

HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment Working Group held on Monday 23 March 2015 at 7.35 pm in the Sports Pavilion

Present: Cllrs: Janet Brasnell (Convenor) Steve Herring
Doug Dew John Jenkin
Julie Dew Robin Waters

In attendance: 3 members of the public and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Comments and observations from members of the public and from the County and District Councillors

None.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Clifton, Seamark and Hall.

2. Declarations of interests

2.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda and details of dispensations held

Cllr Jenkin declared an interest in Item 4 as Trustee of the Peace Memorial Field.

2.2 To receive written and grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate for items on this agenda

None.

3. To discuss village lighting and possible public consultation

NOTED that a new LED lamp had been installed outside 2 High Street. Cllr Waters will draft an article for the newsletter and a questionnaire for consideration at the May Environment meeting. A public meeting could then be held to enable residents to comment. Members were asked to take a look pending a future decision on whether to go for LED lights in due course.

AGREED TO RECOMMEND to the Parish Council that it considers a draft letter to be sent to Balfour Beatty senior management, regarding the village's recent experience. The upgrade of CCC lighting appeared to have been completed although some matters were still outstanding, e.g. a number is required on the new lamp outside the shop. Clarification is to be sought on the ownership of the lights in Marsh Lane, London Road and Gore Tree Road.

A resident commented on the ownership of the lights and gave his views on the new LED light.

Light PC2 in Church Street has been replaced with a new column. The old one cannot be removed unless the road is closed. Arrangements are to be put in hand to make the old stump safer.

The Parish Council was thanked for having the light replaced.

4. To discuss requesting yellow lines on Manor Road outside the Pavilion

AGREED TO RECOMMEND to the Parish Council that CCC be asked to install yellow lines in Manor Road outside the Pavilion in light of concerns about parking problems, especially at busy times when the car parks at the Pavilion were full, with cars parking right up to the junction, and sometimes on the grass verge, causing a hazard.

5. To discuss play area inspections

AGREED TO RECOMMEND to the Parish Council that it considers the arrangements for the regular play inspection checks. The Clerk's advice is to be sought.

The RoSPA annual inspection is in April.

6. To discuss the provision of new window to notice board at the School and a board at The Thorpe

AGREED that the Handyman is to be asked to check and repair the village notice boards. The Perspex on the free notice board needs replacing. The bottom hinge on the Parish notice board at Alms Corner is broken. The board at The Thorpe has no glass in it at all.

NOTED - Extra notice board space in the shop options included: a dedicated Parish Council space in the shop at a cost of £350 per annum; a dedicated area on the road; "pay as you go" usage in the shop for approximately £48 per annum; or a combination of agendas and minutes in the shop and other items on the road. Cllr Herring will speak to the shop owner again for further information.

AGREED TO RECOMMEND to the Parish Council that a review of all the notice boards in the village be undertaken as part of the communication strategy, and to consider the number and location of notice boards when deciding how best to communicate with residents. Cllrs Jenkin and Hall had indicated their willingness to take this forward.

AGREED that the inclusion of the notice boards on the assets list is to be checked.

7. Report on HDC and Ferguson's responses to the maintenance on the Yes/Linden Homes site

NOTED that Cllr Brasnell had met with Fergusons and their quotation had been received for the maintenance, including grass cutting and tree and shrub maintenance of the Yes/Linden Homes site..

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND to the Parish Council that it takes over responsibility for the maintenance of the Yes/Linden site, including the upkeep of the play area and equipment.

AGREED that Cllr Brasnell is to clarify with HDC details of the funds due and pass this and the Fergusson's' quote to the Clerk in time for Council's meeting.

8. To consider the current Environment Group Log, to agree its future form and protocols for entries, actions and deletions

AGREED to update the log as follows: -

Pound Road – new lamp connected and old lamp removed.

Damaged street light in Church Street replaced. Stump to be checked.

Lamp PC4 in Manor Road – quotation accepted.

Village sign – the handyman will wash it down and then Harry Stebbing Workshop will start the refurbishment in autumn

Pound Road roundabout – CCC are to take over the roundabout and want it cleared and grassed. AGREED TO RECOMMEND to the Parish Council that Fergusons be asked to carry out the clearance and grassing of the Pound Road roundabout as part of its contract. Figures when received are to be brought to the Parish Council meeting. CCC has been asked to keep the Parish Council informed.

New bench for Filbert's Walk – A builder will install the bench at Filbert's Walk when the work has been completed at Armes Corner. The exact location has been checked.

Bags of leaves in the cemetery need to be removed. It was suggested that Fergusons be asked to deal with this.

A complaint had been received from a resident about the football pitches. The Clerk is looking into the matter.

9. Closure of meeting

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed _____ (Convenor) _____ (Date)