

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 20 JULY 2015 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT Councillor David Bragg
Councillor Peter Clements
Councillor Robert Jenkins
Councillor Carl Powling
Councillor Eric Straughan
Councillor Sylvia Wargent
Mrs Lesley Mullins

IN ATTENDANCE David Tucker, Town Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Councillor May, and Ms P Moore.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Jenkins was appointed Chairman.
(Proposed: Councillor Wargent, Seconded: Councillor Powling).

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22 JUNE 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Proposed: Councillor May, Seconded: Councillor Powling.

Matters arising: Mrs Mullins advised that she had approached local businesses but had no response as yet. It was noted that the issue of bulb planting and refurbishment on Glebe Corner had yet to be resolved.

4. KEY ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES

a) The Clerk was asked to contact Essex County Council Highways with a view to having obsolete signs removed (e.g., defunct 'New Road Layout' signs).

The advertising signs at the entrance to the Glebe were discussed and it was noted that the Clerk had been in contact with Colchester Borough Council Planning with a view to determining what signs were actually allowed and what planning permissions were required.

b) The empty shop frontages in Barfield Road were discussed at length, and any action that could be taken to improve the appearance of the area is to be investigated. The owner was to be contacted to seek his views on covering in the empty shop fronts to improve the appearance.

Mrs Mullins agreed to consider ways of smartening up the greensward areas in Barfield Road and also 'Digby's' corner and the Sensory gardens.

c) The Clerk advised that he would determine the details of the agreement with the Housing Association responsible for the Fountain at Queens Corner with a view to taking action to improve its appearance.

d) The White Hart - Listing as Community Asset.

Following discussion it was agreed to defer this item pending further investigation.

Action

Action

e) Blue Plaques.

Councillor Wargent was asked to produce a list of buildings in West Mersea which would be appropriate for the erection of a blue plaque.

Anti-Litter Campaign

There was consideration discussion regarding action to be taken regarding the problem of litter, and it was agreed to determine which locations suffered from litter the most, and when and where, additional litter bins could be sited if deemed appropriate.

Toilets

The feedback from the public since West Mersea Town Council and Danfo took on the joint responsibility for the toilets has been very positive to date, and a meeting with Danfo staff to determine the next steps is to be held on Friday 24th July. A full report will be presented to the next Finance and Planning Meeting.

Mersea Park

Members were asked to consider additions/improvements to the park facilities for the next meeting of the Committee. Additional play equipment was currently being researched.

New seat in Labyrinth

The Clerk will produce a number of alternative suggestions for new seats to replace the old broken seats to the next Finance and Planning Meeting.

5. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Refurbishment of Esplanade Interpretation Board.

6. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 15th September 2015 at 10.00am.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.00 noon.