

***MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017***

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jones (Chairman), Harvey, Jones, Marshall, Payne and Walsby.

**OFFICER:** Stephen Hedges

**ENV01/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Ms Doman, and Horner.

**ENV02/17 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

***RESOLVED:*** *THAT COUNCILLOR JONES BE ELECTED COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR*

**ENV03/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations made.

**ENV04/17 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

***RESOLVED:*** *THAT COUNCILLOR HORNER BE ELECTED COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR*

**ENV05/17 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

No items were raised.

**ENV06/17 MINUTES**

i) Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016

***RESOLVED:*** *THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016 BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.*

**ENV07/17 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Ockwells Park an update was given on the emerging plans for Ockwells Park and the new land recently purchased by the Borough Council.

Neighbourhood Plan – Members were reminded that if they had any items for consideration they should be sent to the office.

**ENV08/17 PUBLIC FOOTPATHS**

Cllr Harvey gave a report. A lot of vegetation growing up now due the weather. Contact Rights of Way officer about trimming back of the overgrowth.

**ENV09/17 VERGE GRASS CUTTING**

Information from Housing Solutions, they are changing from regular cutting to as and when required. Discussion took place with regards to the impact that this may have, including possible benefits if adequate monitoring was in place. It was agreed to contact the Housing Association to ask for more information about how it is going to work, standards and monitoring.

**ENV10/17 TREES**

It was reported that with the advent of the growing Season, several areas may need work.

ENV11/17

**LITTER**

It was noted that the litter situation is generally not too bad except for the planted area in front of shop. It was agreed to request the Borough Council attend to this area.

ENV12/17

**PLAY AREAS AND OPEN SPACES**

i) Wessex Way

It was reported that the repairs to the gates had been completed. It was noted that some fence repairs were also required, and that various maintenance work needed to be undertaken.

ii) Cadwell Drive

The meeting was informed that the repairs to the bench have been completed. It was also noted that this and all other sites required a full condition survey to be undertaken which would also include assessing the requirement for any signage.

Discussion about no-dog by-law in all enclosed play areas. It was noted that whilst some by-laws were in place, successive legislation had impacted upon this area. Therefore enquiries were being made as to the current status of the situation.

iii) Barley Mead

It was reported that dog mess has been an issue at this site and that measures were being taken with the area being monitored by the Community Wardens who were also raising awareness of the issues.

The new equipment had been installed and snagging had been completed. It was noted that additional signage was to be installed shortly.

iv) Other Open Spaces

a) Allotments

As part of the ongoing investigation into the provision land owners were to be approached to ascertain viability.

b) Ockwells Park

The next meeting of the Borough's Steering Group was being held next week.

It was reported that the Fitness trail appears to be being well used. However, concern was expressed at the grass cutting regime employed by the Borough's contractors around the fitness trail may be causing damage to the base of the posts. It was agreed to take this matter up with the appropriate Borough Officers.

It was also reported that some warranty work was being undertaken with regards to some posts showing unexpected splitting.

ENV13/17

**DOG BINS**

i) Service Update: Review underway with possible co-operation with other parishes.

ii) New Installations: No Report

ENV14/17 **R.B.W.M. DEVOLVED FUNCTIONS**

No further report.

ENV15/17 **ITEMS DELEGATED BY FULL COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REFERRALS**

i) **Committee Terms of Reference**

The draft was approved as presented.

ENV16/17 **GARDENS FESTIVAL**

It was agreed to hold the event as undertaken before with all Councillors judging and delivering the certificates. It was further agreed that the judging would take place in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> week of July.

**The meeting concluded at 8.10 p.m.**

*Signed as a true record of the meeting .....*

*Councillor Jones, Chairman.*