

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH MARCH 2018**

PRESENT: Cllr. Fairweather (in the Chair), Cllrs. Beck, Clifford, Fermor, Holmes,
and Swann.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Veitch, Fletcher and Smith.

Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying:

Members are required to declare any interests, dispensations, predetermination or lobbying on items on this agenda. Members are reminded that changes to the Register of Interests should be notified to the Clerk.

34/17: Play Equipment:

The Clerk advised that we were still chasing Urban Recreation for some of the minor repairs highlighted in the ROSPA report.

35/17: Issues from Inspection of Grounds:

a) Allotments:

Cllr. Holmes reported he had carried out a recent inspection and identified a few plots that needed attention and several that should be kept under review. It was difficult to determine how much of this was due to recent bad weather, so he intended to inspect again as the weather improves, prior to any tenants being advised. A recent request to keep bees on an allotment had been declined due to health and safety concerns.

b) Ball Field:

Cllr. Fairweather advised there were no issues to report.

c) Crane Valley:

Cllr. Swann voiced concern regarding drainage on the skate park and although a great deal of drainage work had been completed in the Crane Valley it was felt that the presence of a natural spring was likely to be the cause. The Clerk agreed to seek quotes to lower the position of the current drain which could improve the situation.

Cllr. Swann referred to a consultation from TWBC reviewing the Kent High Weald Partnership Service Level Agreement, which he had completed with the assistance of Cllr. Veitch and the Clerks. Their next event in the Crane Valley was scheduled for 28th March, details are on their website. A project for consideration in the future was to extend the footpath from the Crane Valley recreation area along the Crane Brook to link up with the Brick Kiln PROW. Cllr. Fairweather advised we had requested some S106 funds from the proposed development in the area for improvements to footpaths.

d) Jubilee Field:

Cllr. Fermor advised there were no issues to report and no evidence of dog fouling.

36/17: Issues from Inspection of Car Parks:

a) Regal:

A quote of £585 for the removal of waste and jetting of the interceptor tank had been received from ATAC Solutions. In response to Cllr. Swann the Clerk advised that she had been unable to identify another company that can complete this type of work to obtain a comparison. With this in mind Cllr. Fairweather proposed the quote be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr. Clifford and agreed.

The survey on the condition of the car park had been received but required some clarification on necessary works. There were several issues such as a pothole on the pedestrian crossing, an out of place drain cover and a tree that appeared to be leaning significantly that may need to be dealt with immediately. It was proposed by Cllr. Holmes, seconded by Cllr. Clifford and agreed that subject to clarification that these repairs would not compromise the schedule for repairs that had been identified in the survey, that the costs associated to the emergency repairs be delegated to the Chairman for approval.

Cllr. Swann advised that the hedges at the end of the car park required trimming, this could only be achieved if the parking spaces were unoccupied. The Clerk agreed to liaise with the contractor as to when they could undertake the work and the Parish Warden who would cone off the area.

b) Jockey Lane:

Cllr. Swann advised that the bank along the churchyard fence also needed strimming which may also require some coning off of spaces. He also drew attention to the area bordering the library pond and advised that Cranbrook in Bloom were intending to replant some of area that had been recently cleared. He voiced concern at some water seepage in the car park that would require monitoring.

c) Tanyard:

Cllr. Fairweather advised there were no issues to report. Cllr. Swann advised that the banks of the Crane needed to be strimmed, the Clerk agreed to chase the contractors. He also voiced concerns that the stream was silting up, the Clerk agreed to contact the culvert cleaners for advice.

37/17: Car Park Survey/Working Group:

Cllr. Fairweather and Fletcher had met with representatives from a company called Chargemaster in regard to installing electric charging points in Jockey Lane car park. They had identified the 4 most suitable parking spaces. There is an existing power supply for the streetlights nearby and we were awaiting a quote from UK Power Networks for the cost of upgrading that supply. Cllr. Fletcher would be asked to provide an update to members prior to the next meeting. Cllr. Swann voiced concern at the loss of parking spaces to accommodate the charge points, Cllr. Fairweather assured him that the facility would be an incentive for people to visit the Town. Cllr. Holmes pointed out if doorstep glass collections are introduced next year that the recycling banks in the Regal could be removed which would generate additional spaces.

38/17: Consultations:

Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30

The committee were advised of a consultation from KCC on a number of Mineral Site Options and a partial review of the KMWLP to modify various waste and safeguarding policies. It was agreed to delegate the responses to the Chairman and the Clerk.

39/17: Highways Issues:

a) Stone Street:

This had arisen from a complaint a parishioner had raised with Kent Police in regard to vehicles constantly mounting the pavement in order to pass each other. The committee agreed that seeking a solution was the responsibility of KCC as the relevant authority.

40/17: Any Other Environmental Management Issues:

a) Youth Shelter:

After speaking to some of the young people in the town, who were complaining at the lack of a weather proof shelter, Cllr. Fletcher had obtained quotes for a wooden field type shelter. As he could not attend this evening, it was agreed to defer any decision until the next meeting.

b) Update to Waste Recycling Centre Policies:

The Clerk tabled correspondence from KCC advising that there were amendments to three policies in operation at Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres which came into effect from 1st February 2018. These included changes to the size of trailers and a change to the limit of tyres that can be accepted. Members were reminded that all information relating to recycling centres is available on TWBC's website

41/17: Litter Picks and Litter Bins:

A quote of £174.69 per bin for the necessary replacement parts to repair the two Wicksteed bins in the Crane Valley, had been received. It was proposed by Cllr. Fairweather, seconded by Cllr. Fermor and agreed to accept the quote.

Cllr. Swann thanked Cllr. Fairweather for organising the recent successful litter picks. It was agreed to schedule further picks immediately prior to the judging date for Britain in Bloom.

42/17: Street Lighting:

Cllr. Clifford reported a light that was constantly on at the top of Waterloo Road, the Clerk agreed to report it to our contractors. He also advised that vegetation around a light at the junction between The Street and Chapel Lane required cutting back as it is obscuring the light. The Clerk agreed to contact the property owner in the first instance.

43/17: Public Rights of Way:

Cllr. Holmes reported that he had been advised that logging activity in Angley Woods had obliterated some of the footpaths of the High Weald Landscape Trail. To lessen the workload of the Clerks, he offered to undertake the reporting of this to KCC. Cllr. Swann offered to help with queries regarding the footpaths and PROW as he has gained considerable knowledge of them over the years.

44/17: Parish Cake:

Cllr. Clifford highlighted the recent article written by Cllr. Fletcher on parking in the current edition and reiterated that it was the ideal opportunity to promote what the committees are doing.

45/17: Items for Information:

None were raised.