

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 6 FEBRUARY 2018 at 8.00 PM

Present: Cllr Edmunds – In the Chair
David Allison - Clerk
Ryan Bennett – Administrative Assistant

Cllrs Cole, Montague & Vassiliou.

Voting Members: 4

In Attendance: Cllr Wallington.

EA1356/18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Collingwood & Kaur.

EA1357/18 Declarations of Interest

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

EA1358/18 Representations from the Public

There were no members of the public present.

EA1359/18 Minutes

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 December 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman and it was noted that the meeting scheduled for Tuesday 2 January was cancelled.

EA1360/18 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

EA1361/18 Works List

Members had no comments in regards to the works list.

Resolved:

- That the Works List for February 2018 be noted.

EA1362/18 Weston Wood

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk referred to the Supporting Papers and informed members that he, along with the Senior Ranger, Ranger and Administrative Assistant had undertaken a site visit to Weston Wood to go through some of the Ranger's ideas for the future of the site and how best they could be implemented.

The Clerk informed Members that the Rangers had begun to deal with the ivy on some of the trees (referred to as 'ringing') and that the most pressing matter was the installation of posts parallel to Mill Lane to prevent unauthorised car parking and fly-tipping in Weston Wood. The Clerk advised that the Council may be able to seek a grant towards the cost of the posts.

The Clerk further explained to Members that the Council would have to seek help

from external arborists to tackle some of the larger trees in Weston Wood which the Rangers were unable to manage due to not having the necessary equipment.

The Chairman explained to the Clerk that he was quite shocked to learn that the Council had to hire external arborists and commented that he expected this to have arisen before the purchase of the land was completed and that in his mind Croxley Green Parish Council were not privy to the complete information about Weston Wood before the purchase went through and that information had been withheld from Councillors. The Clerk raised an objection to the Chairman's comments.

The Administrative Assistant informed the Chairman that the Council had been informed on multiple occasions that due to the size of some of the trees external companies would have to be brought in. The Chairman asked that he be sent copies of the minutes when Council was informed.

The Clerk informed Cllrs that a hole in Weston Wood could be a potential hazard and would need to be covered to minimise a potential health and safety risk. After a discussion it was decided that a barrier and/or hazard tape is installed around the hole as a precaution. It was also considered that further information be sought about the hole in establishing exactly what it is.

Resolved:

- Members noted the proposed maintenance actions for Weston Wood;
- That a Maintenance Plan be prepared for discussion at the Committees meeting in April;
- That further information be sought about the hole.

[Post Meeting Note 1: Council Members were informed at the Extraordinary Meeting of December 8 2016 that external arborists would be required.]

[Post Meeting Note 2 : the hole is the remains of an Ice House that had been in the grounds of former Nuttfield House.]

EA1363/18 Dog Waste Bin & Bag Dispenser Locations

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk informed members that the Council had recently purchased four dog bag dispensers which were to be located throughout the village.

As per the budget submission one will be located on footpath 11. The Clerk added that the Rangers had indicated that they would like to see one installed near Stone's Orchard as they had seen a build-up of dog waste.

The Chairman indicated that he notices a large amount of dog waste on Footpath 13 when walking his dog and that it may be useful placing a dispenser there. A Cllr indicated that placing one by a children's play area would be useful to make sure the areas are kept clear of dog mess. It was suggested to place one in the Barton Way Recreation area. The Clerk advised that this location was rather close to the Library and Council Office where residents can already pick up dog bags.

Resolved:

- That the dog bag dispensers are placed on Footpath 11; near the gate in Stone's Orchard and The Green; in Baldwins Lane Recreation Park and Footpath 13.

EA1364/18 Youth Project

The Chairman introduced this item and asked Cllr Vassiliou to elaborate. Cllr Vassiliou stated that finance had been included in the budget and he considered that something more should be done for the youth of Croxley Green.

After a short discussion, it was considered that a Working Party should be set up to

take the matter forward and this be referred to Council to provide the opportunity of other Members of the Council to put themselves forward to assist in the Working Party.

Resolved:

- To recommend to Council that a Working Party be established.

EA1365/18 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.14pm