



Killamarsh Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2024

Those present :

Chair : Not Present
Vice-Chair : Cllr H Laws
Councillors : Cllr S Clough, Cllr J Sherman, Cllr J Windle
Officers : Mrs J France, Miss H Johnson

ENV281 Chair's Announcements

In the absence of Cllr Tinley, Cllr Laws chaired the meeting. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and passed on well wishes to Cllr Tinley.

ENV282 Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr C Lacey and Cllr W Tinley.

ENV283 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary & Other Interests

a) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and personal and prejudicial interests from members on matters to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 (section 30 to 33). Officers are required to make a formal declaration about council contracts where the employee has a financial interest in accordance with the LGA 1972, s117.

None received.

b) To receive, consider and record Councillors requests for dispensation (Section 13 Localism Act 2011) in connection with items on this agenda. Applications for this must be made in writing to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

None received.

ENV284 Adjournment for Public Participation

- To adjourn the meeting for 15 minutes to allow members of the public 3 minutes each to make representation on the business of the agenda for the meeting. No resolutions can be made under public participation.

There was one member of the public present who wished to raise concern for the placement of the possible new planters at the Village Green that was to be discussed later in the agenda. The member of the public wanted to ensure these would not obstruct or limit access to his property. Cllrs assured him that the placement of the new planters would not limit access to his property. The same member of the public raised a question about the later agenda item discussing the tree survey report and the high priority felling of the Horse Chestnut tree on the Village Green. He questioned if the council will honour the policy of replacing a tree when removing/felling. The Chair of the Council assured them that this was agreed and said that there will be two trees re-planted as per the policy.

ENV285 Exclusion of the Press and Public - Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960

- To consider and resolve any agenda items that require the exclusion of the Press and Public in

accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 for matters appertaining to confidential or exempt information.

RESOLVED: That the press and public should be excluded from items 15 and 16 due to residents personal details and independent contractor quotes being discussed.

ENV286 Minutes from the previous meeting

a) To approve the draft minutes of the meeting held on 7th August 2024.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th August 2024 are a true and accurate record.

b) To receive an update on any ongoing issues not covered as an agenda item.

A written report had been circulated with the agenda pack.

The Deputy Clerk issued an update on a response received from NEDDC regarding the tree trimming of the overhanging trees on the pathway owned by NEDDC at the cemetery. The response received from NEDDC stated that they won't trim the trees unless deemed dangerous.

The Deputy Clerk also issued further update to the noticeboard project at Norwood. She stated that the contractor had now collected the noticeboard and notified the office that they will be installing it soon.

In Cllr Tinley's absence, Cllr Clough provided the Committee with an update on the formal creation of the Friends of St Giles Churchyard group following a meeting held at the Parish Suite on Monday 7th October 2024. Cllr Clough stated the Chair of the group is to be Mr Paul Johnson, the treasurer is to be Mrs Jill Wormleighton and that there has been agreement from Mr Mark Hewitt to assist with clearing the Churchyard along with volunteers. NEDDC have committed to repairing the railings and the Probation Service will assist with painting the railings and the gate.

ENV287 Budget

- To receive the budget report for April to September and to consider the budget requirements for 2025/26.

The Deputy Clerk notified the committee that the 2025/26 budget was in the process of being drafted with a 5% increase to account for likely inflation costs. Cllr Clough raised about the extra costs that will likely need budgeting for the SID's improvements.

The Deputy Clerk also notified councillors that the budget for the Community Bus will be saved and used to offset payment to NEDDC as the new bus service 'Travel Derbyshire' has been running successfully for a few months. The Deputy Clerk has asked for statistics for use of the bus in Killamarsh. Cllr Clough noted that it would be useful to receive regular update on stats to assess the budget for the Community Bus next year.

The Deputy Clerk mentioned that an increase in budget for Dog Bin emptying would be needed to account for new bins approved following requests from residents. Two dog bins have already been installed and one dog bin is ordered and awaiting installation. Cllr Laws asked if residents near the locations are contacted for approval and the Deputy Clerk assured Cllr Laws that residents located near a potential dog bin site are always contacted for comments.

The Deputy Clerk said an increase in the electricity budget for the CCTV cameras would be needed due to the installation of new cameras.

Cllr Clough asked the Deputy Clerk to contact NEDDC again regarding the request for a general bin

at the end of Delves Road.

RESOLVED: That the budget requirements for 2025/26 were considered and would be passed onto the Clerk, with provision of the SID's improvement increase and for the Deputy Clerk to chase up previous contact with NEDDC regarding the general bin installation at the end of Delves Road .

ENV288 Grit & Grit Bins

- To consider a request from a resident to install a new grit bin at Fir Place, Killamarsh.

The Deputy Clerk mentioned that this grit bin request is less than 200m away from two existing grit bins on Laburnum Grove which doesn't meet the criteria needed as per KPC 69 Grit Bin Policy.

RESOLVED: That the resident request for a new grit bin at Fir Place, Killamarsh is not approved in line with KPC 69 Grit Bin Policy and the office is to respond to the resident to notify them of the decision.

ENV289 Trees and hedges

- To consider the tree survey report for trees on Parish Council land and to agree any necessary action.

The Committee agreed that the recommended tree works on the report should be completed within the given time frames. The only high priority item is the felling of the diseased Horse Chestnut tree on the Village Green. Cllr Clough noted the member of the public's request to ensure that two trees are planted in its place. All councillors moved for the necessary action to go ahead.

RESOLVED: That the high priority works to fell the Horse Chestnut tree on the Village Green and two new trees to be planted in place are approved to be actioned as soon as possible and that the other tree works are approved to be completed within 12 to 18 months.

ENV290 Allotments

- To consider holding a Best Kept Allotment Competition in 2025.

The Deputy Clerk mentioned how well kept the Station Road allotments are looking at the moment and proposed the idea of a best kept allotment award in 2025 to try and encourage allotment upkeep at all plots. All councillors agreed that criteria and a judging format would need to be considered and looked into.

RESOLVED: That the office draft criteria and ideas for the competition in 2025 to relay back to the committee.

ENV291 CCTV

- To consider a request from the police to have access to the village CCTV via a secure tablet.

Cllr Clough voiced that he knew of other Parish Council's that allowed their local police access to the cameras via a tablet. All Councillors agreed that this was a good idea for police to directly assess crime reports without needing to come through the Parish Office, especially at a weekend when the office was not normally staffed. The CCTV policy would need amending to include this and to state that footage could only be downloaded by putting in a data request to the Parish Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the police are granted access to the village CCTV via a secure tablet with the above caveats.

ENV292 Village Green

a) To consider and approve a quote to install 5 more wooden planters at the Village Green.

Cllr Clough voiced that he believed it was for four additional planters on the Village Green originally. The Deputy Clerk said that the quote can be changed for four planters on the Village Green and that two requested planters for the Community Hub won't be taken from the Environment Committee's budget. The member of the public's request for the additional planters to be placed where access isn't limited to his property was discussed and all councillors agreed that a councillor or the Deputy Clerk should meet the contractor on site to confirm placement and ensure access wasn't obstructed. Cllr Clough mentioned that the aim is to place them closer to the roadside to be a further deterrent to parking on the green. All councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: That the additional planters are approved and for the office to contact the contractor to arrange installation and placements.

b) To consider any action needed following a resident report of a number of cars parked on the Village Green.

The Deputy Clerk stated that the photos provided included parking issues on the Village Green spotted by the Handymen on morning checks and a residents concern and report of the parking in the last few months/weeks. Councillors agreed that the action of the additional new planters added can be used to monitor the situation and will be revised if issues persist.

RESOLVED: That the additional planter installation is the only action at this time and this will continue to be reviewed and monitored.

ENV293 Parks and Open Spaces

- To consider and approve a potential solution from an engineer at RMBC to deal with the issue of pooling water at the bottom of Belkane Park in periods of heavy rainfall.

Cllr Laws asked the Deputy Clerk why this issue isn't resolvable by Derbyshire County Council. The Deputy Clerk said that as this issue is on Parish Council land it is our responsibility, although she had approached DCC for advice and assistance and had not received a reply. The Deputy Clerk then updated councillors that she contacted a specialist at Rotherham Borough Council to inspect and quote for a potential solution. The engineer suggested the issue wasn't a drainage issue, but a runoff issue and a bund could be installed to divert the water back to it's natural course to prevent the flooding. The Deputy Clerk then advised councillors the cost for the works should be around £2,000.

RESOLVED: That the installation and works for the bund to redirect runoff at the bottom of Belkane Park is approved subject the quote returning at under/around £2,000.

ENV294 Cemetery

- To receive a report regarding costings for Killamarsh Cemetery management and to decide on any further action needed.

The Deputy Clerk mentioned the previously discussed long term verbal agreement with NEDDC for the maintenance of burials at the cemetery and the quarterly accounts for April to June were circulated in the agenda packs. The Deputy Clerk mentioned that she will be asking for these figures every three months to monitor if the Parish Council owe NEDDC or if NEDDC owe the Parish Council.

Councillors all agreed these figures needed to be monitored and discussed at quarterly committee meetings.

RESOLVED: That the office continues to request the quarterly figures for NEDDC burial maintenance at the Parish Council cemetery to include in quarterly Environment & Climate

Change Committee meetings.

ENV295 Birchlands

- To receive a response from two residents adjacent to Birchlands Park and to consider and approve any action required.

This was discussed in closed session and the necessary action was agreed by all councillors.

RESOLVED: For the Deputy Clerk to contact the residents and to commission an appropriate contractor for the necessary action.

ENV296 Grounds Maintenance

- To consider and approve the grounds maintenance contract for 2025/26.

The councillors discussed the excellent work of the grounds maintenance contractor so far this year and commented on positive feedback received by residents.

This was discussed in closed session and approval for the contracts was agreed by all councillors.

RESOLVED: That the grounds maintenance contract for a 3-year fixed fee is approved.

ENV297 Items for discussion for a future agenda

- Emergency response plan
- Allotment charges
- Additional CCTV at Green Lane

ENV298 Date of the Next Council Meeting

- Wednesday 13th November 2024

MEETING CLOSED 19:33PM