

The Minutes of the meeting of the Leisure and Environment Committee held on.

DATE & TIME	Friday 24 th April 2020 – 2pm via Zoom
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Minutes

Item	Subject	Details	Action update June 2020
1	Present	Cllrs; Beavan, Goldsmith, Jeans, Ladd, Rowan-Robinson, Tobin Also the Town Mayor and Town Clerk 3 members of the public.	
2	Apologies and Declarations of Interest	Nil	
3	Minutes of previous meeting	To note the minutes of the previous meeting	
	Standing Orders- public section.	A member of the public advised that drainage changes around the golf club driving range would affect drainage on the marshes, the banana marsh footpath needs considering, and the alexander needs to be considered. A member of the public advised that the area known as the Flash was now seeing very rare birds on there, that even the Hen reedbeds do not have.	
4.	Other matters to consider – COVID 19 matters	<p><u>Cleaning of town council bins</u> – this is not time critical – quotes to be obtained.</p> <p><u>Cutting of alexander</u> – Cllr Beavan has asked for volunteers through social media. Cllr Jeans has a list of those areas which are priority areas. People are encouraged to do areas by their own house or where they exercise. It should be cut at the base and can be left on the ground. Areas to focus on would e Denes, North Road, by lifeboat museum, by allotments. Discussion regarding a budget for help in doing this work which is time sensitive and would need to be done over next 2 weeks. It was agreed by all that an L and E budget of £2000 would be set aside to get assistance with cutting of alexander.</p> <p>It was noted that the Norse resources are presently assisting with bin collections and only carrying out emergency grass cutting where visibility is an issue i.e. hedges, visibility splays.</p> <p><u>Cutting of footpaths</u> – Cllr Rowan Robinson referred to a request that he had received regarding the use of the footpath along the banana marsh by dog walkers, and the issues with cattle being close to the footpath. Cllr Rowan Robinson explained that the marsh boards do state that all dogs should be on leads. The tenant farmer advises that he had placed an electric fence along the bottom of the footpath when he had taken the lease of the area but that this had been stolen very quickly. There is an alternative route that can be walked to avoid any cattle. It was noted that the bank/ path is being eroded. The meeting was advised that it had been intended to meet with the tenant farmer and Natural England prior to Covid 19, and that this meeting is still to take place. Such matters can be discussed at this meeting together with discussions about the flash area. It was suggested that the area could be protected more if the cattle stock intensity could be reduced, and calves were placed on one of the other marshes. It was suggested that more signs are required indicating that dogs should be kept on their leads. It was suggested that the area by the Reydon fishing lakes should also be considered for some fencing.</p> <p><u>Play areas</u> – these are presently closed in line with the Covid 19 restrictions</p>	<p>Quotes to be obtained</p> <p>Works completed May 2020</p> <p>Meeting being arranged June 2020</p>

5	Parish Community Events	Nil in view of Covid 19 restrictions	
6	Environmental matters – timelines and completion dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ferry Road Garden</u> – Cllr Goldsmith advised that Norse would trim the area but not spray it. Barry Dewing had been asked to do the work pre lockdown. Community payback team would like to help to clear and maintain the area but would need availability of a portaloo. Costs to be sought. Discussion about community payback SLA – this will need to be checked out with the insurers who in the past have not approved its use and hence help by community payback has not been able to be used. • <u>Rewilding Hospital Green</u> – Cllr Beavan advised that bare root transplants will be grown here – and a small strip by the hedge will be sown with seeds in the autumn. Notices to be made. • <u>Work on marsh ditches</u> – Collyer’s have completed their works and carried out an excellent job. This work should improve the area by the allotments and also be of benefit to the millennium field. Allotment holders to be advised of the completion of the work. <p><u>Culverts</u> - Cllr Rowan Robinson advised that the culvert by Bailey Bridge seems to be blocked and the water levels are high on the marshes.</p> <p><u>Control Boards</u> – Cllr Rowan Robinson to assess again.</p> <p><u>Tree planting</u> – approx. 50 have been planted to date across the Common, Nursemaids Park, and Hospital Green. It was suggested that small whips be purchased for the autumn which can then be planted in November.</p>	<p>SLA not yet received</p> <p>Work commenced</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>With MRR</p> <p>With MRR</p> <p>Noted</p>
7	Other matters	<p><u>Tiles on wall of Electricity Green.</u> These are getting loose and some have fallen off. Cllr Jordan has those that have come off. Need to arrange to have these replaced in due course.</p> <p><u>800th year of market charter</u>– 2021 – town manager to coordinate an event. It was suggested that the town mgr be invited to the next meeting to discuss possible events.</p> <p><u>Electricity Green</u> – it was suggested that a bench be placed within the green as a thank you to those who help to maintain the area. Agreed by all.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>On Order</p>
8	Date of next meeting	Friday 26 th June 2020 at 2pm.	

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL L AND E MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS. THE TOWN COUNCIL ABIDES BY THE PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT 2012.