



Heybridge Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** of the Parish Council held on **THURSDAY 27 JULY 2017** at Plantation Hall, Colchester Road, Heybridge.

PRESENT

Councillors: Simon Burwood Gary Young
Prof Lew Schnurr Natalie Lewis
Bernard Hall

Officers: Laurie Wiebe - Clerk

Members of the Public: none

In the Chair: Simon Burwood

The meeting started at 7:30pm.

It was noted that the meeting would not be recorded or filmed.

17/149 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Sofia Bishop (holiday.)

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the apologies and reasons.

17/150 Chairmans Announcements

Cllr Burwood thanked former Cllr Michael Edwards for his dedication to the Council over the years.

17/151 Minutes

The minutes of the Environment and Resources Committee meeting held on Thursday 22 June 2017 were received.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Environment and Resources Committee held on Thursday 22 June 2017 be approved and confirmed.

17/152 Declarations of Discloseable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Pecuniary Interests, Registerable Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

17/153 **Public Participation**

There were none.

17/154 **Clerks Report**

Members received the Clerk's report.

17/155 **Plantation Hall and Playing Field**

- i) Members considered purchasing three door locks (with fobs) for the toilets as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** not to purchase three door locks (with fobs) for the toilets and to review the situation in four months.

- ii) Members considered ratifying the expense of £145 for fixing the blocked toilet drain. It was noted that quotes were being sought to install a soil vent.

It was **RESOLVED** that the expense of £145 for fixing the blocked toilet drain be ratified.

- iii) Members considered marking chevrons on the Hall car park. Cllr Lewis explained it was necessary for yellow crosshatches marked on the car park by Footpath No. 56 to prevent vehicles from blocking access to the overspill area.

It was **RESOLVED** that yellow chevrons be marked on the Hall car park along Footpath No. 56 to prevent vehicles from blocking access to the overspill area.

- iv) Members considered the quotations received to sand and reseal the wooden floor in the Main Hall. Two quotes had been received. There was budgetary concern as to the anticipated expense to repair the Claydon Room roof.

It was **RESOLVED** to defer making a decision regarding resealing the Main Hall floor until further information was available on the costs to repair the Claydon Room roof.

- v) Members considered the quotation to repair the black railings. It was noted that there were a limited number of blacksmiths in the area.

The quote was to carry out repairs to fence as required, welding sleeves over badly corroded fence up rights (approximately 130) and touching up paint to work area. Replace badly damaged or missing uprights (approximately 25.) Cutting out bottom rails and replacing with new at a higher level to be above ground, where badly corroded (approximately 6.) Make up and fit and paint infill panel to match existing for gap on side boundary.

Cllr Prof Schnurr proposed to accept the quote for £6370 + VAT which was seconded by Cllr Young.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the quotation of £6370 + VAT to repair the black railings.

17/156

Children Play Areas

i) Members considered the issues raised in the annual inspection of the children's play area located at Plantation Hall:-

a. Members considered painting the two walk-in gates a contrasting colour. Cllr Lewis volunteered to paint the gates.

It was **RESOLVED** to paint the two walk-in gates a contrasting colour.

b. It was noted that the walk-in gate nearest the car park had been temporarily fixed;

c. Members considered the quote to repair the walk-in gates, fence posts and secure fixings around the railings for £200 + VAT.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the quotation of £200 + VAT to repair the play area railings and gates.

d. Members considered replacing the signage.

It was **RESOLVED** that quotes be sought to replace the signage.

e. It was noted that the bench located within the play area had been cleaned;

f. It was noted that the sheep spring and roundabout had been removed;

g. Members considered replacing the surface under both swings and both walk-in gates.

It was **RESOLVED** that quotes be sought for new soft pour flooring under both swings and both walk-in gates.

h. Members considered seeking quotes to secure fixings on the multi-play area. It was agreed to continue to review the fixings as part of routine inspections.

i. Members considered ratifying the expense of £145.24 +VAT for new bolts and bushings for the swings.

It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the expense of £145.24 + VAT for new bolts and bushings for the swings.

- j. It was noted that the new play area equipment had been installed.
- ii) Members considered issues raised in the annual inspection of the play area located at Elizabeth Way:-
 - a. Members considered removal of the play area.

It was **RESOLVED** not to remove the play area at Elizabeth Way.

- b. Members considered the cost of £1600.81 + VAT + installation to repair the slide. It was noted the slide wooden supports were rotten and needed to be replaced. Cllr Lewis proposed to accept the quote which was seconded by Cllr Young.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the quote of £1600.81 + VAT + installation to repair the slide.

- c. Members considered obtaining quotes for new flooring options including soft pour or relaying the matting. It was noted that the matt flooring was impacted and required to be lifted and relayed or replaced with soft pour.

It was **RESOLVED** that quotations be sought to lift and relay the matt flooring and also to remove the matt flooring and replace with soft-pour.

- d. Members considered replacing the litter bin which did not have a surround for £600 + VAT + installation. It was noted that there was a second litter bin in situ and therefore it was suggested that a quote be sought to remove the litter bin and not replace it.

It was **RESOLVED** that quotes be sought to remove the litter bin.

- e. Members considered repairing the railing fence. It was suggested to remove the bent railing and not replace the missing railings.

It was **RESOLVED** to remove the bend railing and not replace the missing railings.

17/157

Amenity Areas

- i) Ref: Minute No. 16/580 – the resident does not own the fence which was next to the enclosed Rowan Drive Amenity Area. The Parish Council had responsibility of the fence on all sides of the Amenity Area. Members considered the offer from the resident to pay for half the cost to replace the fence. Members considered seeking quotes to repair or replace the fence.

It was **RESOLVED** to obtain quotes to repair or replace the fences on all sides of the amenity area. It was agreed the Clerk write to the resident thanking them for the kind offer to pay for half of the fence.

- ii) Members considered trimming back the overgrown fruit tree adjacent to the footpath at Larch Walk Amenity Area.

It was **RESOLVED** that the fruit tree adjacent to the footpath at Larch Walk Amenity Area be trimmed back.

- iii) Members considered seeking permission from Highways to install a drop-down bollard in the pavement right of way at Larch Walk Amenity Area.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk seek permission from Highways to install a drop-down bollard in the pavement right of way at Larch Walk Amenity Area.

- iv) Members considered trimming back or removing the Ash tree in The Roothings. It was noted that a resident had complained about the ash tree located in The Roothings Amenity Area. The resident asked that the Ash tree be removed. It was noted that the Tree Warden had inspected the tree and advised to trim back the overhanging branches from the resident's garden.

It was **RESOLVED** to trim back the overhanging branches on the Ash tree in The Roothings.

- v) Members discussed means to improve Elms Farm roundabout. It was noted that the roundabout had been cut by the grounds contractor the day of the Committee meeting held last month.

Cllr Lewis suggested planting low-lying flowers underneath the signs. It was noted that any flowers planted underneath signs should not block visibility or drivers.

It was **RESOLVED** to contact Highways for suggestions of acceptable plants to be planted underneath the signs.

17/158

Daisy Meadow Car Park

- i) Cllr Prof Schnurr noted that Cllr Lawson had raised an issue of antisocial behaviour occurring along Basin Road and Daisy Meadow Car Park. Cllr Prof Schnurr had referred the issue to Maldon District Council Community Safety Officer.
- ii) It was noted that the boundary agreement between the Council and one of the residents adjoining the entrance to

Daisy Meadow Car Park had been completed and submitted to the Land Registry.

- iii) Members considered submitting a planning application to Maldon District Council to cut back the laurel hedge located along the entranceway to Daisy Meadow Car Park. It was agreed that the laurel hedge should be cut back to 6 feet height.

It was **RESOLVED** to submit a planning application to Maldon District Council to cut back the laurel hedge located along the entranceway to Daisy Meadow Car Park to 6 feet height.

- iv) Members considered obtaining a formal quotation to install an amenity light in the entranceway to Daisy Meadow Car Park. It was noted that Cllr Prof Schnurr and Cllr Lawson were investigating the best location for an amenity light in reference to the land registry access rights of certain residents.

17/159 Groundsmen Contract and Gardener

Members considered installing a 4-foot height chain-link fence along the new hedge at the far end of Plantation Hall car park to help prevent further damage for £850.

Cllr Hall suggested that a chestnut fence would be more suitable option.

It was **RESOLVED** to obtain a quote to supply and install chestnut fence along the new hedge at the far end of Plantation Hall car park.

17/160 Amenity Street Lighting

There were no issues raised.

17/161 Bins, Seats, Dog Bins, Bus Shelters

- i) It was noted that the Clerk had contacted the District Council regarding the outstanding bin request along Colchester Road opposite Bentalls shopping centre.
- ii) Cllr Prof Schnurr asked that the bus shelter located along Goldhanger Road near Coopers Drive be considered at the next meeting.

17/162 Flagpole

Members considered purchasing and installing a flag pole at Plantation Hall. It was suggested that the flagpole could be installed on the new Hall extension and not as a standalone pole.

It was **RESOLVED** to refer the flagpole to the Extension working group.

17/163 Improvements within the Parish

- i) Members noted any eye-sore areas within the Parish such as signage, unkempt properties or hazardous areas and considered reporting the problems to the appropriate authorities.

Cllr Hall reported that two properties had overgrown gardens. It was agreed that Cllr Hall give details to the Clerk to be referred to Maldon District Council Environmental Health department.

It was noted that a resident had suggested the area around The Old Ship Public House, Heybridge Basin. It was agreed the Clerk write to Maldon District Council Environmental Health department.

Cllr Young reported the area along Goldhanger Road between Jacobs Farm and Lawling Avenue on the left-hand side as travel towards the Basin, the grass is overgrown. It was agreed that the Clerk investigate ownership of the land.

- ii) Members considered any suggestions of ways to improve the appearance of the Parish.

Cllr Lewis suggested 'Heybridge in Bloom'. The Clerk noted that there had been a Heybridge in Bloom for three years and it had not been successful.

Cllr Hall suggested an award scheme for best kept gardens with no competition. It was agreed Cllr Hall would investigate.

Cllr Lewis suggested having open gardens as part of Royal Horticultural Society. It was agreed Cllr Lewis would investigate.

17/164 Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Planning Committee of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 3rd August 2017 at 7.30pm.

The next meeting of the Events Committee of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 10th August 2017 at 7.30pm.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 17th August 2017 at 7.30pm.

The next meeting of the Environment and Resources Committee of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 24th August 2017 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9:01pm.

Chairman
24 August 2017