

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
Large Front Room
Hessle Town Hall
Tuesday 14th November 2023
Minutes

Members present : Cllrs P Hardy, M Sutton(Chair) & P Toogood(Vice-Chair)
Advisory Member (Non-voting present): Ms G White (HDGA)
Also present: Miss K Waudby, Mr R Holmes & Mr R Askew (Boothferry Road Allotment Tenants)
Clerk: Joanna Render
Apologies: Cllrs Bovill & Padden

134357 DECLARATION ON 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.

134358 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on the 12th September 2023 and authorise the Chairman to sign.
(Hardy/Toogood)

Resolved - The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th September 2023 were confirmed as a correct record and the Chair was authorised to sign them.

134359 CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATIONS: To receive such communications as the Chairman may wish to lay before the committee.

The Chair advised that an email has been received from the Flood and Coastal Risk Management team at ERYC requesting photos / videos / description / diagrams of areas where flooding has occurred be sent to them to assist with the report under Sec 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act and to help with establishing possible causes, and recommendations. Any reports can be forwarded to the Assistant Clerk who will email them on.

134360 ALLOTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE: Committee to note and receive the Income & Expenditure as at 31st October 2023
(Sutton/Toogood)

Resolved - The Allotment Income & Expenditure as at 31st October 2023 was noted.

134361 BOOTHFERRY ROAD, FERRIBY ROAD AND TOWER HILL ALLOTMENT SITES:

- a) Allotment Warden’s Report: To note the report. The warden continues to do an excellent job. Report Noted.
- b) Inspection of Plots: To note the site visits from 2/10/23. The Chair and Clerk advised that another visit will be undertaken before the end of the year. Noted.
- c) Gardeners Association: To receive and discuss the report. No formal report this month. Ms White to advise. Ms White advised that most items are covered as part of the agenda already. The HDGA have asked that a request for more road

scalpings be made, so that the re-filling of the potholes on the road can be carried out, sadly the wet weather has washed away a lot of the previous- the warden has started work on this already, but more scalpings are required. Also, the ditch between plots 58 & 59 requires cutting back – the Clerk advised that she had already discussed this with the warden. The clerk will make enquires regarding the road scalpings.

- d) Plots: 2 vacant plots, which have been offered. 2 to become available at the end of the month. Noted.
- e) Crime: None reported. Noted.
- f) Invoices: All invoices have been issued for the rental 2023/24. Noted.

134362 ALLOTMENT ISSUES: Committee to consider the following issues.

- a) **Compostable toilet for the Boothferry Road allotment site** – Committee to consider the information and representation from Ms Waudby, Mr Holmes & Mr Askew (Boothferry Road allotment tenants) regarding the installation of a compostable toilet on the Boothferry Road allotment site. Also included information on Building regulations and suggested questions. Ms Waudby gave a brief outline as to why they felt that having this facility on site was needed - it would allow more tenants to attend their plots for longer. They have made enquiries of ERYC regarding planning permission. They would look to obtain grant funding for the unit - £11,495 +Vat, it is hoped that the installation could be done by some allotment members. Whilst the committee could see the benefit, concern was raised that there didn't appear to be any formal commitment as to who would manage the day to day running and long-term funding and maintenance of the unit. If the Council allowed this project to go ahead, there must be no financial, maintenance or insurance liability to the Council and a proper constituted body must be created and a formal agreement with the Council laying out the responsibilities of the group. A formal constituted group would probably be required if grant funding is applied for, especially the National Lottery. The representatives agreed to look into forming a constituted group to take this project further and will bring to a future meeting for further consideration.

(Sutton/Toogood)

Resolved – The committee agreed to consider this request further once a properly constituted group is formed. There must be no financial, maintenance or insurance liability to the Council and Planning and building Regulations must be investigated.

- b) **Bonfires on the Allotment Sites** – Committee to consider the emails from a tenant and resident of Hemmingway Walk regarding bonfires and to consider whether they should continue to be allowed on the allotment sites. The committee discussed this, and the Clerk advised that she had only received three complaints and two were relating to the same tenant who the Clerk and spoken and written to. Following discussion, it was agreed that there was no need to ban the bonfires outright, and that the Clerk would continue to deal with each complaint on a case- by-case basis.

(Sutton/Hardy)

Resolved - That bonfires are continued to be allowed on the allotment sites under the current rules, any complaints will be investigated and dealt with by the Clerk on a case-by-case basis.

- c) **Flooding** – Boothferry Road Site – Committee to consider the photos and email outlining the potential works to alleviate the flooding. Allotment warden to speak further to this item. The warden was not present at the meeting so unable to provide any additional information. Cllr Sutton explained that this was a problem that had been happening for a significant number of years. The committee discussed the suggestions made by the warden and agreed that he could undertake minor work, such as strimming the smaller gully any pipework must be agreed by committee as this could potentially just direct the water onto a different plot.
(Sutton/Toogood)
Resolved - The warden be allowed to undertake minor works to help alleviate the flooding, to include strimming of the smaller gully. Any pipework must be agreed by committee.
- d) **Vermin Control** – Clerk / Allotment Warden to provide an update on the vermin control on the Boothferry road site. The Clerk advised that the warden has laid the traps over areas of the site, and the group of tenants continue to organise shoots with 15 rats being removed in the last month. Update Noted.
- e) **Gate Locks Ferriby Road and Boothferry Road** – Committee to ratify the purchase of locks for Boothferry road - £28.80 and Ferriby Road £48.37.
(Sutton/Hardy)
Resolved - The purchase of new gate locks for both the Ferriby road site (£48.37) and the Boothferry road site (£28.80) was ratified.
- f) **Boothferry Road – Leaving Gate open Signage** – Committee to consider the two quotes for the provision of signage. To note that only one includes installation. The Clerk provided a third quote to the committee. A discussion was held as to whether signage would make any difference as no tenant informs on another tenant, so the clerk is never able to identify and take action against any tenant leaving the gate open. Given the cost, It was decided not to go ahead with the signage.
(Sutton/Hardy)
Resolved - Given the cost it was agreed that there would be very little benefit to installing the ‘Do Not Leave the Gate Open’ sign for Boothferry Road and it was agreed not to go ahead with it.

134363 TREE COMMITTEE / TREES & ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

- a) Committee to note the report of the Tree Applications received in September/October / November 2023.
(Sutton/Hardy)
Resolved – The tree reports for September/ October and November 2023 were agreed.
- b) Committee to note that ERYC Tree Officers will be offering to attend council meetings to inform about their work, applications and what they can and cannot do under the legislation. No timescales as yet. Noted.

134364 LITTER BINS REQUESTS - Committee to consider the following requests for litter bins.

- a) Near to the Bus stop on First Lane / Seaton Road
- b) To replace the litter bin in the centre of First Lane playing field which was removed some time ago.
- c) Hull Road near to Acadia Grove/ Ex-serviceman’s club

- d) Rosner Drive / Boothferry road – the new pedestrian access is now open between Clarke Avenue and Rosner Drive, thereby increasing footfall/ litter. Two requests have been received for a litter bin in this area.

(Sutton/Toogood)

Resolved - Agreed to the funding of the purchase and installation of litter bins in the following areas:

- (a) near to the bus stop on First Lane /Seaton Road
- (b) Hull Road near to Acadia Grove/ Ex-serviceman's club
- (c) Rosner Drive / Boothferry road

The Clerk will ask ERYC to re-install a litter bin on First Lane playing field to replace the one removed some time ago.

134365 TUBS/ FLORAL DISPLAYS –

- a) Committee to note that the tubs and planters will be filled in the next few weeks with the winter display. Noted.
- b) Daffodil Planting 2023- Cllr Sutton to provide an update. Cllr Sutton advised that herself, Cllr Padden and Cllr Toogood along with pupils from a local school planted some bulbs along Hull Road the remaining bulbs were donated to the Friends of Tranby Gate to plant within the grounds of Tranby Gate. Noted.
- c) Committee to note the email from Cllr Langdale regarding planting on the First lane / Darleys roundabout. Noted.

134366 TOWER HILL MEMORIAL PARK

- a) Committee to note that all the jockey fencing has been removed from around the shrub beds. Noted.
- b) Committee to note that two new litter bins have been installed in the park. Noted.
- c) Committee to note that the Memorial Obelisk is to be installed in the new year. Noted.
- d) Committee to ratify the cost of £760 for concreting the two benches and picnic table into the ground.
(Sutton/Hardy)

Resolved - The committee ratified the cost of £760 for the concreting into the ground of the two benches and the picnic bench.

134367 MEMORIAL BENCH – The Clerk has exchanged emails with the family of Cllr Kitchen, and they still wish the bench to be placed in the Square. Committee to consider if we should go ahead with this now or leave it until any works by ERYC are completed. The Clerk has no timescales on this.

The Committee discussed this and agreed that the clerk should make enquiries with ERYC about installing the bench now and not wait until any works in the Square are carried out/ completed.
(Sutton/Hardy)

Resolved - To move ahead with the installation of the memorial bench, the Clerk to liaise with ERYC and the family regarding a suitable position in the Square.

134368 BARK IN THE PARK – Committee to consider the request from Hull & East Yorkshire MIND to hold a fundraising event in the park next year. The committee are happy to support the event,

providing that all dogs are kept under control and away from the Children's play area. There must be no cost or liability to the Council and the organisers must ensure that the park must be left clean and tidy and that the dogs taking part do not cause a nuisance to other users of the park. The Clerk will contact the organisers to discuss further.

(Sutton/Hardy)

Resolved - The committee are happy to support Mind with the 'Bark in the Park' event, providing that all dogs are kept under control and away from the Children's play area. There must be no cost or liability to the Council and the organisers must ensure that the park is left clean and tidy. The dogs taking part must not cause a nuisance to other users of the park and be kept away from the children's play area. The Clerk will contact the organisers to discuss further.

134369 JENNY BROUGH LANE BENCH – Clerk or Cllr Bovill to provide an update. The Clerk advised that an alternative area on Northwood Drive has been identified, as the original area is not being maintained and very overgrown. Cllr Bovill is discussing the new location with the owner of the land. Update noted.

134370 TRANBY LANE / FERRIBY ROAD AMENITY LAND – committee to note the email from ERYC Valuation and Estates regarding the lease for the above land. The lease has received formal approval and legal advice has been instructed. However, objections may be received once the intention to transfer the land to the Town Council has been advertised. Update noted.

134371 BUDGET 2024/25 – Committee to consider items for the 2024/25 budget.

- Tower Hill Memorial Park
- Allotment projects
- Litter bins
- Benches
- Tubs/ Floral displays

(Sutton/Hardy)

Resolved - Committee agreed to leave the budgets as 2022/23 with uplift for any increase.