

Present: Cllrs Bell, Lowther, Page, Rogers

In the Chair: Cllr Plater – Chairman

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence, and all Councillors were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest disclosed.

3. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

4. Minutes of Meeting held on 19th April 2022

Resolved: The minutes of the Environment and Amenity Committee meeting held on 19th April 2022 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
Unanimously agreed.

The Chairman signed the minutes.

5. Environment and Amenities

5.1 Allotments

Following the Allotment inspection in June, the Committee identified various works which would improve the perimeter of the Allotments.

Action: Clerk to arrange an onsite meeting in early September with Bonz to discuss works.

5.2 Hasler Green

Some Committee members attended an inspection of Hasler Green and noted several trees which required maintenance works, particularly the one in the far-left corner, which was overgrown, obstructing the streetlight.

Action: Chairman to obtain a quotation for a tree specialist to survey the trees and advise actions needed.

5.3 Woodrolfe Green

The Litter Picker had conducted his quarterly inspections and reported that some trees had low-hanging branches.

Action: to be reviewed once the tree specialist has submitted the quotation for Hasler Green.

5.4 Cemetery

Cllr Rogers suggested that the unused area at the Cemetery could be used as a project for Tollesbury Climate Partnership (TCP). The Committee agreed and discussed various ideas.

Action: Clerk to review the deeds of the Cemetery to see if there are any restrictive covenants on the unused land.

The Committee made some amendments to the Cemetery Grounds Maintenance works specification, which was due to end on 31st December 2022.

Action: Clerk to amend the work specification for presentation to the Full Council for approval.

The Committee considered the quotation for levelling and re-seeding the area where the Cemetery shed had been removed.

As there is no urgency on the work, it was agreed to put on hold.

Action: To be discussed further with TCP.

5.5 Highways/Footpaths

Several highways issues were outstanding, and it was agreed to raise these with Cabinet Member Cllr Scott when he attends the Parish Council meeting on 6th September 2022:

- Overgrown vegetation – Station Road and outside the bus depot in Thurstable Road
- Signage by the quayside
- Drains – outside 18 and 65 East Street
- Leaning roadside pole outside the Congregational Church

The Committee discussed the repairs to the brick wall outside the Congregational Church. The wall had been built with bricks that were not in line with the originals, and the Committee did not feel this was appropriate for the conservation area.

Action: Clerk to bring to the attention of the Conservation Officers at Maldon District Council.

The Committee discussed the possibility of having a Speed Indicator Device (SID) installed near Tollesbury School.

It was agreed to wait until the outcome of the application to the Local Highways Panels to reduce the speed to 20mph.

5.6 Street Lighting

On Monday, the streetlight on the property of 4 High Street was hit by a Heddinghams bus. The Contractor had inspected the light, and fortunately, there was no damage to the light unit. The bracket did need refixing. The Clerk had reported the incident to Heddingham and the Parish Council's insurers.

Cllr Clare, via email, had suggested a shorter bracket with less overhang onto the pavement/road. The Committee considered the suggestion and felt that a shorter bracket was unnecessary. The current bracket did not overhang the road and was hit due to the bus driving onto the pavement.

5.7 Dog/Litter Bins

The Committee reviewed the comments on the litter/dog bins from the Litter Collector who inspects/oils the bins.

The Committee suggested a new larger dog for Station Road as the current one is regularly overflowing and moving the existing bin in Station Road to replace one of the older dog bins on the Recreation Ground.

Action: Clerk to obtain a quotation for a replacement dog bin in Station Road.

Action: Cllr Lowther and the Clerk to inspect the bins.

5.8 Defibrillators

No issues to report.

The Clerk advised that the new defibrillator's location (British Legion) had been uploaded on the Parish Council website. However, there is no option to click to view the location or report a fault as there is with the other two defibrillators. A resident had advised that they would be happy to pay the costs to update the website to include the option to view the location and report a fault for the new defibrillator.

Action: Clerk to obtain a quotation from Phelan Barker.

5.9 War Memorials

The Chairman reported that he had contacted the Contractor recommended at the recent Parish Council for repairing the war memorial at St Mary's Church. Unfortunately, the Contactor was unable to do the engraving.

The Chairman had sent the drawing and work specification to Punch Construction and was waiting for the quotation.

Action: Chairman to chase the quotation from Punch Construction.

Action: Chairman to send the work specification and drawings to Cllr Lowther who would obtain another quotation.

7. Other Matters

It was reported that a VW Campervan parked near the junction of East Street and Church Street was obstructing the vision of pedestrians and drivers. The vehicle has been parked in this position for a long time and has no front number plate.

Action: Clerk to raise with the CPOs.

It was reported that there was an issue with the toilets at Woodrolfe Green not being locked.

Action: Clerk to request an update from Cllr Stephens.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Environment and Amenity Committee will be held on Tuesday 15th November 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.51 pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....