

HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL
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MINUTES of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
 held at
The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich
 on
Thursday 19 April 2018

Present:	Councillors Ashley, J Brown, Fay, Fowler, McLeod, Smith, Morrison and I Henderson (sub for Urwin)
In the Chair:	Councillor C Powell
Clerk:	Mrs Michelle Townsend
Also present:	No members of the public and no press

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

None

E64/17	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> Apologies received from; Councillor Urwin (sub Cllr I Henderson) Horticultural Adviser Cheryl Thompson
E65/17	<u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS</u> None
E66/17	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> RESOLVED that the minutes of the Environment & Community meeting held on 15th February 2018 (previously circulated) be approved by the committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
E67/17	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> E57/17 - Buoy Located by the Lighthouse – Clerk is waiting to hear back from Harwich Conservation Panel confirming ownership. E59/17 - Sowing of Poppies – Poppies have been passed to Colin Farnell, Harwich Society. E52/17 - Section 106 & Developer Provisions – Cllr Smith made members aware that the pirate ship located at the Bathside Play Park which burnt down recently, has not been replaced by TDC as agreed and has been substituted by an inadequate slide which can only be used by toddlers. RESOLVED: Clerk to write to TDC to seek an explanation.

E68/17	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</u> E23/17 – Tree Planting Recommendations – Mark Stanford has agreed to contact HTC to give advice regarding watering the new trees planted on Harwich Green. The Estate Supervisor has agreed to undertake this task for the summer season only.</p>
E69/17	<p><u>HORTICULTURAL REPORT</u> The report provided by Cheryl Thompson confirmed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cliff Park bulb planting has been a great success. This year, there are carpets of daffodils and crocus which have made the park very attractive. • The seafront pockets are looking good with their bulbs too. <p>Members requested for the arrangements for maintenance and design of the Flood Memorial Garden to be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.</p>
E70/17	<p><u>79 STOUR ROAD</u> Members reviewed the correspondence sent to and received from, TDC. Councillor G Smith advised members that he felt the repair work to the hoardings was inadequate and as the site had not been cleared of overgrowth and fly tipping, he did not agree with TDC’s decision to close the case. A request to meet with the relevant TDC officer on site has been ignored and Councillor Smith asked for the TDC ward councillor to take this case up on behalf of HTC. RESOLVED: Councillor I Henderson agreed to liaise with TDC and report back to Councillor Smith and the Clerk.</p>
E71/17	<p><u>UNTIDY SITES IN THE CONSERVATION AREA AND ‘ILLUMINATE ROUTE’ FOR MAYFLOWER 2020</u> Cllr C Powell provided members with an update, following his meeting with Cllr I Henderson, Ian Davidson, Mike Carran and members of the Harwich Residents Association (HRA) to discuss a number of issues, in particular three empty properties in a poor state of repair.</p> <p>The key properties identified are to be discussed at the next meeting of the Corporate Enforcement Team and discussed as a collective group of buildings. Discussions have taken place about short/medium term fix for these properties. This would involve covering the building with a façade, incorporating graphically designed images with a Mayflower theme. This would require consent from the owners, but would make the buildings an integral part of the Mayflower trail. Further work is taking place around this idea and feedback will be provided once all the details are known.</p> <p>There is a stretch of open space at the junction of Albermarle Street and the A120 which is in an untidy condition. Although this is the property of ECC, it may be possible for this to be maintained by the HRA. Arrangements are being made for a member of the Council’s Horticultural Services Team to meet with HRA to make these arrangements and for TDC to undertake some preparation work. The trees adjacent to the Mayflower Heritage Trust site are overgrown and the Council’s Horticultural Services Manager is arranging to meet with the ECC Tree Officer to discuss cutting them back.</p>
E72/17	<p><u>THERE BUT NOT THERE</u> Members welcomed Councillor Tanya Ferguson to discuss supporting the nationwide installation for the fallen ‘There But Not There’.</p>

	<p>There But Not There will be the defining centenary commemoration of the end of the 1914-1918 war. Funds raised from the sale of the life sized aluminium silhouettes (Tommys) will contribute directly to the work carried out by the beneficiary charities, The Royal Foundation; Heads Together, The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation, Walking with the Wounded, Combat Stress, Help for Heroes. The Tommys and their commemorative packaging are made by the Royal British Legion Industries, appropriately, by ex-Service Veterans employed by RBLI.</p> <p>Councillor Ferguson confirmed that Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council have agreed to purchase 2 and ask members to consider purchasing a Tommy to be erected in Dovercourt or Harwich as a memorial which will signify a huge part of history. Following discussions with the Harwich Residents Association and Harwich Society, Councillor Ferguson suggested the Redoubt or the Ha'penny Pier may be suitable locations for the committee to consider.</p> <p>Members thanked Councillor Ferguson and discussed suggested locations which included Upper Dovercourt Green and the Maritime Museum, looking out to sea. RESOLVED: Clerk to e-mail all members to seek suggestions for locations. FURTHER RESOLVED: Chair to meet with Ian Taylor and agree upon a suitable location. FURTHER RESOLVED: Clerk to order 2 x 6ft aluminium Tommys at a cost of £750.00 each plus postage costs of approximately £55. Any overspend of the Environment Projects budget to be transferred from the Trees and Shrub Planting budget to the Environment Schemes/Projects budget.</p>
E73/17	<p><u>S106 FUNDING</u></p> <p>Members consider possible projects for future S106 funding and agreed to consider submitting the following suggestions for TDC to consider:</p> <p>The Hangings – Submitted by Councillor Sean Fay As this is a cycling and walking route used by tourists and residents, this area would benefit from a nature/history trail. At a meeting held with Ian Taylor, TDC have agreed to undertake some clearance work and a general tidy up of the area.</p> <p>Bathside Play Park – Submitted by Councillor Geoff Smith Installation of further play equipment to include a rope climber and basket ball hoop. The poor state of the bench was also highlighted.</p> <p>Multi-Activity/Educational Play Area – Submitted by Michelle Townsend and Councillor Charlie Powell Two larger 'destination' and 'inclusive' play areas in Dovercourt and Cliff park with scattered equipment along the seafront linking the two play areas.</p> <p>Mayflower Inspired Murals – Submitted by Councillor Ivan Henderson The murals in Wellington Road and Kingsway to be repainted and be incorporated into the Mayflower 2020 celebrations.</p> <p>Cox's Pond – Submitted by Councillor Ivan Henderson The pond is leaking badly and needs to be drained, resealed and refilled.</p>

E74/17	<p><u>DERELICT BUILDING – 20 VICTORIA STREET</u> The Clerk confirmed that there has been no response from Andy White, Tendring District Council and will continue to chase.</p>
E75/17	<p><u>LHP PANEL</u> Councillor I Henderson provided members with the following update: •Blue Roundabout – Nothing further to report but Cllr I Henderson stated that he would chase TDC who agreed to take over the project from ECH. •Church Street – Right of Way – Nothing further to report. •Parkeston Road - Installation of Zebra Crossing - David Blackiston from Harwich & Dovercourt Community Speed Watch spoke to the LHP regarding speed monitoring undertaken by the group on Parkeston Road. All members of the panel agreed that further measures needed to be put in place.</p>
E76/17	<p><u>MATTERS RECEIVED IN THE POST OR RAISED BY MEMBERS</u> •Cllr McLeod highlighted again the number of redundant lamp posts around the town and the length of time ECH is taking to rectify the situation. Cllr I Henderson confirmed that the Coastal Community Group were working with ECH but this work only covered the decluttering of signage and replacement where necessary. •The Chairman thanked the Clerk and members of the committee for their work and time given over the past year.</p>
E77/17	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The next meeting of the Environment & Community Committee is at 7pm, on a date to be confirmed, at the Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich, CO12 3DS</p>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm

CHAIRMAN

DATE