

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE OF THE CANVEY ISLAND  
TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE PADDOCKS, LONG ROAD, CANVEY ISLAND ON  
MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2009 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: J. Anderson (Chairman)  
R. Bishop B. Dixie P. Greig R. Howard J. Liddiard  
D. Anderson D. Blackwell N. Pontius

Also present: Borough Cllr Lee Barrett and one member of the press  
Mrs E. De Can – Assistant to the Clerk

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr N Harvey was not present due to work commitments.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Cllr Barrett asked why he had received no appendices with his agenda for this meeting. The Assistant to the Clerk explained that the Council were trying to reduce the amount of paper used and that this was the first agenda that had been tested.

Cllr Barratt also wanted to thank the Town Council for purchasing a plaque for the late Cllr Christine Andrews as he felt that she was an inspiration to him and helped him when he became a councillor.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk continue to send all appendices with committee agendas to all Canvey Borough Councillors, Chief Executive of CPBC, the Press and the Leader of CPBC.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009**

**Item 6. Highways Matters**

Cllr Bishop advised that Lionel Road is no longer being considered for disabled parking bays, however, the area outside Barclays Bank is now the preferred area. A Highways meeting is taking place on the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009 to discuss this issue.

**Item 14. Bumblebee Park (Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009.**

CPBC have confirmed that Pinnacle have taken over the watering of the Bumblebee Park until CITC take over the responsibility of the maintenance in March 2010.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to CPBC to arrange a meeting to discuss a contract of work for the Bumblebee Park and the Seafront Gardens.

**Item 7. Skateboard Park/Bungalow**

Members were advised that the Council had received an invoice for the insurance and that CPBC were reviewing the electric bills to establish what the Council owes.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk establish the costs of cleaning from Legacy for discussion and agreement at the next committee meeting.

**Item 10. Environment & Conservation Forum**

Cllr Bishop advised that the Wildlife Event has been postponed until 2010.

**Item 12. Seafront Gardens**

Members noted that there is still further work required in the gardens which does not fall within the agreement made between CITC and Pinnacle.

Cllr Anderson advised that the front of the advertising boards in the gardens require refurbishing. A budget of £200 was agreed giving the power to the Clerk to arrange for the refurbishment to take place.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk;

- Write to Ian Burchill and Steve Rogers to arrange a meeting to discuss the ongoing maintenance of the gardens.
- Write to Pinnacle to establish why they have not started to mend the fences as stated in their agreement.
- Arrange for the refurbishment of the front of the advertising boards within the budget of £200.

**Item 14. Town Centre**

Members noted the lamp posts that had been agreed with Highways for replacement. Members were advised that the plants in the planters had been destroyed by vandals.

**RESOLVED** that;

- The Clerk arranges a site visit to discuss the locations for the new planters.
- The Clerk to contact the Knightswick Centre to establish whether the vandalism had been reported to the Police and whether CCTV footage is available.
- The Clerk to ensure that CPBC are aware of the new columns for the Xmas decorations.

**Item 15. Thorney Bay**

Members noted that this item is to be carried forward to the next meeting.

**AGREED** that the Clerk advise the Council of the legality of this proposal.

**Item 16. Probation Service**

Cllr Howard advised that Highways had reported that due to the Town Councils request to paint the railings in the town centre, the rangers were unable to clear weeds as requested. The Assistant to the Clerk informed members that Highways had offered to complete this task as the probation service were no longer able to continue due to health and safety reasons and the railing had only been partly painted

**AGREED** that the painting of the bollards in the town centre be added to the list for the probation service.

**Item 20. Creeky Wood Sign**

Members were advised that the sign has now been completed and Design 4 Print had been asked to hold off putting this at Creeky Wood until the schools return from the summer holidays so that the publicity could be done with the school in attendance.

## 5. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- i) Members noted the report provided by Nick McCullagh. Cllr Bishop advised that since this report a serious accident had taken place at the junction of Long Road and Thorne Bay Road.
- ii) Members reviewed and considered the Street Light Pilot Scheme and concerns were raised as it was felt that this would be an open invitation for vandals in such a residential area.

### **RESOLVED to;**

- Oppose this scheme as Canvey Island is not a suitable applicant for this scheme due to its environment and the safety issues involved for residents.
- Send Cllr Bishop and Cllr Liddiard as the Town Council representatives to the Scrutiny meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

- iii) Members agreed to provide Cllr Bishop with any new proposals for the next Highways Panel meeting.

## 6. TEWKES CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

Members noted a report provided by David White detailing the progress of the Environmental Improvements. Members were advised that a bird hide was no longer available as the Environment Agency no longer has the budget for this item and there are concerns that this would be used inappropriately.

### **RESOLVED for;**

- The Clerk to ensure that the Environment Agency dredge the part of the creek that no longer has salt water.

## 7. TACKLING DOG FOULING

An update was not possible as Cllr Harvey was not present at the meeting.

### **RESOLVED that:**

- A report should be provided when a member is not able to attend a meeting to enable the committee to discuss the issues.
- A sub committee is set up to discuss the issues before submitting to the Council.
- The Clerk arranges a meeting with CPBC (Ian Burchill, David Marchant, Cllr Dixie, Cllr Harvey and Cllr Grieg) to consider working in partnership to resolve this ongoing issue.
- The Clerk provides figures for consideration of the cost of a warden.

## 8. COMMORATIVE PLAQUE FOR CLLR CHRISTINE ANDREWS

Members were provided with three quotes for possible plaques.

### **RESOLVED;**

- The purchase of the engraved brass plaque supplied by The Sign Maker at a cost of £79.62 excluding VAT.
- The Clerk to discuss the wording with Richard Andrews before the purchase.

## 9. ALLOTMENTS

Members received and noted a report from the site meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009.

## 10. CANVEY LAKE

Members noted a report provided by the Clerk with reference to the contract received from CPBC.

### **RESOLVED to;**

- A sub committee consisting of Cllr Dixie, Cllr Blackwell, Cllr J Anderson and the Clerk are set up to review the contract and report to the next full Council.
- The Clerk to provide a breakdown of all points that require review.

#### **11. HANGING BASKETS**

Members noted a report supplied by the Clerk and were asked to consider the replacement of existing plants, maintenance and watering of the existing hanging baskets. The Assistant to the Clerk advised that pigeons have been nesting in the baskets.

##### **RESOLVED to;**

- Not replace the existing plants.
- To continue to water twice a week by Mr B. Cox at a cost of £22 per water.
- Cllr Blackwell, Cllr Liddiard and Cllr D Anderson to advise of planting requirements for the next committee meeting so that the Clerk can inform Stuart Kingston for the November deadline.
- The Clerk to contact Rayleigh Town Council to establish the cost and maintenance regime for their hanging baskets.

#### **12. FOUR YEAR PLAN**

Councillors noted the committee's four year plan.

#### **13. ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION FORUM**

Members noted a report from the meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Cllr Bishop provided a brief update and confirmed that the next meeting is to be held in September/October to decide the date of the Wildlife Event. Cllr Blackwell advised that the problems with motorbikes and 4x4 racing at Canvey Wick was becoming out of control and a meeting had been arranged by Cllr Howard with the Chief Executive of Police to discuss these issues.

##### **RESOLVED that;**

- The Clerk writes to Natural England, Morrison's and EOE Development to express the Councils disappointment of not being kept up to date of the progress of Canvey Wick.

#### **14. SUSTAINABILITY GROUP**

Cllr. Blackwell advised that the next meeting was to be held in September.

#### **15. PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP**

Cllr Bishop confirmed that a meeting had taken place today with Adam Jenkins and the Assistant to the Clerk. A survey is required of all right of way access and volunteer groups will be required. Cllr Bishop and the Assistant to the Clerk will review the requirements and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

CHAIRMAN

DATE