



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Town Hall
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Clerk: Karen Wakefield

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held at **6.30pm** on **Monday 11th February 2025** in the Function Room of the Town Hall, Sherwood Drive, New Ollerton

Present: Cllrs D Batey (Chair), P Beedle, L Shilling, M Staley

Mrs K Wakefield – Town Clerk

Mrs J Fletcher – Deputy Clerk

Following Cllr Wells resignation as Chairman of the Environment Committee, it was

Resolved: that Cllr D Batey open the meeting

Apologies and reasons for absence: Cllr R Fazil due to work, A Brazier and L Brazier due to NSDC meeting and B Wells for personal reasons

Resolved: That these apologies be noted

Declarations of Members Interests: None

Declarations of any intentions to record the meeting: None

ENV/25/01 To Elect a Chairman of the Environment Committee for the remainder of the year 2024/2025

Cllr P Beedle, being the only person nominated, was unanimously elected as Chair of the Environment Committee for the remainder of the year 2024/2025.

ENV/25/02 To Elect a Vice Chairman of the Environment Committee for the remainder of the year 2024/2025

Cllr D Batey, being the only person nominated, was unanimously elected as Vice Chair of the Environment Committee for the remainder of the year 2024/2025.

ENV/25/03 To approve the Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 18th November 2024

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were signed as a true and correct record.

ENV/25/04 Biodiversity and Environmental Issues

1. To discuss future actions regarding Biodiversity Net Gains

Members confirmed that they had read the document and the 3 options within the report were discussed in detail. Following discussion it was proposed that the Council did not continue with any further action regards BNG at Mill Field.

Proposed: Cllr D Batey **Seconded:** Cllr P Beedle
Decision: Unanimous

2. To receive information regarding lithium batteries

Councillors confirmed that they had read the documentation previously sent out. Following discussion it was

Resolved: that whilst the Council supported the campaign in principle it was not possible to add it to any of the Council's processes and procedures, the Clerk was instructed to write to the campaign organiser and also publicise the information on the Council website.

ENV/25/05 Amenity Space and Play Areas

1. To receive an update on the installation of a Youth Shelter at Central Park

A meeting was to be arranged with a number of Councillors and the youth group at Central Park during the half term holidays. Decision to be made as to where the youth shelters are to be sited. It had been suggested that one be adjacent to the skate park and the other between the Sutu and the small children's play area.

Following discussion it was

Resolved: that the meeting take place on Tuesday, 17th February at 2pm, attended by Cllrs Batey, Beedle and Munroe and the Deputy Clerk. Lauren Astle, CPO, to be invited to attend. The Clerk would confirm this with the spokesperson from the youth group.

2. To receive updates regarding skatepark facilities

As above.

3. To receive any relevant updates on repairs and maintenance

There had been a few issues recently but these were now being dealt with. The contractor had offered to fund the costs themselves for the repairs to the Fono. Date awaited for completion of the works.

ENV/25/06 Trees

1. To receive an update from the Town Clerk

Awaiting the completion of a further professional tree survey to enable necessary works to be commissioned by a Tree Surgeon.

ENV/25/07 Amenity Work – Grass cutting, litter picking, street cleaning etc

1. To receive any relevant updates

A member of the Amenity Team had submitted his decision to retire in writing and following this the Clerk asked for members to consider the employment of 2 temporary seasonal workers rather than one full time employee. This would provide an additional worker for the busy period of the year along with holiday cover with no effect on the agreed budget.

Following discussion it was

Resolved: that the Clerk discuss this further with the Amenity Foreman and then carry out the necessary process for advertising the vacancies.

ENV/25/08 Cemetery

1. To review how charges are calculated

The Clerk put forward various proposals regarding changes to the current fee structure along with the below additions:

Late paperwork fees (charged directly to the Funeral Directors)
Charges for searching and photographing of burial records for location and details of previous interments eg for family trees
Saturday surcharge for interments

Following discussion it was

Resolved: that charges of £50 for late paperwork and £20 for searching records be applied. The Clerk was also instructed by members to cost out the additional charge for the Saturday surcharge and add to the list of Cemetery Fees.

ENV/25/09 Allotments

1. To receive a report on current tenancy

The Deputy Clerk informed members that, with the exception of one plot plus the remaining one requiring clearing by the M o J team, all plots had now been let and were being cultivated. The 2 sites continue to be monitored on a weekly basis.

2. To receive an update on partnership working with the M of J

The Clerk update the members with regards to the partnership working with the M o J. The number of plots needing work prior to being let has been reduced and other areas of work will be now be considered. The Clerk will report back at the next meeting.

ENV/25/10 War Memorial Gardens

1. To receive any relevant updates

The Clerk to provide an update at a later meeting regarding the lettering on the war memorials including costings.

ENV/25/11 Date and Time of Next Meeting – Tuesday 22nd April 2025 at 6.30pm