clerk advised that the structures on site should not be permanent- which this did not appear to be, and that there are a number of other structures on the site of a similar size. It was agreed to approve the erection, subject to viewing by Cllrs Sutton and Potter, this could be done when checking the other plots on the 25th September.

(Carroll/Padden)

Resolved – Approval given for the erection of the poly-tunnel subject to the site visit by Cllrs Sutton and Potter on the 25th September.

- d) Vacant Plots – there are currently 2 vacant plots, which have been offered. There are over 20 Hessle residents currently on the waiting list. Noted
- e) Crime – None reported. Noted

- f) Invoices – None outstanding. The clerk advised that the invoices for 2020/21 would be issued at the beginning of November for payment mid-December.

19095 ALLOTMENT ISSUES

a) Boothferry Road Site

- I. Committee to note that a significant water bill has been received and following investigation, work has been carried out on one of the taps to fix a leak. The clerk explained that the last bill was for £1000.00 and investigations had been undertaken to establish if this was due to a leak on site, and, whilst there was a leak, this was not significant enough to result in such an increase. She advised that this must be as a result of the warmer weather, and tenants spending more time on site during the lockdown period, although she has been made aware of some tenants washing their cars on site which would also have an impact – the warden has been instructed to stop anybody he sees doing this and to report it to the clerk immediately. Signs have also been erected near to the taps reminding of sensible water usage and a reminder will go out with the invoices. Update Noted.
- II. To consider a request from the HDGA to place a storage unit on site, next to the current shop. The HDGA will retain full responsibility for this unit, including all costs relating to the installation, ongoing maintenance and removal when required. Ms White explained that this would be an extension to the current building, so they have more space and are able to purchase in bulk, passing savings onto their members. A suitable container has been sourced by one of the members. (Sutton/Padden)
Resolved – To allow HDGA to install a temporary storage unit in the space between the current hut and allotment warden’s storage unit on the Boothferry road site. The HDGA will retain full responsibility for the unit, including all costs relating to the installation, ongoing maintenance and removal when required.
- III. Committee to note that work has been carried out on the boundary trees by ERYC. Unfortunately, during which, damage was caused to a tenant’s shed. This is being resolved with ERYC insurance. The clerk has not heard from the tenant so assume this has been settled. Noted.

b) Ferriby Road Site

- IV. Committee to note that a small tree has been removed from a property on Ferriby Road having blown down. Noted.

19096 HALTEMPRICE FLOOD ACTION GROUP – No Updates

19097 TREE MEETINGS

Committee to note the reports from a number of visits during July, August and September-please note that due to Covid-19 restrictions most of these visits were undertaken by individual members of the committee and without the ERYC Tree Officer.

(Potter/Sutton)

Resolved – To note tree reports

19098 ‘TINKLER’S PIT’ – Committee to note update from the Clerk and Cllr Sutton

Cllr Sutton advised that she had spoken with the land manager, who advised that no further felling would take place, and that they were in discussion with the Forestry Commission with regards to the re-planting. Clearance of the site would be taking place.

(Sutton/Potter)

Resolved – Update noted. Clerk will liaise with the Forestry Commission for further update.

19099 LITTER BIN REQUEST

- a. Committee to note that the clerk has again asked ERYC to confirm all litter bins that have been installed to date, as there appears to be a backlog. Cllr Fordham has carried out a survey of the litter bins and it would appear that a couple of requested ones have yet to be installed, invoices also remain outstanding. The clerk is reluctant to request further bins be installed until all others are paid for. Noted.
- b. Committee to consider the request from Cllr Wilding that the bins on Boothferry road outside KGV be replaced with larger ones, as they often appear overflowing. Cllr Carroll advised that capacity has been increased on Livingstone Road, the Rugby Club and in Tower Hill by the installation of wheelie bins – this could be done in KGV which would help.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved – To defer decision to a future meeting. Cllr Padden will discuss the need for larger bins in KGV with Cllr Walker.

19100 LITTER SIGNS

Committee to consider and make a decision on the design and quote for the litter signs. Paul Palmer from ERYC has no objection to the signs being placed in KGV, the MUGA, and the Skate Park and on the Foreshore.

A discussion took place. Concern was raised over the durability of the signs, it was agreed that if proved worthwhile and it became a problem a more sturdy material could be used for any future ones.

(Sutton/Carroll)

Resolved- Agree to the purchase of the litter signs at a cost of £320.00 for 20 signs, to be placed in the MUGA, KGV playing field, Skate Park and Foreshore.

19101 TOWER HILL MEMORIAL PARK

- a. Committee to note that the clerk has asked our solicitors to chase ERYC legal department to progress the lease transfer.

(Padden/Potter)

Resolved – Cllr Padden will chase up with ERYC Legal department. The Clerk will forward all contact details to him.

- b. Committee to note that a complaint has been forwarded to ERYC and Emma Hardy MP regarding the current state of the park. See letter and response from ERYC. CCTV is planned for the park once HTC take over the lease.

It was decided to note the letter as the park is still the responsibility of ERYC, until the lease is transferred. Clerk to obtain feedback from ERYC as to whether drugs paraphernalia is a problem in the park.

(Potter/Padden)

Resolved – The members are concerned that needles, glass and other rubbish is becoming a problem in the park and asked that the Clerk sought feedback from ERYC to establish if there is a problem. The content of the letter and reply were noted.

- c. Committee to note that damaged fencing in the park has been reported to ERYC. See photo. The clerk advised that she has made ERYC aware of the damage and they will either repair or remove.

(Sutton/Potter)

Resolved – Noted.

19102 TRANBY LODGE GATE HES-6-BID 368-No further information received from ERYC valuation department with regards to the cost of this area.

(Potter/Sutton)

Resolved – Clerk to chase up the valuation with ERYC

19103 EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING FUND

Committee to note that a grant application has been submitted to the fund. See attached list of proposed planting locations, species and numbers.

The clerk advised that no decision on the grant has been made, nor does she have any date for this.

Cllr Sutton advised that the decision on sites and tree species was carried out in conjunction with Nigel Robson, Forestry Supervisor, ERYC, as all proposed planting areas belong to ERYC.

(Sutton/Potter)

Resolved – Update noted.

19104 WOODLAND CROFT – DEAD TREES

Committee to note that a resident has reported a significant number of dead or dying trees on the Linden Homes development. See photos and response from Alan Hemingway, Senior Tree and Landscape Officer at ERYC. Alan Hemingway will speak with the developers about re-planting.

Cllr Sutton explained that this is an ongoing issue, trees are often planted by developers and not looked after.

(Sutton/Potter)

Resolved – Noted.