

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ASSETS, FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON FRIDAY 29 JUNE 2018 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT	Councillor Robert Jenkins (Chairman) Councillor Peter Banks Councillor Carl Powling Councillor Sophie Weaver Ian Crossley (Mersea Island Society) Allen Jesson (Proud of Mersea) Lesley Mullins (Refresh Mersea)
IN ATTENDANCE	Petra Palfreyman (Town Clerk)

18/036 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Councillor Clements, Councillor Wargent and Steve Switzer (Colchester Borough Council Zone Manager).

18/037 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest received.

18/038 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2018 AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising that are not covered in the Task tracker.

18/039 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM REFRESH MERSEA

Lesley Mullins reported that all the planters around the town had been replanted ready for the summer season and were looking good. Watering continues to be a challenge, particularly given the long dry period, but that with the bowser and willing volunteers they were coping well. Work on the Church Green planters will be starting in 2/3 weeks, after advice has been sought on what plants would fare best in the dry conditions. Watering has been carried out by West Mersea Town Council groundstaff; Councillor Jenkins has asked the Friends of the Church if they would assist. Refresh Mersea would like to come up with proposals to enliven the piece of ground next to the toilets: Town Clerk to seek to establish who is responsible for this land – Colchester Borough Council or Essex County Council.

18/040 TO DISCUSS HOW TO MOVE TOWARDS GREATER RECYCLING OF RUBBISH COLLECTED FROM PUBLIC SPACES AND HOW BEST TO HANDLE THE SURGE OF RUBBISH OVER BUSY WEEKENDS

It was agreed that there is no easy solution to this problem. The schedule of bin emptying by Colchester Borough Council would benefit from an evening collection but at the moment this is unlikely. Where there is insufficient room on the collection vehicle, so leaving bins full for an additional day, is also a problem: Councillor Jenkins and Councillor Powling to consider an approach to Martin Goss (Portfolio holder).

West Mersea Town Council and PROUD of Mersea would like to see an attempt made to recycle more rubbish, rather than transfer straight to landfill. One suggestion was to trial, in Seaview carpark, a set of bins (similar to Fen Farm) but encased in slatted wood, together with a separate bin, just for non-recyclable rubbish that would be locked during quiet times but opened on busy days. A metal bin on concrete base could be installed for BBQ material: design and costs to be established. PROUD of Mersea may be in a position to match fund. The existing bins to be relocated to, maybe, the Glebe.

18/041 TO DISCUSS FLY POSTING, BANNERS ETC AND WHAT PLANNING PERMISSION IS REQUIRED, IF ANY

Steve Switzer not able to attend the meeting so definitive position not established. However it is known that fly posting is not permitted and that advertising hoardings need planning permission. It is likely that Colchester Borough Council will begin to enforce the rulings.

18/042 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR YOGA SESSIONS TO BE HELD IN WEST MERSEA PARK

The committee was happy for yoga to take place within West Mersea Park - a charge per session of £10 to be made initially and reviewed in two months.

18/043 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE TASK TRACKER

All items were reviewed - some key issues follow -

1. Councillor Jenkins to follow up request for S106 funding for Willoughby toilets refurbishment.
2. Councillor Powling to contact Councillor Tina Bourne re possibility of some capital funding from Colchester Borough Council for Willoughby toilets.
3. Town Clerk to follow-up request for funding from Borough Councillors Locality Fund for a new notice board.
4. Councillor Powling to follow-up on best way of bringing Feldy View permissive footpath up to standard.
5. Hedge between School Gardens and Youth Field to be trimmed to help encourage growth and thicken the hedge. Planning permission required.
6. Repair to crescent in West Mersea Park - review in September when half year finances are known.
7. Cost to remove remaining boat on Village Green next to Dabchicks to be established.
8. Glebe 2 basket swing taken down some time ago – Town Clerk to establish from Kompan the cost to change bar to accept 2 swing seats for young children.
9. Councillor Powling to follow-up on Upland Road lease arrangements.

18/044 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.

Friday 24 August 2018 at 10am.

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