

HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL
 Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich, Essex CO12 3DS
 Tel: 01255 507211
 email: info@harwichtowncouncil.co.uk

MINUTES of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
 held at
The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich
 on
Wednesday 23rd February 2017

Present:	Councillors Urwin, I Henderson, Morrison (from 8.10pm), F Powell, C Powell, Smith and Fay
In the Chair:	Councillor Fowler
Clerk:	Mrs Michelle Townsend
Also present:	No members of the public and no press Cheryl Thompson – Horticultural Adviser

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

None

The Chairman advised that item 8, Emergency Guidelines Card, would be moved to a confidential part of the meeting.

E53/16	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Apologies received from Councillors J Brown and S Ashley Councillor P Morrison advised that she would be arriving late due to her attendance at the Crime Prevention Panel
E54/16	<u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS</u> Cllr I Henderson – Member of the Essex Local Highways Panel Cllr Fowler – Member of TDC’s Planning Committee
E55/16	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> RESOLVED that the minutes of the Environment & Community meeting held on 6 th December 2016 (previously circulated) be approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
E56/16	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> E46/16 – Tendring District Council Enforcement: The former Victoria Hotel site and the site immediately north of 13 Orwell Road – Cllr Fowler has taken photographs and reported overgrowth to Essex County Council. The former Starlings site – Cllr Fowler re-inspected the site and noted that there was no overgrown vegetation encroaching on the footpath.

	<p>The following update has been provided by Cath Bicknell:</p> <p>Pound Farm – The condition attached to the planning permission requires that works to restore the farm house are complete before 25 dwellings are occupied and this point has not yet been reached. However, the developer has done some works to protect the building. The existing rear foundation has been stabilised and the rear studwork wall is being raised which will allow roof construction work to continue. The refurbishment of the windows and joinery commences Monday, with all the works scheduled for completion circa mid-May.</p> <p>79 Stour Road, Bathside – Consulted with the developer/owner and then visited and photographed the site on 17/01/17. The site whilst not perfect, is secure and within acceptable limits of tidiness. The Council would not succeed with a Sec.215 notice against the owner. The owners have now confirmed in writing that they will not be enacting the current planning permission. They have commenced negotiations with officers for a different housing scheme on the site.</p> <p>Councillor Smith confirmed that the site was no longer secure following the strong winds last night.</p> <p>20 Victoria Street – To be discussed with TDC’s Community Safety Officer.</p> <p>The Starlings Site, High Street – TDC has made a formal decision to initiate the acquisition process for this site with a view to providing a car park.</p> <p>Disused Train Ferry Terminal – No further developments since the last meeting but I have contacted HIP about the suggestion that the windows are boarded and the structure is painted. HIP have concerns about contractor safety but are considering the request and will get back to TDC shortly.</p> <p>Land Adjacent to 1 Orwell Road – Owner contacted and site revisited and found to be tidy.</p> <p>E49/16 – Report regarding the right of way at the end of Church Street was updated and resubmitted to the LHP. Letter was sent to LHP expressing HTC’s concerns over lack of progress for submitted projects. Response was noted.</p> <p>E50/16 – Letter has been sent to ECC regarding the introduction to the HPN to local flooded roads. Response was noted.</p>
E57/16	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</u></p> <p>E37/16 – Third Community Notice Board – This has now been installed by the boundary of TDC’s cemetery, upper Dovercourt Green and has been given a further coat of oil.</p>
E58/16	<p><u>TREE PLANTING & OUTDOOR SPACES</u></p> <p>The report from the Horticultural Adviser detailed the following: Trees planted by Harwich Society volunteers and others in late November 2016 have thrived and at present remain un-vandalised. Bulbs planted at the same time are just beginning to flower.</p> <p>Another tree planting event in Cliff Park is planned for Saturday morning on 4th March 2017 and volunteers are encouraged to come along with their own tools.</p> <p>Trees have not yet been replanted in Harbour Crescent.</p> <p>Cllr I Henderson confirmed that he had spoken with The Mayflower Project regarding the overgrown vegetation to the right of their entrance and they have agreed to start clearing.</p>

E59/16	<p><u>LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL</u></p> <p>Councillor I Henderson provided the Chairman with the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Gateway Sign – Historic Harwich – Has been fully validated and is now awaiting panel consideration for funding. •Brown Tourist Sign – A120 by Clacton Turn Off - Harwich Tourist Group are looking at an overall signage project for the area. Funding is available from the Coastal Community Fund. HTC are no longer taking this project forward as the work is now being undertaken by the Harwich Tourism Group. •Cycle Racks Dovercourt Town Centre – ECC does not own the land for the three locations specified therefore land dedication or adoption must take place before any asset is implemented. As Network Rail have now updated their cycle rack and there is a further cycle rack at the library, it was agreed not to proceed with this further. With pending public realm investment, HTC would be looking to suggest a future site for cycle racks in the future. Clerk agreed to advise the LHP. •Blue Roundabout – The foundation design is complete and the road space and traffic management will be arranged. •No Through Road Sign – King Georges Avenue – The replacement of the ‘no through road’ sign at the junction has been agreed. Similar signs have been requested to be added on to the road name plate. •Bus Stop Cage/Shelter – Main Road – This has been fully validated by the Passenger Transport Department and is awaiting panel consideration for funding. •Church Street Right of Way – Submitted and will be going through validation •Parkeston Road – LHP have approved and installed flashing warning signs. Cllr I Henderson has been approached by local residents who feel that this measure is not adequate and a zebra crossing should be installed. Not only does this road have a school, nursery, Scout Hut and shop located on it, but has a cut through to a housing estate and recreation area. <p>RESOLVED: To submit a request to the LHP to consider installing a zebra crossing in Parkeston Road.</p> <p>The next meeting of the LHP is scheduled for 23rd March 2017.</p>
E60/16	<p><u>MATTERS RECEIVED IN THE POST OR RAISED BY MEMBERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Public Consultation for Proposed Telecommunications Structure – Harwich & Parkeston Football Club – noted
E61/16	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment & Community Committee will be held at the Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich on Wednesday 26th April 2017 commencing at 7pm.</p>
E62/16	<p><u>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS</u></p> <p>Pursuant to Sub-section 2 of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the meeting was closed to the press and public for the transaction of the under-mentioned business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Guidelines Card

The Chairman closed the public part of the meeting at 8.10pm

CHAIRMAN

DATE