

Workington Town Council

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Minutes of the Environment Committee of Workington Town Council, 6.30pm on 11 March 2021 on the Zoom virtual meeting platform.

Cllr H Harrington (Chair)	Present
Cllr C Armstrong	Present
Cllr H Briggs	Present
Cllr R Briggs	Present
Cllr G Glaister	Present
Cllr J Hunter	Present
Cllr P Scott	Present
Cllr S Stoddart	Present
Cllr W Wilkinson (vice chair)	Present
Cllr L Williams	Apologies
Cllr J King (Mayor)	Present

In attendance: Town Clerk of Workington Town Council

E19.117 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted as being for approved reasons under the terms of the Local Government Act 1972, s85, from Cllr Lynda Williams.

E19.118 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Wilkinson reminded the Committee that he is the Secretary of Feenans Allotment Association (FAA) and the Chair of the Allotment Committee.

E19.119 Exclusion of Press and Public

No issues that require the exclusion of press or public.

E19.120 Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting on 14 January 2021 were accepted as a true record.

E19.121 Allotments

Siddick allotment site has an issue with rats. The Estates Team Leader, via the Town Clerk, requested that the Rentokil contract be extended to cover this site.

The water pipes at Stoneleigh allotment site are leaking and to repair the pipes will be costly. The Estates Team Leader recommends purchasing IBCs to go on the site until the necessary repairs can be made. They would require 8 IBCs for the site and possibly additional units for the Siddick allotment site. The Chair remarked this purchase should be considered by the allotment committee and asked for remarks from the Chair of the Allotment Committee (Cllr Will Wilkinson). Cllr Wilkinson confirmed that IBCs would be the most cost-effective solution.

Resolved: To extend the Rentokil contract to cover Siddick allotment site.

Resolved: To ask the Estate Team Leader to liaise with the Chair of the Allotment Committee about the purchase of IBCs.

E19.122. Bus Shelters

Cumbria County Council have accepted the proposed locations at Salterbeck, Moorclose and Moss Bay. The bus shelters on Harrington Road were not accepted as they were not deemed suitable for a full bus shelter. The sites might be suitable for a canopy or cantilever style bus shelter but would require a new application.

The costs for the bus shelter are higher than the current budget. The Chair recommended an EGM to make the selection.

Resolved: To hold an EGM to select the bus shelter design.

E19.123. Stainburn & Westfield

The Chair explained that there are no new significant developments for either of these projects. Cllr John Hunter confirmed that the preferred location for the Westfield bench has been identified and the project was in progress.

No further action required by the committee at this stage.

E19.124 Cumbria in Bloom

The Chair explained that Cumbria in Bloom had sent information about the RHS 'Roots for Remembrance' scheme. Individuals who would like to remember a loved one who passed away during the pandemic are being invited to join in and plant a tree (or trees) in tribute, which will then be added to a new RHS Roots of Remembrance tree map.

The deadline has passed (5 January) to apply for free trees. The Chair felt that it was interesting idea that might be worth exploring with schools.

No further action required by the committee at this stage.

E19.125 Vulcan Park

The Town Clerk is currently working on a strategy for the park and is researching inclusive play equipment. However, the equipment is expensive so will need to be gradually phased in as budget allows. Meetings are being arranged with sales representatives from various play area companies. Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr Harrington will attend the meeting along with a Town Council staff member.

The council has received two requests from the public to plant remembrance trees in Vulcan Park. Whilst this was considered to be a good idea, the committee had concerns about how such a scheme could be managed and felt that a designated area would need to be identified for any planting. The Chair proposed an alternative approach that would involve planting a rooted Christmas tree. The Christmas tree could then be used as a site of remembrance at Christmas time.

Dog fouling continues to be a problem in Vulcan Park. The committee discussed various approaches to tackling the issue, including a joint awareness campaign with Allerdale Borough Council.

Resolved: To plant a rooted Christmas tree. The location of the Christmas tree will be decided by the committee.

Resolved: To consult with the Estates Team Leader to identify an area for memorial planting and to develop guidelines for the type and style of planting.

Resolved: To develop a dog fouling awareness campaign, potentially in partnership with Allerdale Borough Council. To research dog bag dispensers for possible installation in Vulcan Park.

E19.126 Benches

The committee did not discuss this item further as it had sufficiently been covered under agenda item 7 (minute E19.123).

The meeting closed at 7.10pm.