



Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Environmental Committee meeting held 10am on 27th March 2024

Cllrs Present: Chair Joanne Bright, Vice Chair Kevin Pressland, Paul Moore, Mike Garner, James Hobson.

Officer: Abigail Barton – Civic & Support Officer

Before the meeting commenced, the Chairman, Cllr J Bright welcomed everyone and drew their attention to the openness and transparency legislation confirmed in several notices around the room.

91. CHAIRS WELCOME OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

To remind those present of the following:

The right to record, film or broadcast any meetings of the Council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

92. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason were received and accepted from Cllrs S Roberts & C Kemp.

Cllrs C Leys, K Bright, A Munns & G Rusiecki were absent.

Adviser Ms. K McKenzie Volunteer Tree Warden was also absent.

93. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None Received.

94. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd November 2023 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

95. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA

None received.

96. HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- i. Members received and discussed the 20s plenty campaign pack supplied by the Civic and Support Officer noted that it is important to build links with schools to reduce speeding and idling in school zones.
- ii. Members received an update from the Deputy Town Clerk regarding the community speed watch.

RESOLVED:

- i. **All members agreed that the Civic & Support Officer is to contact local schools to offer one 20s plenty banner per school to be erected on the roadside of the school property. This is to be purchased as requested by the schools who are interested.**
- ii. **Members agreed to note.**

97. OSBORNE ROAD MEADOW PROJECT

- i. Members received three quotes of work, from the Town Council approved contractor Box Green LTD, local contractors P. Lawrance & Son and The Potting Shed LTD. Members noted that the quotes of work were very different in comparison to each other in both price and content, one of the quotes also mentioned use of herbicide.
- ii. An update from the Civic and Support Officer regarding Osborne Road tree planting and meadow project was also received.

RESOLVED:

- i. **Members agreed the works shall be completed by our preferred contractor Box Green LTD, once a new quote without use of herbicide has been supplied to the Council.
The new quote is to be environmentally friendly and in line with the original specification.**
- ii. **Members agreed to give delegated power to the Civic and Support Officer to decide on the quote and get the works started quickly due to changing seasons. Members also agreed to give confirmation to quote via email.
Confirmation of the new quote price will be noted at the next meeting.**

98. TASTY PLANTERS

Members received an update regarding the tasty planters from Cllr J. Bright. Cllr Bright has been liaising with TDC and The Town Team to build a new tasty planter in the Beacon Road Ward near the shops. This has been a lengthy process that has now been postponed. Cllr Bright will update the committee with any movements.

Cllr P. Moore noted that last year a tasty planter was built opposite his property in St. Peter's and has since had a flurry of school aged children throwing vegetables at his house.

RESOLVED:

The Civic & Support Officer is to push the message out to schools that the Town Team will be attending our Community Festival in Pierremont Park on 27th April. This will be an opportunity to push education on important projects within the Town executed by local voluntary groups such as the Town Team.

99. TRAFFIC ISSUES, DUMPTON PARK DRIVE

Members received an update from Cllr J. Bright.

Cllr. J. Bright invited School Principal of Bradstow School Penny Doswell, to speak on traffic issues the School are currently experiencing. Penny explained to the members that the driveway leading into their school has poor visibility and opens out onto a main road which is very busy. Recently there has been an incident where a pupil who

ran out of the school gates and into the road into oncoming traffic when a lorry narrowly missed them. Penny requested 3 things from the Town Council:

1. Improved road signs in the area
2. Exclusion signs at the end of the road
3. A safe pedestrian crossing

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to note Pennys concerns and suggestions, it was then agreed by all members that this is a matter for Kent County Council, however the Town Council will support the school to get the information they require. Cllr Joanne Bright will contact Cllr Rosalind Binks of KCC to contact Penny.

100. TREE PLANTING

Cllr Bright and Pressland discussed tree planting suggestions which had arisen from the recent Town Forum meeting. After extensive discussions it was noted that Cllr Bright & Pressland had been in correspondence with TDC who are in the process of curating a tree policy that includes a memorial tree project and a Tree planting project where they are looking to replace 2 trees for every 1 tree cut down.

RESOLVED:

- i. All members agreed that Cllr Pressland is to compile a list of areas in Broadstairs for replacement trees and bring back to the committee next meeting.**
- ii. All members agreed that the Civic & Support Officer is to contact TDC officers to find out more information about their Memorial Tree Project and report findings back to the committee next meeting.**

10:52am Cllr James Hobson leaves the meeting

101. REFILL/TAPS PROJECT

- i. Members received an update from the Civic & Support Officer from TDC regarding the ongoing taps project.
- ii. Refill Project: members received an update from the Civic and Support Officer who had been approached by the Town Team to get involved in a town wide refill project to get local businesses to sign up as refill stations offering free water to the public.

RESOLVED:

- i. It was agreed by all members that the location of the tap suggested by TDC is good and that the purchase of the tap can now be made by the Civic and Support Officer.**

It was agreed by all members that the Town Council will publicise their involvement of the new tap installation on social media and on local radio to make members of the public aware of free water locations in the town and promote use of reusable water bottles.

- ii. It was agreed by all members that the Town Council will support the Town Team with a town wide campaign for businesses to sign up for the refill project, working with local organisations such as the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses. Councillors agreed to give their time to the Town Team to visit local businesses. It was agreed that the Civic and Support Officer is to order a campaign pack.**

102. BROMSTONE LAND

Members received a report from Cllr Garner & Pressland for the proposal that the Town Council

are to support the Bromstone land project again by taking on the maintenance of the piece of land opposite Bromstone School. Cllr Garner had attended a meeting with Riverside Housing who are very eager to lease this asset. Cllr Garner has also spoken with several local groups and schools who are interested in volunteering on the land.

Cllr Moore noted the potential costing this may entail such as land management, legal costing for the lease ongoing maintenance costing.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed by all members that The Town Council are to support this project with the interjection of town council officers.

It was agreed by all members that a meeting be set up with officers, Cllr M. Gardner and Cllr K. Pressland to discuss the project going forward.

103. WE ARE WATCHING YOU

Cllr J. Bright updated the committee on the project so far. It was reported that the signs had made no difference to the dog excrement in the area. Cllr Bright told Council that she had been receiving lots of messages online regarding dog excrement in her ward and had been directing people online to send her pictures and locations via message and email. It was noted by members that Cllr Bright should not feel this pressure on her shoulders, and this should be a shared concern.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed by all members that the Civic and Support Officer is to contact the TDC Dog Warden for a freedom of information request regarding the number of fines issued in the past year to those dog owners who do not clear up after their dog.

It was agreed by all members that the Civic & Support Officer is to create a campaign on social media and a form for members of the public to report dog mess in their area.

The Civic and Support Officer is to forward a curated version of the forms to the dog warden to show the areas where the offences are occurring.

104. PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS & DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of next meeting Wednesday 1st May 2024.

Members agreed for soft fruit tree planting in play areas to be discussed at the next meeting.

**Civic & Support Officer
Meeting closed at 11:13am**

Signed _____

Date _____