

**LONDON COLNEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 22 MAY 2018, 7PM,
CALEDON COMMUNITY CENTRE, CALEDON ROAD, LONDON COLNEY**

Present: Councillor A Osborne (Chairman) and Councillor H Pakenham
Mrs J Barker, Mrs M Crouch

In attendance: E Payne, Clerk

As the meeting was not quorate, it continued as a working Party with all decisions being recommendations to be considered by Council.

18. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Gordon (substituted by Cllr Pakenham). Absent were Cllrs Quagliozi, Mahoney and Mortuza.

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Barker declared a personal, pecuniary interest in Item 15 as she is an allotment tenant.

20. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2018 were approved.

21. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

21.1 Floral Displays

Members were advised that the floral displays had not been progressed and that an application had to be made to Highways for floral displays on lamp columns. Other floral displays were considered that could be installed on land that is owned by the Parish Council, and it was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council that:

- a) A floral display planter be installed on Chester Gibbons Green***
- b) Floral displays are installed on the railings at the Caledon Community Centre***

22. LITTER PICK

Members were aware that the poor attendance at this year's litter pick had been discussed at Council on 9 May 2018. Members agreed that the number of attendees had not reduced the amount of rubbish collected. Members agreed that the event would be scheduled for early March 2019 and would tie in with the Keep Britain Tidy campaign which is held at the same time of year. With the tie in, there could be an opportunity for additional promotional material which could encourage attendance.

23. COOPERS WOOD INFORMATION BOARD

Members were keen to progress this matter. There had already been preliminary designs agreed but Members were keen to see the inclusion of photographs of the wood and these will need to be sourced. It was agreed that the Clerk will send the designs to specialist information board companies for quotations to be agreed at the next meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee that:

£1,000 is released from General Reserves for the design and production of the Coopers Wood Information Board.

24. TREE STRATEGY

- 24.1 Members received a survey of the trees alongside the river which had been divided into 7 zones. It was noted that some trees had been identified for work to be undertaken or removal but there was no indication if the trees which required work were in areas of high footfall and therefore a risk to members of the public. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would undertake review of all trees needing working in areas of high footfall.
- 24.2 Other areas of the village need to be identified and Cllr Pakenham agreed to help the Clerk with identifying these sights.
- 24.3 Members were concerned that the willow trees on Riverside were in urgent need of work and it was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council that:

Quotations are sought for tree works to be undertaken on the willows on Riverside.

25. RECYCLING/DISPOSAL OF WASTE

- 25.1 Members discussed the Council's waste and recycling habits. It was considered that with recycling rates in the parish being the lowest in the District, that the Council should be leading by example. Members were advised that currently all the waste from the centre was disposed as general waste and not recycled, except for glass from the bar and cardboard. In addition to waste collected from the centre, the rubbish collected by the Grounds Maintenance Staff was disposed of in the bins.
- 25.2 Members were advised that changes to the waste and recycling for the centre could be investigated including mixed recycling (paper, card, tins, plastic and glass) with the addition of food waste from lunch club.
- 25.3 Members commented that there is a correlation between deprivation and waste disposal and it was observed that London Colney is the furthest from the recycling facilities in St Albans. A bulk waste collection costs £45 for up to 6 items but this fee is waived if the resident is in receipt of Income support, Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Support, Job Seekers Allowance, Working Tax Credit, Guaranteed Pension Credit, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit and Universal Credit.
- 25.4 Members considered that there is some education that needs to be undertaken by the District Council in relation to waste and recycling. They were advised that representatives from SADC would be attending both Larks and Picnic to encourage residents to recycle.
- 25.3 SADC are to be approached about temporary recycling facilities at events run by the parish council (Larks in the Parks, Picnic in the Park etc). It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Council that:

The Clerk undertakes a review of waste and recycling at the centre and provide costs for mixed recycling (paper, card, tins and bottles), general waste and food waste to the Finance Committee for approval.

26. AIR POLLUTION UPDATE

- 26.1 Members received a report from SADC regarding air pollution in the village. Members were disappointed that the report only monitored NO₂ (Nitrogen Dioxide). In the Council's PEAP, air pollution included Benzene, Butadine, Carbon Monoxide and particulates. Members asked that the Clerk feedback to the report's author that they were disappointed that other pollutants are not measured but recognized that NO₂ is the only pollutant that the District Council is required to monitor. The Clerk was asked to send the relevant page of the PEAP to SADC for their information.

26.2 Members considered the monitoring site located at the junction with Five Acres and Oldfield Road be relocated. This will be conveyed to SADC.

27. REFILL ST ALBANS

Members received an email regarding this initiative where businesses and shops are encouraged to display a sign indicating that they are willing for people to refill water bottles from a source within the building. This is to discourage the use of single use plastic bottles.

27.2 Members commended the scheme but felt that they were unable to recommend that the parish Council participates. The Clerk was asked to include an article in the next newsletter to promote it to local businesses and shops.

28. ALLOTMENTS

28.1 Members received a report on the current lettings situation for the allotment sites. Mrs Barker reported that SADC had repaired the fence at Aubry Avenue which had subsequently been damaged by a vehicle driving into it.

28.2 Members noted that the allotment inspections were imminent and were asked to consider tenants that may need non-cultivation letters.

29. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME/ACTION TRACKER

Member were advised that the Chair is keen to monitor progress on items that are dealt with by this committee and would devise an action tracker to monitor progress on items. It would also include a forward work programme so that Members could suggest items to be considered.

31. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 24 July 2018. The meeting closed at 2050.

Chairman **Date**