

**HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**ENVIRONMENT & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**  
**Large Front Room**  
**Hessle Town Hall**  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023**  
**Minutes**

Members present: Cllrs V Padden, M Sutton(Chair) & P Davison

Advisory Member (Non-voting) present: Ms G White (HDGA)

Clerk: Joanna Render

Apologies: Cllr Bovill & Cllr Toogood

**134203 DECLARATION ON INTEREST:** The Chair 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.

**134204 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023 & 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and authorise the Chair to sign.

(Padden/Sutton)

**Resolved** – The Minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023 were confirmed as a correct record and the Chair was authorised to sign them.

(Sutton/Padden)

**Resolved** - The minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were confirmed as a correct record and the Chair was authorised to sign them.

**134205 CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATIONS:** To receive such communications as the Chair may wish to lay before the committee.

None Received.

**134206 ALLOTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE:** Committee to note June figures were not available prior to the agenda going out. If available for the meeting the Clerk will issue.

The Clerk presented the June figures to the committee which were noted.

**134207 BOOTHFERRY ROAD, FERRIBY ROAD AND TOWER HILL ALLOTMENT SITES:**

- a) Allotment Warden’s Report: No report as Warden has resigned. Noted.
- b) Inspection of Plots: To note the attached site visits from 26/6/23. Noted.
- c) Gardeners Association: To receive and discuss the 11<sup>th</sup> July report. Ms G White went through the report.
  - i) The HDGA are holding the Annual Summer Social at the Boothferry Road site on 13<sup>th</sup> July from 7pm – all members of the Environment & Open

Spaces committee are welcome to attend. Cllr Sutton thanked Ms White for the invitation.

- ii) The HDGA Annual Show is to be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, set up from 8am, judging from 11am and open to the public between 2pm-4pm. Official invites will be sent to the Mayor, Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee to present the trophies and certificates. All other Councillors are also welcome to attend the event. Noted.
- iii) The HDGA Committee expressed thanks to Geoff Guy the outgoing warden for all his hard work over the time in the post. The Clerk advised that she has passed on thanks on behalf of the Council. Cllr Sutton advised that interviews for the warden post had taken place earlier and a candidate had been offered the position. Noted.
- iv) A tenant has raised issues regarding St Annes School.  
Black netting has appeared along part of the school fence which runs adjacent to plots - i) Why has it been placed there ii) why the Council as neighbours were not consulted, iii) concern that the netting will cut out light to the rear of the plots iii) concern also about the state of the pathway between the allotment and the school site – who is responsible for the maintenance, if any?  
Suggestions were made by the members that this could have been put up as a safeguarding measure – the path between the inner and outer fencing is believed only to be used out of school hours, which could be why the netting has been placed on the immediate fence along the allotment. Following discussion, Cllr Sutton agreed to look at the issue at the next site visit and then, if deemed a great problem, to contact the school and raise the issue. Due to the holidays, this will not happen until the new term in September. Ms White will update the tenant.  
Cllr Sutton thanked Ms White for her report.
- d) Plots: 2 vacant plot, which have been offered. Noted.
- e) Crime: The Clerk advised that she received an email earlier in the day advising of trespassers on site the previous evening, they were observed on CCTV and believed to have got on site through the hedge to the West. The images from the CCTV are not usable as all have hoods / caps and faces are not visible. When in role, the Clerk will ask the Warden to assess any weak areas along that perimeter. The Clerk is not aware of any damage to any plots. Ms White advised that she is unaware of this or of any damage. Noted.
- f) Invoices: None outstanding. Noted.

#### **134208 ALLOTMENT ISSUES: Committee to consider the following issues.**

- a) **Allotment Warden Position** – Committee to note that the role has been advertised, sifting and interviews (if necessary) to be arranged w/c 10/7/23. Cllr Sutton advised that Interviews for the role took place earlier today, and a candidate has been offered the job. He will not be able to start until undertaking training which will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> August.

- b) **Interim Arrangements** – Allotment Maintenance - Committee to consider any interim arrangements for maintenance of the allotments pending employment of a new warden and required training. To note the Clerk has approached the company who maintain Tower Hill for a quote. The Clerk advised that there will be no interim measures now a warden has been appointed.
- c) **Boothferry Road Allotment** –
  - i) Committee to note that a team of 4 tenants are shooting on site. 11 rats and 1 pigeon have been removed off site. Shoots are logged with the police and are well managed and carried out only when safe. Noted.
- d) **Ferriby Road site**
  - i) The Clerk has requested a quote for the trimming and reduction of the hedge. The Clerk advised that she is meeting with the company who maintain the grass and hedge on Tower Hill Memorial Park for a quote. Noted.

#### **134209 TREE COMMITTEE / TREES & ENVIRONMENT ISSUES**

- a) Committee to note the report of the Tree Applications received in June 2023. Noted.
- b) Tinkler's Pit – the Restocking Notice has now expired. The Officer from the Forestry Commission will be checking the situation in Autumn. Cllr Sutton advised that there are no signs of re-planting, just evidence of self-seeding. The Clerk has emailed the officer advising of this. Update Noted.

**134210 LITTER BINS REQUESTS - none for consideration.** The Clerk advised that a new litter bin has been installed at the junction of Tranby Avenue / Heads Lane as requested. She assumes the one requested on Greenfield Avenue, JBL has also been installed but has not been able to carry out a site visit to confirm. Noted.

#### **134211 TUBS/ FLORAL DISPLAYS –**

a-c) Committee to note that the tubs have been filled, the baskets are due in the next week. The Clerk advised that as the Council no longer had a permanent staff member to water the tubs/baskets and the mobile watering machine was still being repaired that there was a delay to the baskets being put up. The relief caretaker is watering for the rest of this week but cannot continue. An advert has been placed on the noticeboards for somebody to fill the position. The baskets do need to be put up soon as businesses' have paid for them. The Clerk continues to chase up the fix on the watering system. Update noted.

#### **134212 TOWER HILL MEMORIAL PARK**

- a) Committee to consider the recommendation from the Chair and Vice Chair of the committee in relation to works on trees affecting properties at 15 and 19 Tower Hill Mews – as per min 134159 of the June minutes. Committee to accept the quote for the proposed tree works. Cllr Sutton advised that Cllr Toogood, the Clerk, and herself visited both properties. The recommendations are to carry out the tree reduction works affecting the property at number 15 as branches are overhanging the garden. No works will be undertaken to the tree reducing light to the garden of number 19. The tree is a distance away and is not a safety concern. Cllr Sutton explained to the owner of the property that the Council will not remove/ prune healthy trees to increase light to properties.

(Sutton/Padden)

**Resolved**- To accept the quote of £350 for the works on the tree overhanging 19 Tower Hill Mews and to remove Ivy and tidy the base of a Holly tree in the park.

- b) Committee to note that the Clerk has instructed the Tree Surgeon to carry out a Tree Assessment in line with requirements. The Clerk advised that she has received an email & photos from a resident at 43 Beverley Road regarding dropped branches in the rear of the property. The Tree Surgeon will look at this area as part of his report. Update noted.
- c) Committee to note that there have been several reported issues of ASB in the Play Area, and the Mirage swing has been damaged. This has since been repaired. The Clerk advised that this damage and the ASB has been reported to the police and the High School – who are working closely with the PCSO's to try and alleviate the problem. Noted.
- d) Following reports of litter in the play area / park after the litter picker has left for the day, committee to consider funding the installation of an additional litter bin in the park. Following discussion, the committee agreed that an additional bin in the play area would be a good idea – to be placed near to the other gate.

(Sutton/Davison)

**Resolved** – to fund the purchase and installation of another litter bin in the play area, neat to the other gate.

- e) Committee to note that there is some damage to the wet pour surface of one of the pieces of equipment ( Overhead Rotator). The Clerk advised that she has spoken with Streetscape, who installed the play area, and they will repair this area free of charge. To note, that this is an original piece of equipment and not part of the new scheme. Update noted.

**134213 MEMORIAL BENCH** – No further update with regards to the location.

**134214 JENNY BROUGH LANE BENCH** – Clerk or Cllr Bovill to provide an update. The Clerk advised that Cllr Bovill has received one quote for the installation of the bench and is currently awaiting another couple. Update noted.

**134215 HEDGEHOGS R US HIGHWAY PROJECT** – Committee to consider the information in relation to supporting the Hedgehog Highway Project and the purchase of surrounds and information leaflets at a cost of £150.00.

Following discussion, the committee agreed that they did not wish to be involved at present. The Clerk will forward the information to an allotment tenant who has an interest.

(Sutton/Davison)

**Resolved** – Committee do not wish to be involved in the project at present. The Clerk will advise the organiser and pass the information on to other potentially interested parties.