

Tel: 01923 710250  
Fax: 01923 896425  
info@croxleygreen-pc.gov.uk  
www.croxleygreen-pc.gov.uk



Community Way  
Croxley Green  
Rickmansworth  
Hertfordshire WD3 3SU

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
**ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITY COMMITTEE**  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER  
ON TUESDAY 7 JULY 2015 at 8.00 PM

Present: Cllr Edmunds – In the Chair David Allison – Clerk to the Council

Cllrs Greenman, Kaur and Vassiliou

Voting Members: 4

In Attendance: Cllrs Gallagher and Taft.

EA1134/15 Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received.

EA1135/15 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman recommended that any declarations of interest be made, if necessary, throughout the meeting.

EA1136/15 Representations from the Public

There were no members of the public present.

EA1137/15 Minutes

The Clerk pointed out that Cllr Saxon had attended the meeting on 2 June 2015 but this had not been recorded in the Minutes. The Clerk apologised for this oversight. The Clerk added Cllr Saxon to the Minutes as being in attendance and asked the Chairman that this amendment be initialled when the Minutes are approved.

**Resolved:**

- That the amended Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2 June 2015 be approved and be signed by the Chairman.

EA1138/15 Matters Arising

EA1125/15 Nectar Oasis Areas. The Clerk advised that he had not heard from Mr Dann.

EA1139/15 Works List

The Chairman introduced this item and enquired of the Clerk as to what extent, if any, does the Parish Council get involved with works on the second village green and the area known as Buddleia Walk.

The Clerk advised that currently the Council has little involvement although the Rangers have met with the Chairman of the Keep Croxley Green Group, Barry Grant, to discuss future involvement. The Clerk continued that any works involvement was likely to be from next year onwards.

The Clerk advised that he had received an email that afternoon from TRDC requesting that a dog bin be removed from the bottom of Mill Lane as this appeared to be attracting litter and general waste. The Clerk continued that this had been an issue going back some years but TRDC had removed the litter bin as that was attracting excess litter. The Clerk added that there has been some litter by the dog bin and as a gesture of goodwill the dog waste contractor had been

removing this when the dog bin was emptied. The Clerk continued that he would be instructing the company not to remove any litter or general waste from the area and he would also be making arrangements to remove the dog bin which will be redeployed elsewhere, probably on public footpath number 15 – Baldwins Lane to Girton Way.

There were no other comments regarding the Works List.

**Resolved:**

- That the Works List for July 2015 be noted.

EA1140/15 Proposed TRDC Public Space Protection Order

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk advised that this matter goes back some time as in 2012 there was a paper presented to the Executive Committee of TRDC regarding going out to consultation for a trial of bringing in a Dog Control Order for Chorleywood House Estate and Chorleywood Common.

The Clerk stated that the proposal by TRDC fell into four parts dog fouling, authorised officers giving an owner an instruction to place a dog on a lead, dogs being kept on a lead in certain places and the maximum number of dogs (4) a person can walk at one time.

The Clerk commented that the leads by order section refers to an ‘authorised officer’ and it may be appropriate to consider requesting of TRDC that the Council’s Rangers become authorised.

It was commented that the matter of dog fouling appears to increase during school holidays and initially a Cllr expressed concerns in regard to section 2, 3 and 5 particularly in regard to the potential abuse of enforcement powers set out in the order.

It was commented that in regard to dog fouling there should be more signs advising of the penalty for dog fouling and it was asked who was going to enforce the matters and who gets the benefit of the fines imposed.

A discussion ensued regarding the strengths of the existing dog fouling legislation and in particular that it may not be the legislation that is a particular problem but one of actually enforcement of the legislation particularly during out of office hours and at weekends.

Some concerns were expressed about whether the Council’s Rangers should become involved in the context of potentially aggressive dog owners. It was also commented that dogs are sensitive to how people react to them but the proposals put forward by TRDC appeared modest and appropriate.

It was generally considered that the proposal had some good points although there was an element of some subjectivity that might be applied and potential abuse of enforcement. It was stated that the proposal should be supported and was a step in the right direction but pragmatism and common sense judgement must be applied in regard to any enforcement.

It was commented that if a dog is off its lead and a member of the public felt unsafe or intimidated then this was the sort of occasion when the owner should be asked to put the dog on a lead.

The Clerk commented that he was alert to issues of whether the Rangers should become involved in enforcement and should this be considered appropriate a modus operandi would need to be developed to address the issues. It was commented that the Rangers should be involved particularly in regard to an advisory role and raising awareness.

**Resolved:**

- that the Clerk writes a letter to TRDC to reflect the views of the Committee namely that there was support for the proposal, enforcement must take a common sense approach and the willingness of the Council's Rangers to be considered as authorised officers for such enforcement.

EA1141/15 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.