

**Minutes of the meeting of the Clare Town Council
Environment Committee
held in Clare Old School Community Centre at 7.00pm
on Wednesday 7th February 2018**

Present: Cllrs. P Bishop, M Godwin, L Perceval-Maxwell (chair), D Neale
Lay members Mrs O Smith, Mr K Mison
Julia Burge – Clerk
Steve Morris – Street Warden

1 To receive apologies for absence

None.

Cllr Perceval-Maxwell welcomed Cllr Neale to the Committee.

2 To receive declarations of members' interests and consider requests for dispensation

None.

Section of the meeting open to the public:

3 Public Participation

Cllr Perceval-Maxwell welcomed Mr Morris, and said that he and Mr Watts were always very welcome to attend environment committee meetings and give their input. She thanked both street wardens for their work in the recent bad weather in keeping key routes in the centre of Clare gritted and clear. Mr Morris reported his concerns at damage to grass areas being caused by inconsiderate parking near the primary school and on Highfields.

End of public section of the meeting

4 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 7th February 2018

Approved unanimously.

5 To receive an update on the actions from the previous meeting

Minute 5 – Cllr Godwin will try to make contact with Marie Baker.

Minute 6 – the Clerk reported that most of the greensward along the front of Westfields is owned by Havebury and that they have passed the request to clear leaves to their maintenance team.

Minute 9 – permission has been requested to fell the Holly in the cemetery that is leaning into the chapel roof, and this is an agenda item for next week's meeting of the Town Council.

Minute 10a – Mr Mison to report on this under item 8.

Minute 10b – the tenant of the Swan Inn has volunteered to clear the overgrown footpath at the rear of Swan Meadow. Mrs Smith will ask her husband to check whether this has been done.

Minute 10c – it was agreed that a faux lead fibre clay planter will be purchased for the greensward outside the Cock and Globe pubs, to discourage parking on the grass. The Clerk volunteered to plant this, after liaising with Clare in Bloom as to their planting scheme. Mr Mison to agree the size/shape of the planter with the Clerk. Clerk to liaise with Matt Loveday regarding the design and purchase of 4 "keep off the grass" signs, to be fitted to wooden posts by the street wardens. 2 will be used in Callis Street and 2 kept for other locations. Clerk to circulate artwork/costs to committee members for approval. Cllr Bishop to include something in Chevron asking residents to respect grass verges and not drive/park on them. Clerk to contact the headteacher and ask if she would remind parents not to park on the grass.

Minute 10d – Mr Mison supplied the Clerk with contact details to call Mrs Martin's daughter.

Minute 10e – (i) Mr Watts has said that the street wardens are happy to carry on emptying the Harp Lane bin but that he wouldn't recommend a larger bin. (ii) The Clerk has emailed Gary Brown to ask his advice on a risk assessment for the street wardens' work. (iii) The Clerk hasn't been able to speak to anyone in the street cleaning team at St Edmundsbury, so has emailed to request information about their street cleaning schedule. (iv) The Clerk is to purchase 12 tins of biodegradable spray in bright colours for the dog poo event to be arranged for April/May. (v) The councillors considered options for a black bin in Pashlers Alley and preferred the conservation glass fibre option, but noted that this was £225 rather than £45-60. The Clerk reported that a request had been made of SCC (logged as 00201285) to ask whether they would fill a further grit bin at Mill Lane and was awaiting a response. (vi) The Clerk has logged various urgent requests for **Clerk** filling of grit bins. A generic email was received yesterday from SCC saying that no grit bins would

be filled for the time being as resources were being concentrated on repairing weather damage to roads, but that the bins will be filled before next winter. (vii) The Clerk has obtained two estimates for servicing the leaf blowers. These are broad estimates as it will depend which parts need replacing, but the cost is likely to be in the region of £80-90 per leaf blower. Clerk to arrange servicing this summer. (viii) The Clerk is still to obtain prices for a new lid for the Nethergate Street bin.

6 To review progress on the schedule of maintenance for Town Council assets

See attachment to the minutes.

Clerk

7 To consider the issue of plastics recycling in Clare

It was agreed in principle that CTC should aim to have a bin on Market Hill for the recycling of plastic bottles. Cllr Neale reported that she was waiting for information about the proportion of such bins where contamination meant the contents couldn't be recycled. She reported that Sean O'Connell, head of the St Edmundsbury trade waste team, had advised that the bottles could be added to a trade recycling collection. It was agreed that Cllr Neale would continue to investigate the issues and report back at the next meeting.

*Cllr
Neale*

8 To receive a report from the Cemetery Management Officer/Administrator

Mr Mison reported that volunteers from ActivLives had recently carried out work at the Nuttery, and that they would be returning for 2 to 3 working parties next year.

Mr Mison asked for signs for the cemetery wall explaining which waste should go into the blue, black and brown bins. Clerk to contact Matt Loveday about having signs made. (In particular, that artificial flowers should go in the black bin not the blue bin.)

Clerk

9 Items arising from the Clerk's report

A) Beehives: Clerk to check with PI insurers if they would have any concerns about a resident keeping beehives in the cemetery. Mr Mison to check if there are any regulations regarding the proximity of beehives to a public space.

B) Community Orchard: it was agreed that the committee supported this concept and that Cllr Neale would pursue the various options and report back.

C) Telephone box/defibrillator: It was agreed that the Clerk would continue to liaise with Community Heartbeat, and also with Clare Community First Responders, regarding the renovation of the Stoke Road phone box to house a defibrillator, and to pursue an application for Heritage Lottery funding. Cllr Bishop advised that CLASP may also be willing to contribute to the cost of a defibrillator.

Clerk

10 To receive agenda items for next meeting

To receive a report from the Cemetery Management Officer

To receive a correspondence report from the Clerk

To review progress on the schedule of maintenance for Town Council assets

To review progress on the issue of plastics recycling

To agree details of a dog poo circling/education event in the Country Park

Clerk

11 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 4th April 2018 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm