



Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council

www.rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net

Minutes of the Environment and Services Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 2nd October 2024 at 6.30pm at Village Hall

CHAIRMAN: Cllr J Wright

PRESENT: Cllr J Wright, Cllr M Newton, Cllr R Nunn, Cllr B Ward, Cllr M Odam, Cllr J Westrup, Cllr K Driver

APOLOGIES: Cllr D Francis (another commitment) Cllr R Whiting (another commitment)

CLERK: Mr Massey (Clerk). Mrs S Stannard (Assistant Clerk). Minutes taken by Mr Massey.

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the Public 0

1. APOLOGIES & APPROVAL OF ABSENCE, PROTOCOL AND CONDUCT REMINDERS

Cllr Wright reminded Councillors of the Code of Conduct, protocol for debate and statutory rights to film, record, photograph or otherwise report on the proceedings of the meeting.

Cllr Nunn proposed approval of the apologies as listed above. Seconded by Cllr Ward. Resolved with ALL in favour.

2. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18th July 2024

Cllr Newton proposed acceptance of the Environment and Services Committee minutes held on Thursday 18th July. Seconded by Cllr Ward. Resolved with ALL in favour. The minutes were duly signed as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLOR INTEREST

Cllr Wright declared a non-pecuniary interest in SCL, Acorn Trees and Greenways.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. To Identify Public Participation with Respect to Items on this Agenda

None

b. Public Forum – Members of Public/Parish Councillors May Speak on Any Matter

None

5. ALLOTMENTS

a. Report by Allotment Manager

Cllr Westrup reported that there were three empty allotment plots and that two of the empty plots have been filled. Another plot will become available at the end of December. There are 8 names on the waiting list, no residents are on the waiting list. The allotment manager thanked one of the allotment holders that have been fixing gate latches. The officers to write a letter of thanks to the allotment holder. Cllr Driver enquired about a manure bin at the allotments. Cllr Driver to speak to the Allotment Manager about this after the meeting.

Councillors noted this.

b. To Consider and Agree Improvements to Car Park at Allotments; and c. To Consider and Agree Relocation of 3 Manure Bins at Allotments

Item 5b and 5c were considered together.

Cllr Wright reported that this item was deferred from the Parish Council meeting held in September 2024. The proposal is to consider whether to remove and reinstate three manure bins at the allotments. The cost implications were discussed. At present there are not enough funding for it.

Cllr Wright proposed that the item be deferred to the January Environment and Services meeting. Seconded by Mr Driver. Resolved with ALL in favour.

d. Annual General Meeting of the Allotment Holders

Cllr Wright informed Councillors that the Annual General Meeting of the Allotment Holders will be on 22nd October 2024 at 6.30pm at the Baptist Church.

Councillors noted this.

e. Other Matters

None.

6. ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

a. To consider and agree recommendations for Tree Safety Report 2024

Cllr Wright informed Councillors that the Tree Safety Report for 2024 was received. This was made available to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Assistant Clerk reported that three quotes were asked from Acorn Trees, Tom Lyons and SCL Landscape Management Ltd. Quotes were received from Acorn Trees for £3,200 + VAT and SCL Landscape Management Ltd for £2,200 + VAT. Cllr Driver proposed that SCL Landscape Management be appointed at a cost of £2,200 + VAT as per his quote. Seconded by Cllr Nunn. Resolved with MAJORITY in favour. Cllr Wright abstained.

b. To consider and agree replacement of climbing walls at Tower Hall Play Area

Cllr Wright informed Councillors that the climbing walls at Tower Hall Play Area needs replacing. Three quotes have been requested from PlayQuip Leisure, Sovereign Play and Premier Play Solutions. Received a response from Sovereign Play and they indicated that they would quote but a £199 inspection fee must be paid prior. Only one quote from PlayQuip has been received for £2,682 + VAT for the replacement of the two climbing frames. District Councillor Deborah Dean agreed to fund the replacement of the climbing walls from her Enabling Communities Budget at East Suffolk Council.

Cllr Westrup proposed that PlayQuip be appointed at a cost of £2,682 + VAT to replace the climbing walls Tower Hall play area. Seconded by Cllr Nunn. Resolved with ALL in favour.

c. To consider and agree Arrangements for Planting of Trees in Packs to be delivered to Parish Council

The Clerk informed Councillors that the tree packs from the Woodland Trust are due to be delivered between 4-15 November. Arrangements for the planting need to be made. Councillors discussed this. It was agreed to ask Broke Hall Primary School if the children would like to help to plant and look after the saplings. If Broke Hall Primary School is unable to help then the officers would contact the Scouts to see if they are interested to help.

d. To Note Donation of Bat Boxes for Sandlings

The Assistant Clerk informed Councillors that one of the residents are donating four bat boxes to be installed on the Sandlings. Councillors noted this. It was agreed to ask James Baker from Greenways if he would be able to install the boxes on the Sandlings LNR.

e. To Consider Comments on Kelvedon Play Area

The Clerk informed Councillors that residents are asking for information and updates on the progress of Kelvedon Play Area. A draft letter was read out to be distributed to the surrounding residents. Councillors were given a progress report on the Kelvedon Sensory Garden project. It was agreed to send the draft letter read out to surrounding residents.

f. Feedback from Greenways on State of the Ponds

The Clerk informed Councillors that Greenways have reported that the annual pond inspection and maintenance checks have been carried out. Limes Pond; the slit trap has been repaired, excess weed removed with the pond in good condition with plenty of signs of wildlife, damselflies and dragonflies. Chestnut Pond; replanting of sections of fence, General cleaning and tidying, again, in good condition. Councillors noted this.

7. ROADS, VERGES AND FOOTPATHS

a. To Report on Speed Indictor Devices and Speedwatch

Mr Wright provided Councillors with a report on SIDS and Speedwatch in the parish Councillors noted this.

b. To Report on ANPRs in the Parish

Mr Wright provided Councillors with a report on ANPRs in the Parish. Councillors noted this.

8. CORRESPONDENCE & ANY OTHER MATTERS

a. To Note Correspondence received

The Clerk informed Councillors about correspondence received regarding the manure bins and car park at the cemetery. The resident will be updated that this item has been referred to the January Environment and Services Committee meeting.

The Clerk informed Councillors about correspondence received regarding parking along Chestnut Close. The correspondence was discussed, and it was agreed that this will be deferred to the Police to deal with obstruction issues.

Cllr Wright made Councillors aware that correspondence have been received regarding the erection of the fence between Nr 6 St Andrews Close and the Lawn Cemetery. Cllr Wright provided Councillors with a progress report regarding the fence. The correspondence regarding the conclusion of the boundary fence at the cemetery was referred to the October Parish Council meeting.

9. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None

10. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.26pm.