

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment** Committee held in the  
Town Hall, The Broadway, Crowborough on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017 at 7.30pm

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Present	Councillors	Peter Ellefsen Martyn Garrett Richard Jury Kay Moss David Neeves Alan Penney Ron Reed Greg Rose Wendy Scrace Matthew Street Sandra Timms*	Vice – Chairman      Chairman
Also present		Cllr Richard Stogdon Andy Beams Amanda Negus	East Sussex County Council Town Clerk Committee Clerk

\*Denotes non attendance

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## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

## **APOLOGIES**

Cllr Sandra Timms  
John Coleman

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

## **MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**8108 RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 as confirmed be signed by the Chairman.

Review of outstanding actions (attached to agenda)

- Cllr Martyn Garrett confirmed the Charity Farm Way street light is now working.
- Cllr Steve Isted has advised Cllr Richard Stogdon that the Medway/Bracken Close street light is being looked into. It will remain on CTC's outstanding actions sheet until it has been repaired.

## **RAILWAY REPORT**

To receive the report from John Coleman (attached to agenda)

Noted.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

To receive the report from the Ranger and agree any actions (attached to agenda)

- Pocket Park Nature Reserve - tennis courts query (point 1.5). Cllr Kay Moss advised it was an all weather pitch that was damaged in 2002 and hasn't been used for tennis since then.
- The Ghyll – central bridge (point 2.3). A query was raised as to how long this type of bridge would be expected to last and to how many times CTC would repair vandalised property.
- Country Park - is being focused on particularly with SE in Bloom in mind. The Ranger to measure water flow and follow up with WDC in regard to the water run off from the Tollwood Park development into the Country Park stream. Cllr Greg Rose also to make enquiries with WDC.
- Bluebell Wood – Although managed by CTC, this land belongs to WDC. It was agreed previously that work would not be done on the side of Bluebell Wood in case that piece of land is lost to additional parking. The Ranger to liaise with WDC in regard to the likelihood of this.

The management plans are in the process of being updated and are to be presented at the next Environment meeting.

The Ranger to explain the role of volunteers at the next Environment meeting with the view to encouraging more people to volunteer.

To review request for increased hours for the Ranger (attached to agenda)

The proposal was thoroughly reviewed and it was

**8109 RESOLVED** to increase the Rangers hours to 30 per week.

## HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

To receive any ESCC updates from Cllr Richard Stogden

The ongoing issues with the road surface and drainage of Wellesley Close are being pursued by Cllr Sylvia Tidy.

WDC councillors have been updated of 3 roads that will be resurfaced within the Town this year.

To receive update from SLR meeting and agree any actions

- Chequers Way road surface – was inspected by Highways after the SLR meeting, but no updates have been received yet.
- Summersales speed signage – the plans have been checked and it was confirmed the sign has been placed where ESCC Highways advised it should be.
- Jarvis Brook Zebra crossing – concern was raised in regard to the safety of the crossing because of lighting inadequacies in that area and the failure of vehicles to always stop. A question was raised as to the feasibility of changing it to a Pelican crossing. Cllr Richard Stogdon advised it may be a case of applying for match funding.

There are a number of requested pedestrian crossings so future priorities need to be agreed to form part of the budget plan. ESCC Highways are currently taking four forward for consultation. (A26 near Goldsmiths, A26 Beacon Road/Church Road, B2100 Jarvis Brook south of the railway bridge and the north side of Chapel Green near the Myrtle Road/Church Road junction).

Next SLR meeting to be held Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm in the Crowborough Town Hall.

## **WORKING GROUPS**

To receive update from South East in Bloom Working Group and agree any recommendations

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July is to be judging day.

The Country Park will be visited at 10.00 am and the Town Centre after lunch. Cllr Greg Rose will be doing a presentation before the walk round. The Ranger will lead the walk through the Country Park.

The flower beds next to Waitrose are owned by WDC, but they have not scheduled any maintenance work to be carried out on them. There could be a health and safety risk as plants are overhanging the steps. Various options were discussed of how to maintain this area in the future. In the meantime the Clerk to contact WDC.

The briefing papers are nearly complete and will be sent to the judges by 20<sup>th</sup> June.

## **I CARE FOR CROWBOROUGH**

To receive update on actions taken

A meeting is to be held to formally agree the focus on education rather than litter picking. Cllr Ron Reed has already talked to the students of St Johns School about the problems of litter.

## **ARCHWAY**

To receive an update on progress

New measurements been given to the Blacksmith and work is being progressed.

## **DRONES**

To consider adoption of the Drone Code (attached to agenda)

After discussion into all the options regarding drone usage over Council land it was

**Agreed** to refer to Full Council for consideration.

## **POLICY REVIEW**

To consider adoption of updated Tree Inspection Policy (attached to agenda)

**8110 RESOLVED** to adopt updated Tree Inspection Policy.

## **FINANCE**

### Management Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

**8111 RESOLVED** to adopt the management Accounts as presented.

### To note income and expenditure and payment summary for period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017

The following queries were raised:

- Bus shelters – should have come out of last years budget, but got rolled over at the end of the year.
- Poster/noticeboards - need to be moved to the Communications and Events budget.

### **URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING and/or INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA**

Concern was raised at the fires being burnt behind Owlsbury Coachworks causing acrid smoke. It has been reported to WDC.

Broken fencing in Palesgate Lane appears to be land not owned by anyone. Clerk to check with Ranger to see if he has established who does own the land.

A policy decision may be required as to whether CTC will maintain pieces of land that are not owned by anyone.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.