

WRITTLE PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 20 July 2015 at 8.15pm, Parish Office

Members		✓ = Present	X = Absent	A = Apologies
Mrs A Reid	<i>(CHAIR)</i>	✓	Mrs W Walker	<i>(VICE CHAIR)</i>
Mrs C Hibbitt		✓	Mr A Carter	
Mr R Schmid		✓	Mr T Sach	
Mrs L Gannicott		✓	Mr P Cracknell	
Mr T Kinloch		✓		

In Attendance		✓ = Present	X = Absent	A = Apologies
Mrs L Fox	<i>(ADMIN ASST)</i>	✓	Mr D Walker	<i>(CLERK)</i>
Mr J Rouse		✓		
6 members of the public				

ACTION**1. PUBLIC FORUM**

- 1.1 NOTED it was **noted** that there were 6 members of the public present. They had come to discuss the letter that had been issued by Writtle Parish Council regarding the eroded part of St Johns Green and how it could be repaired. The residents were pleased that the council had consulted them on the matter. The council had wanted to concrete the area to stop further erosion of the Green which was being caused by heavy vehicles having to mount the Green in order to access Lawford Lane. A number of emails had been received by the Parish Council from residents regarding their concerns. One suggestion had been to put yellow lines on the other side of the road to create wider access. This would involve Essex Highways and could be a lengthy and costly matter. The Parish Council had previously looked into getting yellow lines outside Chancery Lane and this was going to cost £5,000 and take several years to implement. Another suggestion from a resident was to re-grass the area and put back new posts. Another resident was happy to have it concreted as it was looking unsightly and he felt it would be good to get something done. The suggestion of using Maztec money was discussed but the council explained that grants had already been allocated until 2018 and money could not be used for maintenance purposes.
- 1.2 NOTED it was **noted** that permit parking would not be considered as a possible solution.
- 1.3 NOTED it was **noted** that the residents were asked to come up with one solution that everybody was happy with and feedback to the council by Monday, 24 August.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1 NOTED apologies **noted** as above.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – 27 April 2015

- 3.1 AGREED the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 27 April 2015 were **agreed** as an accurate record.
- 3.2 AGREED it was proposed by Mr A Carter and seconded by Mr T Sach that the **agreed** minutes be approved and signed.

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 4.1 NOTED the Committee **noted** that there were no declarations of interest.

5. PROGRESS CHECK

- 5.1 NOTED it was **noted** that all outstanding items were on the agenda.

6. ALLOTMENTS

- 6.1 NOTED it was **noted** that the Allotment Society and the Parish Council would have a meeting to discuss financial responsibilities.
- 6.2 NOTED it was **noted** that a poster advertising the allotments would be produced and put in the library, doctors surgery and on other notice boards.
- 6.3 NOTED it was **noted** that the vacant allotments would be advertised at Allotment Autumn show on 12 September 2015.
- 6.4 NOTED it was **noted** that adverts would be put up at the entrances of Victoria Road and the Chase to advertise the vacant allotments.
- 6.5 NOTED it was **noted** that the drop down post at the Chase Allotments would be replaced and a combination lock purchased.
- 6.6 NOTED it was **noted** that a letter had been received from an allotment holder regarding various aspects of the Chase allotments. These items would be discussed at the next Allotment Society meeting.
- 6.7 NOTED it was **noted** that the rent collection day would be on Sunday, 4 October 2015 at 10.00am in the Allotment Hut. Mrs Gannicott would be helping Mr Walker.

Mrs Fox

Mr Walker

7. TREE REPORT

- 7.1 NOTED it was **noted** that one of the Lime trees had been cut back to allow the circus access onto the Green.
- 7.2 NOTED it was **noted** that Bartletts were waiting for permission on one final tree on St Johns Green and then they could begin work on the first 7 trees highlighted in their report.

UNCONFIRMED TO BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

- 7.3 NOTED it was **noted** that 22 trees required attention in phase 2 of the tree report. These included the limes around the Green. The work would be carried out in two phases to allow for provision in the budget.
- 7.4 AGREED it was **agreed** that a further two quotes would be sought for the work that had already been quoted.

Mr Walker

8. CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

- 8.1 AGREED it was **agreed** that the Parish Council would enter a tree into this year's festival.
- 8.2 NOTED it was **noted** that councillors were asked to come up with some ideas for the tree.

All Councillors

9. THE GREEN

- 9.1 AGREED it was **agreed** that posts would be installed from Bygones round the top part of the Green to Church Lane. Around 60 posts would be needed @ £25 per post. It was **noted** that the work would commence in the Autumn, when the ground would be easier to work on.
- 9.2 NOTED it was **noted** that the decision to put posts around St Johns Green would wait until a decision had been made about the eroded part of the Green.

Mr Walker

10. PONDS IN WRITTLE

- 10.1 NOTED it was **noted** that Ponds UK had visited Wear Pond in order to quote for installing sonics into the pond, along with adding lime to treat the algae. They had also been asked to quote for installing a root barrier around the length of the pond by the willow trees. The quote had been received and would be circulated to councillors. Any feedback should be given to Mrs Reid or Mr Walker. The costings were greater than initially thought.
- 10.2 NOTED it was **noted** that Patrick Day had been contacted with regards to quoting for digging a trench around the pond and filling with concrete to create a root barrier.
- 10.3 NOTED it was suggested that references be obtained from other ponds that have used sonics.
- 10.4 NOTED it was **noted** that a blockage had been found in the water pipe leading from Motts to Wear Pond. A camera had been put down the pipe and lots of tree roots and silt could be seen. It had been suggested that the pipe be jet washed.

Mr Walker

11. BENCHES

- 11.1 NOTED it was **noted** that costings had been obtained for a replacement bench on the Green.
- 11.2 AGREED it was **agreed** that the Georgian seat from Streetmaster be purchased at a cost of £442 ex VAT plus £74 delivery. The Asst Clerk to check with Parks and Leisure to check their bench supplier before purchasing.
- 11.3 NOTED it was **noted** that the Clerk had contacted Craig Brewster regarding the cleaning and staining of 11 benches although he had not received a reply. The Clerk to contact Property Care and the Writtle Handyman for further quotes.

Mr Walker

12. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

- 12.1 NOTED it was **noted** that a car had been dumped in Wykeham Road and Chelmsford City Council had been informed on 17 April but it had still not been moved. Mr Sach to look into the matter.
Mr Sach
- 12.2 NOTED the Committee **noted** that the next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on Monday 16 November 2015 at 8.15pm in the Parish Office.
- 12.3 NOTED it was **noted** that agenda items should be submitted to the Clerk by Friday 6 November 2015.

MEETING CONCLUDED 10.00pm

Signed:

For and on behalf of Writtle Parish Council

Date:
