

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ASSETS, FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON FRIDAY 16 MARCH 2018 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT Councillor Bob Jenkins (Chairman)
 Councillor Clements
 Councillor Peter Banks
 Councillor David Bragg
 Councillor Bernard Hart
 Councillor Sylvia Wargent
 Councillor Paula Moore
 Ian Crossley
 Lesley Mullins

18/011 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the Town Clerk, Councillor Powling and Councillor Weaver.

18/012 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest received.

18/013 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

18/014 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM REFRESH MERSEA

Lesley Mullins gave a report on activity over the winter period. The matter of hanging baskets was touched upon and it was agreed that given the problem of watering these should be withdrawn from locations where shop owners are unable to provide water. Refresh Mersea are happy to look after the tubs on Church Green but have asked if West Mersea Town Council would water them. Other issues are reflected in the task tracker.

18/015 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE TASK TRACKER

Refer to the task tracker for all updates.

18/016 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE POSITIONING OF NEW TREES (TO REPLACE POPLAR AND DEAD TREES REMOVED) AND AUTHORISE ORDERING

Councillor Jenkins outlined a discussion held at West Mersea Park with David Morris and James Choat in respect of which trees would be best as replacements – two are required immediately to replace trees taken down. There is an issue with honey fungus which has killed another four trees in West Mersea Park (these to be subject to separate dialogue with Liam McKarry). It was agreed to purchase two well rooted trees - oak and hazel (subject to availability) and plant on the west side of the Legion Field.

Alternatives would be crab apple, scots pine, hornbeam, alder, plane, larch, gleditsia, ginkgo and catalpa - the last six thought to be more resistant to honey fungus. Cost to be covered by donations received from Ian Clarke, Joan Clarke and others.

18/017 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE ORDERING OF REPLACEMENT BINS, TURF AND HEDGING FOR WEST MERSEA PARK

1. Agreed to order two bins to match others in West Mersea Park - one to replace the open topped concrete bin and one to replace the bin between School Gardens and Youth Field; the second old metal bin in School Gardens to be removed. Cost £820 + VAT
2. Agreed to buy turf and seed to enhance West Mersea Park (approx. £80 + VAT)
3. It was decided to defer (on the advice of the Groundstaff) planting additional shrubs in the existing hedge between School Gardens and the Youth Field until the autumn. A tracker item will be raised to ensure we order in good time for planting. Suggested shrubs (non toxic, non thorny etc.) are hazels (to encourage red squirrels), elaeagnus angustifolia, dogwoods and hornbeam (carpinus).

The cost of the above items to be set against grant money received.

18/018 TO REVIEW LATEST POSITION ON S106 FUNDING

This item had to be deferred until a later date as Stephen Collis is currently on holiday and we are awaiting a reply to our proposals.

18/019 TO REVIEW THE LATEST POSITION ON MAGNOX GRANT

The grant for £925 has yet to be received but has been formally offered and accepted by West Mersea Town Council. It was agreed that this grant would be set against CCTV and supplemented by donations to cover the cost of £1020 + VAT; the Coop has agreed to providing cameras which can be installed on their land and run from their CCTV room. The power and recording facilities will be provided by their current NVR system.

18/020 TO REVIEW ADDITIONAL TRACKER ITEMS

1. Replacement basket swing (Glebe 2) - the damaged swing has been taken down - replacement deferred until we can fund the cost (£1500).
2. Hydraulic gates - repairs sanctioned to both gates on grounds of safety (£330 + VAT).
3. Glebe 1 - basketball court - new stands required to meet latest EN standards - cost to be established by Groundstaff. Enter on tracker, marked non-urgent.
4. Replacement picket fence to west of School Gardens - repairs sanctioned (£555 + VAT).
5. Abandoned boats on village green next to Dabchicks – Councillor Clements to approach legal section at Colchester Borough Council to establish correct procedure in getting the boats removed.

18/021 TO REVIEW THE ROTARY CLUB'S ANTI-LITTER CAMPAIGN

Councillor Jenkins outlined the aims of the PROUD of Mersea campaign to make Mersea Island the first litter free island in the UK. The Assets, Facilities and Environment committee agreed that West Mersea Town Council should support their efforts, however, it should be noted that West Mersea Town Council is not in favour of additional signage or more bins (unless the case is over whelming).

18/022 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.

Friday 11th May 2018 at 10am.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.45am.