

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 14th OCTOBER 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, and virtually, on **WEDNESDAY, 14th OCTOBER 2020 at 7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor M. Ashcroft, (Chairman) and:
Councillors Eddy Adam, Derek G. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, I Gray, B. Hall, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs S.J. Iveson, Mrs V.M. Raw, Ken Robson, Paul Symons and Sally Symons

OFFICERS

Mr A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mrs C.A. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mr S. Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)
Mr L. Williams (Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator)
Mrs J. Thexton (Head of Leisure and Events)
Miss A. Donald (Town Clerk's PA)

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Michael Stead

91. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs M. Dalton.

92. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No applications for dispensations had been received.

93. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

94. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

95. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp, seconded by Councillor I. Gray, and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee, held on the 19th August 2020, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

96. PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

It was proposed by Councillor M. Iveson, seconded by Councillor P.J. Bergg, and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Sub-Committee, held on the 16th September, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

97. ALLOTMENTS REPORT

The Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator submitted a report updating members on the Council's allotments, for the eight-week period ended 4th October 2020.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that

- i) The report be received.
- ii) An unauthorised access point from a residential property to Finchale Road allotment site be required to be removed.

98. ENVIRONMENT REPORT

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report to update members on environment items for the eight-week period ended 4th October 2020.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) Officers obtain costs for installing appropriate seating in Town Council-owned bus shelters on the town and report back to the next meeting of the Asset Management Member Working Group.

99. CEMETERIES REPORT

The Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator submitted a report giving information regarding burials and grants of grave spaces which had been issued.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report be received.

100. AYCLIFFE VILLAGE GREEN ENCROACHMENT

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report for members to consider costing for appropriate barriers on Aycliffe Village Green to protect it from vehicle encroachment and damage, as agreed at the Environment Committee on 26th February 2020, minute 77(ii) refers.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.

- ii) Officers prepare a report for the Policy and Resources Committee regarding budget allocation for fencing work to proceed in the affected area.
- iii) Consideration be given to budget allocation for fencing for other areas of village green, in the ownership of the Town Council, affected by vehicle encroachment.

101. PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE CONSULTATION

The Corporate and Policy Officer submitted a report providing members with information regarding the current Planning for the Future Consultation.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) Officers prepare a response to the consultation on behalf of the Town Council, to be considered at the Council meeting on 28th October 2020.
- iii) Officers investigate the possibility of obtaining village green status for appropriate green spaces on the town.

CHAIRMAN.