

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – NOVEMBER, 2017

Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday, 21st
November, 2017 Commencing at 8.30 pm in the Weldon Room.

Members present: Councillors, G. May, (Chairman) P. Bower, (Vice-Chairman), J.M.F. Royce, S. Kent, J.P. Anderson, (ex-officio), C.Dabell.

1. **Apologies:** J. Youatt, D. Bexon, A. Clayworth (ex-officio).

Acceptance of Apologies: PROPOSED: G.May SECONDED: P. Bower. All in favour.

2. **Declaration of Interest:** Nil.

3. **Minutes of previous meeting:**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Environment Committee, held on the 17th October, 2017 as previously circulated, be confirmed and signed as a true record of the business transacted

PROPOSED: S. Kent SECONDED: P. Bower. Vote: All in favour.

4. **Progress Arising from the Minutes:**

Bulbs: Five hundred daffodil bulbs have been planted around the village verges.

Picnic Table/Bench on Railway Walk: D. Healey had repaired the picnic table but the bench still required the middle slat re-attaching. S. Kent to inquire on progress.

Christmas Tree: The Clerk had received confirmation from NCC Highways of road closure at the entrances to The Square on the 9th December, 2017 between 2.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. during the Christmas stalls, Christmas Tree lighting and carol singing event. NCC had informed the whole Borough of the event.

5. **Environment Budget 2018/19:** £4,216.21

Railway Walk pruning/clearing in various areas to be added to the Environment Budget at an estimated cost of £300 for two sessions, increasing the budget for 2018/19 to £4,516.21. This work could be added to the Horizon contract or undertaken by an independent contractor.

J.M.F. Royce spoke in favour of using herbicide to treat weeds.

PROPOSAL: Acceptance of the Environment Budget for 2018/19 - £4,516.21.

PROPOSED: S. Kent SECONDED: P. Bower. Vote: Five in favour, one against.

6. **Progress on Noticeboard improvements:**

P. Hunt had completed and installed the newly built windows, doors and panels to the noticeboard at a cost of £565.

7. **Meeting with Jeremy Elvins re Brickyard Track, Western Track, Cuckoo Bush Mound maintenance. (J.M.F. Royce).**

J.M.F. Royce and the Clerk had met J. Saunders, Senior Estate and Minerals Planner at British Gypsum to inspect the re Brickyard Track, Western Track mowing and hedgerow, Cuckoo Bush Mound maintenance. J.

Saunders confirmed verbally that mowing and maintenance would be carried out by British Gypsum maintenance team which will be confirmed in writing.

G. May expressed concern that this meeting had been held without any attempt to inform/involve the Chairman of Environment or any Committee members. She asked that ANY future communication regarding the work of the committee be copied to the Chairman/Vice Chairman who will advise committee members, as necessary. This should be done before any meeting is arranged.

J.M.F. Royce replied that he had merely supported the Clerk's actions as decided at the September meeting'.

The Clerk was asked to write to Jeremy Elvins confirming the results of the meeting with J. Saunders.

8. Advertising Boards on the Well House Railings:

Some village organisations regularly advertise functions by fixing a banner to the Well House. This act defaces the Well House which is a listed building and a key feature of the village. The local public house currently places swing signs on the verge, in front of the Well House, which may obscure the view of traffic travelling along Leake Road from East Leake, making pulling out of The Square difficult for motorists. All agreed it is necessary to advertise and short term banners should be allowed for village functions. The swing signs could be moved back to allow a better view of Leake Road.

9. Roundup Use on Railway Walk: (Already discussed under item 5 of the Agenda).

10. Matters to Report:

C. Dabell reported fly tipping not yet collected from Gypsum Way.

The Clerk had received acknowledgement of GPC membership of the Tree Charter.

J.M.F. Royce had spoken to the roadworking team retarmacking areas of The Ridgeway to ask them to clear ditches to prevent flooding. New drainage kerbs had been installed and a promise to clear silt from the ditch, adjacent to Gunn's farm, had been made. A written report on the road and ditch work undertaken is expected.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on the 16th January, 2018 at 8.30 p.m. in the Weldon Room of the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed: 9.30 p.m.

