

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

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
Wednesday 22nd July 2020, 7.30pm

Minutes

Members present: Councillors B Carroll, G Fordham, V Padden, M Sutton (Chair), & C Walker.
Advisory Members present: (non-voting) Ms G White – Hessle & District Gardening Association (HDGA)
Apologies received from: Cllr Bovill, Cross & A Nolan & Mr G Marshall (HDGA)

Clerk: Joanna Render

19023 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

None received.

19024 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th February 2020 and authorise the Chairman to sign.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved – The minutes from the meeting on the 11th February 2020 were confirmed as a correct record and the Chair was authorised to sign them.

19025 CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATIONS

To receive such communications as the Chairman may wish to lay before the committee.

None received.

19026 ALLOTMENT INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Committee to note the Income & Expenditure to 31st May 2020

(Fordham/Sutton)

19027 BOOTHFERRY ROAD, FERRIBY ROAD AND TOWER HILL ALLOTMENT SITES:

- a) Allotments Warden’s report: noted- The allotment warden is doing an excellent job, the whole site is looking lovely and well maintained.
- b) Inspection of plots: To note that a visit was undertaken in March– however no warning letters were issued, as shortly after we went into lock-down. No visits have been undertaken until 23rd June when restrictions were eased. Cllr Sutton said that the majority of the plots are looking lovely. Gill White said that a number of new tenants have worked well on plots that were previously in a state. Inspection reported Noted.

- c) Gardeners Association: The letter of concern from a tenant was discussed. (a)The clerk gave an update regarding the boundary trees – she has contacted the ERYC who own the land and is currently awaiting an update. Cllr Sutton advised that she has a meeting with an officer from the tree department the following day and that the clerk would mention the issues to him. (b) During the pandemic the gate to the Boothferry road site has remained open during hours 9am-4.30pm – unfortunately there has been some theft of produce – therefore it was agreed that the gate should now be locked. The clerk will arrange for official notices to be affixed to the gate.
- d) Plots: No Vacant plots. Currently 20 Hessle residents on the waiting list. 8 from other areas. Noted.
- e) Crime: Some theft of produce from a plot. Noted and previously discussed.
- f) Invoices: None outstanding. Noted.
- (Sutton/Padden)

Resolved - updates above noted.

19028 ALLOTMENT ISSUES

- a) The Committee to consider the installation of battery powered CCTV – information and estimation of cost. Tenant and member of the HDGA Committee Geoff Marshall to provide further information. Unfortunately Mr Marshall was unable to attend this meeting, Therefore this item is deferred to a future meeting.

(Sutton/Fordham)

Resolved - Noted. Agreed to defer the CCTV item to a future meeting.

- b) Committee to consider if they wish to take any action against the resident of Spicer Croft who, in April removed several trees which were on the Ferriby Road allotment site- without authorisation.

The committee discussed this and the Clerk advised that Cllr D Nolan did, at the time, drop a leaflet off at all the houses in the development explaining that any works to trees along the Allotment boundary must have the permission of the Town Council. There have been a couple of residents who have had works carried out, and the Tree Surgeon has liaised with the Council. The Committee agreed that it was disappointed in the actions of this particular resident, but that no further action should be taken.

(Sutton/Fordham)

Resolved- Whilst the committee are disappointed in the actions of this resident, no further action is to be taken with regards to the unauthorised felling of the trees.

19029 HALTEMPRICE FLOOD ACTION GROUP

No meeting held in March 2020, therefore no report available.

Noted.

19030 TREE MEETINGS:

- a) Committee to note the reports from a number of visits during March, April, May and June – 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.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved – The tree visit reports for visits undertaken in March, April, May and June were noted.

- b) Committee to note that Keith Hare resigned from the Tree Committee in May 2020 – Keith has served the Town Council for a significant number of years, advising on tree related matters. The Clerk has written to thank him for all he has done over the years.
Cllr Sutton said that this is sad news and Keith has brought a great deal of knowledge to the role and has supported the council enormously. She herself has learned much from him over the years as part of the tree committee.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved –Noted.

19031 TINKLERS PIT

Committee to note the correspondence from the Forestry Commission. Clerk to provide any further update.

The Clerk advised that she has received an update from the Woodland Officer, James Shallcross – the case was escalated to the National Enforcement Team in February, who appear to have done very little with it. He has therefore asked his Manager to push for a quick resolution. He will keep us informed of the progress.

Cllr Carroll asked if the Council could take any action if the Forestry Commission decided not to- the clerk advised that she was unsure of this but it could be looked into if need be.

(Sutton/Carroll)

Resolved - update noted.

19032 LITTER BIN REQUESTS – Committee to note that the clerk has asked ERYC to confirm all litter bins which have been installed to date, as there appears to be a backlog of requests.

- i. Committee to consider the request to place a litter bin near to the bus shelter between Cottesmore and Bethune Avenue. Committee to note that ERYC have already been asked to site one near Cottesmore.
- ii. To consider a request to place a litter bin somewhere on Hull Road between First Lane and Sainsburys. Possible location near the bus shelter on Hull Road.
- iii. Committee to note that the bin near to the bus shelter has been removed. The clerk has approached ERYC, to date she has not received a reply.

The Clerk advised that she had not received confirmation from ERYC as to what bins have been installed, so potentially these requests would need to go on a waiting list until the back log of bin requests have been paid for. Some of these bins have been covered by a High Street grant received from ERYC.

Cllrs Sutton, Fordham and Padden agreed to visit the sites where bins have been requested to see which ones have been installed.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved – Clerk to provide a list of outstanding litter bin requests and Cllrs Sutton, Fordham and Padden will check to see what have been installed. The litter bin requests to be considered at a future meeting once the situation is clearer.

19033 LITTER

Committee to consider the signage displayed by York City Council and to discuss if they think this is something the Town Council would like to pursue. If so in what areas? The clerk has already

approached York City Council to see if they agree to us using the wording- waiting to hear back from them.

The Clerk advised that York CC are happy for the wording to be used. A discussion took place and the committee agreed to the wording and to look at certain sites. Cllr Padden to affix signs to lampposts. To consider Skatepark, play areas, KGV field and the Foreshore as possible locations.

(Sutton/Carroll)

Resolved - Cllr Padden to obtain quotes for 20 signs and Clerk to make enquiries through ERYC as to how we obtain permission to erect the signs.

19034 HESSLE SKATEPARK EXTENSION

Committee to discuss the plan and correspondence from Bendcrete Leisure Ltd, and consider if formal drawings and costings are to be requested. The extension is planned for the land to the west of the existing skate park, and the project will be funded through Commuted Sums.

Cllr Sutton will speak further to this item. Please also see the comments from Goxhill Parish Council.

Discussion took place and there was some confusion over the location of this, as the land west is currently used by the cricket club. The clerk advised that an extension to the skate park on the current footprint has already been agreed and instruction has been given to the supplier. This addition would require permission to use the additional land to the west of the current footprint. Cllr Padden agreed to discuss the proposed area with Cllr Nolan for clarity. All in favour in principal of extending the skate park into the area and to obtaining formal costings and drawings.

(Padden/Sutton)

Resolved - The committee agreed in principal to the proposal to extend the skate park into the land west of the current skate park lease footprint, and to obtaining formal drawings and costings. Cllr Padden to contact Cllr Nolan to discuss if permission has been received from ERYC to use the land west of the current skate park lease footprint.

19035 TOWER HILL MEMORIAL PARK

- a) Committee to note that in March, Solicitors were instructed with regards to the lease, and ERYC have been advised.
- b) Committee to note that the multi-unit - climbing frame situated in the play area has been vandalised, and is being removed by ERYC as repairs cannot be done on site. No timescale as yet for its repair.

(Carroll/ Sutton)

Resolved- Updates noted. Clerk will contact the solicitors acting on our behalf to establish the current situation with regards to the lease for Tower Hill Memorial Park.

19036 TRANBY LODGE GATE HES -6 – Bid 368

Committee to note the letter regarding this piece of land, sent to Alan Menzies – Director of Planning & Regeneration -ERYC, Stephen Hunt, Head of Planning & Development - ERYC, James Timm, Asset Strategy Manager – ERYC, and Ian Burnett, Head of Asset Strategy – ERYC. To date no reply has been received.

Cllr Sutton advised that both herself and Cllr Nolan have spoken to ERYC regarding this – and the areas in question are scored with regards to planning suitability, areas will be assessed again in the Autumn.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved – Update noted.

19037 EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING FUND

Committee to consider the information and consider a) any suitable areas b) if they wish to apply for funding. Cllr Sutton to speak further to this item.

Cllr Sutton advised that funding has been made available by ERYC for planting of trees. She is to meet with a representative of the ERYC to discuss suitable areas. She has asked all councillors for suggestions and to date has received none. Hessle Town council do not own any land so we need agreement from ERYC to plant additional.

(Sutton/Padden)

Resolved – Update noted.

19038 HANGING BASKETS

The floral decorations are on display in the town- Committee to consider not charging the businesses for the hanging baskets this year due to the COVID-19 crisis.

(Padden/Walker)

Resolved - To not send letters requesting a donation towards this year's hanging baskets from all businesses this year, due to the COVID-19 crisis. The Council will accept the whole cost.

19039 PAINTING OF ELECTRICITY BOXES

Committee to consider a request received from a resident that the electricity meters along First Lane be painted by a local artist. If agreed the clerk will make enquiries as to the ownership of the boxes.

The committee discussed this and decided that it did not fit in with the street scene

(Sutton/Fordham)

Resolved – Committee did not support this as they did not feel it was appropriate and not in-keeping with the street scene of the area.