



Redenhall with Harleston Town Council

Clerk: Mrs. L. Ling

Minutes

of the meeting of the Harleston Environment Committee held on Tuesday 1st May 2018 at 6.30pm in the Council Offices at the Memorial Leisure Centre, Harleston

Present: Councillors; Mark Betts (acting Chairman of Council), Richard Joselyn, Sue Kuzmic and Robert Arbon

Also present: Susan Whymark, Tracey, Stubby, Elizabeth Wise, Judith Holmes, Jonny Middleton, Steve Cox, Sid Howard and Chris Lown

Cllr. Betts opened the meeting by explaining that as Acting Chairman of the Council he was attending as an ex officio member and informed those present that the Chairman of the Environment Committee had resigned from that committee. It was therefore his first order of business to elect a chairman for the meeting, followed by the co-option of two town councillors for this evening only to discuss and agree items on the agenda.

Election of Chairman for this meeting – Cllr. Kuzmic proposed Cllr. Betts which was seconded by Cllr. Arbon .welcomed those present at the meeting

Co-option of two town councillors to the Environment Committee for this meeting only – Agreement to co-opt Cllr. Kuzmic and Arbon was proposed by Cllr. Betts and seconded by Cllr. Arbon

1. **Welcome** – Cllr. Betts welcomed those present at the meeting.
2. **To receive and accept apologies from members unable to attend** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Broughton and Bickley
3. **To receive any declarations of pecuniary or any other interests in particular matters to be raised at this meeting** – None
4. **To approve the minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 3rd April 2018** - Agreement was proposed by Cllr. Joselyn and seconded by Cllr. Betts. **ALL AGREED**

The meeting was adjourned for public participation at 6.35pm and reconvened at 6.50pm

Elizabeth Wise asked if she could purchase an internment plot for the purposes of a memorial only, as there was no intention to inter ashes under the memorial as her relative was interred elsewhere. Agreement was proposed by Councillor Kuzmic and seconded by Cllr. Arbon.

Judith Holmes and Jonny Middleton asked the committee if they could be allowed to install kerb stones around Jonny's mother's grave, as permission had been turned down in the past despite the fact that other families had placed kerb stones around their loved ones graves. The clerk explained to those present the circumstances on why the Environment Committee had allowed the kerb stones to be placed around a grave last year. Cllr. Arbon apologised for council's previous mistakes in

allowing kerb stones. The clerk asked Steve Cox and Chris Lown for their thoughts as they are the council workmen that look after the grass cutting at the cemetery, and they explained the difficulties when cutting and the danger of damage to the kerb stones. After further discussion members agreed that as a president had been set by allowing others to install kerb stones, that the rules should be changed to allow them on the understanding that the council will not be held responsible for any damage. Cllr. Betts explained that this would have to be ratified at full council meeting and Judith and Jonny were welcome to attend.

Steve Cox raised the issue of some problems which the maintenance team encounter on the market place when the market is closing and stall holders are packing up to leave. Cars try parking before the market is ready to be opened up and staff are subjected to abuse and on occasion, cars moving towards them nearly causing accidents. The clerk informed those present that she had spoken to PC Heather Fields that afternoon who would visit the market place the next day (Market Day) to view the situation, however any incidences of that type should be reported to her along with a registration number and she would take action.

5. **Matters arising** – The clerk informed members that on the previous month’s agenda, there was an item on reduced costs on dog bin servicing if the service could be reduced to one emptying per week. SNC were contacted and they confirmed that the dog bins in Harleston were well used and this reduction in service was not recommended.

Standing orders were suspended at 6.534pm to allow Judith Holmes to speak and reconvened at 6.49pm

6. **Consideration of a request to install kerb stones at the cemetery and any agreed action** – Communications had been made with Judith in relation to a request in 2017 for kerb stones to be installed around a family friend’s grave. The matter had come to the Environment Committee’s attention who upheld the rules and regulations of the cemetery, however, Judith asked for this to be reconsidered. The maintenance team spoke of the difficulty of cutting the cemetery grass when kerb stones were in place. Cllr. Joselyn suggested looking at the precedent that had been set and made some suggestions which make better sense e.g. if the cemetery was left unattended for 13 months or longer that the council reserved the right to remove the kerbstones and grass over. Agreement to this suggestion was proposed by Cllr. Joselyn and seconded by Cllr. Arbon.

It was also suggested that SNC be contacted regarding making good the public right of way so hearses found it easier to drive up to the top near the cemetery.

7. **Discussion on other matters relating to the cemetery and any agreed action** –

Standing orders were suspended at 6.54pm to allow representatives from Whymark Funeral Services to speak and reconvened at 6.59pm

A lengthy discussion took place between all concerned, and advice sought from Susan Whymark and her team regarding the type of digging done in the cemetery and suggestions for what would work best given the soil type. Susan also highlighted the problem of getting the hearses up the hill due to the muddy path and the problems faced when carrying heavy coffins to the graveside.

8. **To discuss the old toilet block** – No update

Standing orders were suspended at 7.31pm and reconvened at 7.48pm

9. **To discuss the War Memorial refurbishment** – Cllr. Arbon suggested that if the council supports the plans and offer of free labour by Bespoke Outdoor Designs then it should go ahead. Agreement proposed Cllr. Joselyn and seconded by Cllr. Arbon. A further discussion was held on various items including the purchase of a bench, proposed by Cllr. Betts and seconded by Cllr. Arbon, approaching the schools regarding the silhouette ironworks (Cllr. Arbon to contact). The Harleston History book (We will Remember) was also discussed and various locations for its sale suggested.

10. To receive a report on the car park – It was suggested that the council get an updated price on the photocell switching for the bollards leading to Broad Street Car Park and also to repaint the columns. Agreement proposed by Cllr. Betts and seconded by Cllr. Arbon.

11. Councillors reports –

- Cllr. Joselyn – suggested proposing to town council the installation of a disabled crossing at either end of Exchange Street. It was also suggested that the sign on the Bullock Fair Car Park that a waiver should be added saying that the council is not responsible. It was suggested to ring SNC regarding signage.

12. To be informed of significant correspondence and agree any action – None

13. To confirm the date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 1st May 2018 at 6.30pm at the Council Office, Harleston Leisure Centre

Meeting ended at 8.55pm

Signed

Date