



# Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Environmental Committee meeting held 7pm on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Cllrs Present: Chair Joanne Bright, Vice Chair Steve Roberts, Kevin Pressland, C Kemp, 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.

### **1. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2024/25**

#### **RESOLVED:**

i) That Cllr J. Bright be appointed Chairman of the committee.

ii) That Cllr S. Roberts be appointed Vice Chairman of the committee.

### **2. 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.**

### **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies with reason were given by Cllrs Garner and Moore these were accepted by resolution of the committee.

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None Received.

### **5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

### **6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA**

None received.

### **7. TERMS OF REFERENCE for Civic Year 2024- 2025.**

Members received and discussed the current document.

#### **RESOVLED:**

**It was agreed that the Terms of Reference were fit for purpose.  
It was agreed by all members that the terms of reference are approved.**

## **8. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S**

- i. To agree to suspend the meeting in accordance with Standing Orders 3e,3f, and 3g which permit a maximum of three members of the parish to address the council for a maximum of three minutes each.

**None received.**

## **9. TRAFFIC INFORMATION DROP IN SESSIONS**

Members received an update from the Civic & Support Officer regarding events plans so far for The Information drop-in sessions (TIDS) Event Taking Place on 27th August 2024.

### **RESOLVED:**

**Members expressed that they are happy with the event plans supplied by the Civic and Support Officer so far and will help to push out the message within their own networks.**

**Members agreed that the Environmental Budget can be used to purchase necessities such as refreshments for those attending the event using the officer's discretion. Costings are to be shared with the committee at the next meeting.**

## **10. OSBORNE ROAD MEADOW PROJECT**

Members received an update from the Civic & Support Officer regarding the Osborne Road Tree Planting Project. It was praised by all members how successful the project this has been, the office and councillors have been inundated with positive comments and requests for more spaces to be transformed within Broadstairs & St. Peter's.

It was noted by Cllr Pressland that once established, the meadow will regenerate and seed itself, but maintenance will need to be scheduled before November to allow this in the spring.

The councillors noted that contractor Box Green had done a fantastic job in creating the meadow.

### **RESOLVED:**

**It was agreed by all members that the Town Council is to continue to maintain this area and is to renew the cultivation licence annually with KCC until agreed otherwise.**

**It was agreed that all cuttings are to be redistributed and seeds reused where possible.**

**It was agreed that the Civic & Support Officer is to discuss the Broadstairs in bloom contract renewal with Box green for a further year and incorporate Osbourne Road works and maintenance into the renewal. A quote for the whole project and long-term meadow maintenance for a further site to be included.**

**Once the contract has been confirmed the Council will look to create a new site within the town, with the suggestion of Beacon Road in mind.**

## **11. TREE PLANTING PROJECTS**

Members received a proposal presented by TDC Officers Daniel Gooch and Tony Marmo.

The proposal detailed a request of using the Town Council Tree Planting Budget to pledge money to TDC projects and in return TDC would also be eligible for match funding from an external source, resulting in the planting of 50 standard size trees plus 3 years maintenance across several sites in Broadstairs & St. Peters with the proposed start date for the project being November 2024. The proposal detailed the project objective overview, the request for £10k Town Council funding, plus an explanation of potential match funding, a plan for community engagement, a detailed site map of The Recreation Ground, a vast list of species speculation, and a communications plan.

### **PROPOSAL OVERVIEW RECEIVED:**

#### **Overview:**

##### ***Objective:***

*As part of our commitment to the climate emergency and to increase tree canopy cover, TDC Open Spaces have a plan to plant two trees for every one removed. The aim of Planting trees in Broadstairs Memorial Recreation Ground is to enhance the existing site with a mixture of standard trees to increase canopy cover In Broadstairs, sequester carbon, and to improve biodiversity and wellbeing for residents. TDC are keen to work with the Town Council, Councillors, the town's Tree Warden and local sports groups that use the site.*

##### ***Funding:***

*In order to carry out this work we have applied for external funding to cover all associated Costs of planting and maintenance of trees across 6 locations in Thanet. As well as Mem Rec, this also includes two other sites in Broadstairs: 12 street trees in StPeter's Estate and 14 trees in Holmes Park. We would like to start this project with Mem Rec and are grateful For the proposed contribution of £10,000 from The Town Council. Our pending funding is for an application to the Urban Tree Challenge Fund (Forestry Commission) with a value of just over £76,000 which we will find out about in November 2024.*

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##### ***Details:***

*If we are successful with our funding bid, we will use the Broadstairs Town Council funds as match funding to allow us to plant in Mem Rec in November/ December 2024. We will plant 50 standard trees of 2.5 metres high, mainly native species. The mix will be 10% conifer, 90% broadleaf and include a range of species beneficial to pollinators and wildlife and attractive for residents. We will include some low growing species in certain locations where sight lines are more of a concern.*

##### ***Funding***

###### ***Confirmed:***

- *Broadstairs Town Council- £10,000*

###### ***Pending:***

- *UTCF-applying for £76k in June and will hear in November, to plant in standards in 6 locations around Thanet including Mem Rec (includes three years maintenance.)*

**RESOLVED:**

**It was agreed by all members that Broadstairs & St. Peter's Town Council will support this proposal and pledge the requested £10,000 to Thanet District Council Tree Project.**

**The Town Council requested that detailed site plans of all planting locations described in the proposal are to be submitted by TDC to the Town Council.**

**It was agreed that the Town Council will work with TDC to support their community engagement proposal for this project.**

**12. REFILL PROJECT WITH TOWNS ORGANISATIONS**

Members received a report and update from the Civic & Support Officer.

It was noted that The Civic and Support Officer has signed up to the refill project and sent several emails to the campaign head to show interest in taking part in the project, however, there has been no acknowledgement yet. A more positive report is that the Civic and Support Officer has met with members of the Town Team, Chamber of commerce and Visit Broadstairs, who are interested in working together in a town wide campaign, discussions consisted of reaching out to businesses to sign up to the refill project, a joint social media campaign and the possibility of a refillable "Broadstairs cup" that business could supply to residents and visitors, and offer a discount on their refill purchase.

The Civic & Support Officer received quotes for 500 bottles. These averaged around £3,000. This is the same price as a water refill station.

Officer recommendations were made by the Civic & Support Officer, to stick with the social media campaign and in person push with businesses working with local organisations to expand the campaign, as well as working with TDC to install another tap location and advertising free water facilities. It was also suggested that as we had not yet received a response from the refill project, this is to be brought in house to continue the project.

**RESOLVED:**

**It was agreed by all members that budget from the Environmental Committee can be used to fund the project going forward working with town organisations. Purchases are to include window stickers, signs and other campaign resources.**

**It was agreed by all members that the budget is to be used at the Civic and Support Officers discretion in conjunction with the Town Clerk under financial regulations 4.1.6.**

**All purchases are to be reported back to the committee with project updates.**

**13. TAPS PROJECT WITH TDC**

Members received an update from the Civic and Support Officer to note updates in the project so far. It was noted that The Civic & Support Officer has been working with TDC Officer Lisa Collingwood to install a drinking water tap on Viking Bay for public use. The Tap is in the final stages of install, with only water testing to be completed now that the surrounding bin store has been relocated, and an area under the stairs has been bricked up, all by TDC. It was also noted that Lisa Collingwood had also contacted the Civic & Support Officer to offer 2 new locations for TDC to install a new water tap in Broadstairs at no cost to the Council. It was discussed that signage is to be put up surrounding the tap on Viking Bay to make

residents aware of the location under the stairs.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Council are happy with the project so far.**

**It was agreed by all members that TDC should install the new tap near Stone Bay slope.**

**It was agreed that the Civic & Support Officer is to design signs and gain permissions for them to be installed surrounding the new tap.**

**14. BROMESTONE LAND**

Due to Cllr Garner's absence, this item is to be discussed at the next meeting.

**15. BROADSTAIRS IN BLOOM**

Members received a Gardening Grant application approved by Officers between meetings, that of the St. Peters village Hall for £300.

Members also received an update on the Business Basket scheme and in- bloom town planters so far.

**RESOLVED:**

**Members agreed to note all items.**

**16. PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS & DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Date of next meeting Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024, 7pm Council chamber.

**Civic & Support Officer  
Meeting closed at 8:36pm**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_