



Battle Town Council



MINUTES of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
held on Tuesday, 27 January 2015 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs G Favell, D Furness, T Hall and D Wilson.

In attendance: 4 members of the public

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Cllr Wilson was proposed as Chairman by Cllr Favell and seconded by Cllr Furness. **Cllr Wilson was duly elected unanimously to serve as Chairman.** Cllr Favell was proposed as Vice-Chairman by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Furness. **Cllr Favell was duly elected unanimously to serve as Vice-Chairman.**

2. Apologies for absence - Cllrs J Boryer, M Kiloh and J Sydes

3. Disclosure of interest - None.

4. Minutes of previous meetings – the minutes of the Estates committee held on 7 October 2014 and the minutes of the Services committee held on 9 December 2014 were approved and signed by Cllr Wilson.

5. Terms of reference – these were unanimously approved.

6. Matters arising from previous meetings

Cllr Favell raised the issue of the excess water around the football pitch. Cllr Wilson confirmed that while some drainage work had been completed, there was more work to do over the next couple of years.

The blocked drain in the car park at Mount Street was continuing to cause a problem with run-off water into the lower car park. The Town Clerk was asked to investigate and contact Rother District Council to arrange any necessary works.

7. Health Pathway

Members had been provided with a report from Susan Burton of the Health Pathway Group. Mrs Burton was invited to summarise the work to date and explain the next steps. She explained that following a number of consultations, the drawings had evolved into the current version, including details of each entry/exit point from the recreation ground. The issue of the flush kerb at Asten Fields was still being investigated as the highway was unadopted at that section.

Cllr Furness congratulated Mrs Burton on the work to date. **Members agreed to recommend the proposals of the Health Pathway Group to Full Council.**

The members of the public left the meeting at 7.45pm.

8. SERFCA request

Members viewed the proposals submitted by Alan Stephens of SC Architecture on behalf of SERFCA. Members recalled that during the summer, the Town Council had invited organisations to formally submit any expressions of interest for new buildings on the recreation ground. Only two submissions were received at the time, neither of which was from SERFCA. The Town Council's decision at the time was to allow no further building on the recreation ground, and Members confirmed this decision. The Town Clerk to advise Alan Stephens accordingly.

9. Cemetery

Cllr Favell had circulated a report to Members outlining the progress and costs to date. She confirmed that CDSL had been asked to submit additional designs, as the initial submissions failed to meet the specifications for the project. Cllr Favell had begun investigating potential funding sources, although many possible options had quite restrictive conditions attached.

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10. St Mary's churchyard war memorial

Further to Cllr Boryer's written report, Members discussed the work needed on the war memorial. Cllr Favell suggested asking the church if it would be possible to install a memorial inside, and the Town Clerk was asked to write to the Dean to find out if this would be possible.

11. Allotments

Cllr Wilson reported that he had recently inspected the allotments, and allowing for the weather, they were looking in reasonable condition. He also reported that at Netherfield Hill, the large bramble area had now been cleared. There was a plot at the Virgin's Croft site which needed rubbish clearing from it, and the Town Clerk was asked to arrange this.

12. Tree works

Further to Cllr Boryer's report, the Town Clerk was asked to confirm the procedures and cost of obtaining approval and a license from the Forestry Commission to carry out the works.

13. Sports working group

Cllr Wilson confirmed he was the convener of the group, which also included Cllrs Bye and Ratcliffe, and Paula Fisher. Consideration would be given to inviting other to join if the working group felt that would be of benefit.

14. Overall committee strategy

Cllr Wilson recommended that the committee focused on maintaining the existing equipment and facilities currently run by the committee, in addition to forward planning for the replacement or addition of large items in the future. Members agreed this as the basis for the committee strategy.

15. Budget report – report was noted by Members.

16. Matters for information / future agenda items – Members noted the point raised in Cllr Boryer's report regarding the mixed lighting in Darvel Down. The Town Clerk was asked to investigate why this had occurred and report back to the committee to decide on any action which may be needed.

17. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 24 March 2015.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Cllr Wilson
Chairman

