

EPWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee held on Monday, 29th November 2021, at 7.00 pm, in the Chapel of Rest, Cemetery Lodge, Burnham Road, Epworth

- 01/11/21** **Record of Members Present**
The following councillors were present: Councillors Finch (Chairwoman), Brumby, J Whittaker & Woods.
- 02/11/21** **Apologies for Absence**
There were no apologies.
- 03/11/21** **Declaration of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 04/11/21** **Dispensations**
No dispensations had been granted.
- 05/11/21** **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**
- (i) Toilets** - The Clerk had obtained some quotes for temporary toilets to be provided either over the weekend or just on the Sunday itself, however it was made clear that the Council would be responsible for them whilst they were onsite, therefore the Clerk is to check if the Council's insurance policy would provide any cover.
- (ii) Bunting** - It was suggested that bunting should be put up around the Market Place, along Church Street, and down High Street, however some concerns were expressed about the cost of it at £1,600, therefore Councillor Finch would look at the amount of bunting needed to just cover the Market Place.
- (iii) Competitions for Best Dressed Shop Window & Best Themed Garden**
- Ideas for a Best Dressed Shop Window Competition were considered and councillors were provided with a draft poster for such an event and in addition potential prizes were discussed. In addition, ideas for a Best Themed Garden were also considered, and again possible prizes were discussed. It was agreed that £100 needed to be set aside in the budget for prizes for the Best Dressed Shop Window and Best Themed Garden.
- (iv) Advert** - It was suggested that an advert could be placed in the Arrow to promote the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - including the competitions. This would cost approximately a £100 for half a page.
- (vi) Venues** - It was queried about which venue should be used for the Concert, and questions were asked about the maximum numbers allowed and if a charge could be made. It was agreed the Marina Mae Concert should be held at the Thurlow Pavilion, and the Clerk should confirm the booking.
- (vii) Children's Work** - It was suggested that children's poetry / paintings / artwork to do with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee should be put on public display and the Church was suggested as a possible venue and needed to be approached about this.

(viii) **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Grant** - North Lincolnshire Council were offering grants of up to £250 towards the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and therefore the Committee considered ideas for such a grant, and it was suggested a tree be planted to commemorate the occasion with a plaque.

Proposed by Councillor Brumby and seconded by Councillor Woods - **It was resolved that the above information be noted, however given the deadline a recommendation should be made to Full Council to apply for a grant for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee to plant a tree with a small plaque to commemorate the occasion.**

06/11/21

North Lincolnshire Council's Waste Bin Consultation

North Lincolnshire Council were carrying out a Waste Bin Consultation, and the Clerk provided each member of the Committee with a map showing the existing locations of bins, which was then discussed by councillors. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Woods - **It was resolved that a recommendation should be made to Full Council to ask North Lincolnshire Council to:- (i) Move the bin outside Cemetery Lodge to the car park at the bottom of the Cemetery. (ii) Provide a bin on Fieldside, because there is currently no bin on the whole of Fieldside. (iii) Move the bin at the top of Hollingsworth Lane to the bottom of the tarmac road which leads to the Church. (iv) Provide a bin on Station Road near to where they used to be a phone box and nursery, and another bin on High Street between traffic lights and Tottermire Lane.**

07/11/21

Spring in Bloom Grant

It was suggested that a grant should be sought from North Lincolnshire Council to move the two existing planters on Tottermire Lane - which were obscured by the newly erected telecommunications mast to new locations, to re-treat the wood and replant them. Discussion then ensued on where these planters could be moved to and potential new sites included outside Torne Valley, on the bend at the end of Rectory Street as you leave for Owston Ferry, and opposite the telecommunications mast on Tottermire Lane - but all needed the consent of the landowner. It was estimated that the cost of doing this would be about £290. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Brumby - **It was resolved that a recommendation should be made to Full Council to apply for a grant from Spring in Bloom to move the two existing planters, and then restrain and replant them.**

08/11/21

Tables for Chapel of Rest

It was believed there was a need for new tables in the Chapel of Rest, and councillors were provided with different types of tables for consideration. It was felt that folding tables would allow more flexibility when using the room. The cost of four tables would be £385 + VAT. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Woods - **It was resolved that a recommendation should be made to Full Council to purchase four folding tables for the Chapel of Rest.**

09/11/21

Mowbray Tiles

A resident had attended the last meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday, 2nd November 2021, and asked if the Council could consider where the tiles could be put on public display. Due to constraints of time, it was felt that this item could wait. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor R Whittaker - **It was resolved that the item be deferred to the next meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee.**

- 10/11/21** **Amey**
 The Clerk provided members of the Committee with a copy of the correspondence he had received from Amey, who then discussed ways in which their offer of voluntary work within the local community could be taken up by the Council. Councillor Brumby left the meeting during this item due to her not feeling well. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Woods - **It was resolved that a recommendation should be made to Full Council that Amey should be asked to help with:- (i) Lighting of the Beacon for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. (ii) Litter picking of the main roads into / out of Epworth with the Ecoists. (iii) Tidying-up of the Market Place.**
- 11/11/21** **Community Orchard**
 Councillor Whittaker provided the Committee with some feedback from The Rectory about a community orchard. She said there was an interest and willingness to look at a community orchard and they would be holding a meeting via Zoom on Thursday, 9th December 2021, to discuss it. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Woods - **It was resolved that the feedback be noted.**
- 12/11/21** **Gravel for Cemetery Paths**
 It was felt there was a need for more gravel on the cemetery paths, and quotes had been provided to see the cost of doing this. The cost of purchasing three tonnes of gravel for the cemetery paths would be £140 + VAT. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Woods - **It was resolved that a recommendation should be made to Full Council to purchase three tonnes of gravel for the cemetery footpaths.**
- 13/11/21** **Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016 Consultation**
 The Clerk had provided each member of the Committee with a copy of correspondence he had received from NALC via ERNLLCA about the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 Consultation. The consultation affects councils which are burial authorities and has specific regard to amending the regulations around activities which affect groundwater. It will affect all burial authorities and existing cemeteries / burial grounds. Whilst the proposals include an exemption from the permitting scheme for small cemeteries i.e. those with fewer than a hundred burials per year, in order to qualify as an 'exempt facility' a cemetery will have to comply with the General Binding Rules, one of which is that the minimum size of a grave plot will be no smaller than five square metres. Serious concerns were expressed by the Committee as this would have a detrimental affect on the space available for future burials as a result of a grave size having to be a minimum of five square metres. In effect this would reduce the capacity of a cemetery when space may already be limited and land at a premium. The Committee answered some of the questions raised in the consultation. Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor R Whittaker - **It was resolved that a recommendation should be made to Full Council that:- (i) It should agree with the answers given by the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee in response to the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 Consultation. (ii) It should send it to DEFRA, NALC and the MP.**

14/11/21 **Precept for 2022 / 2023**

Members of the Committee considered if there was any future expenditure which needed to be taken into account before the setting of the precept for 2022 / 2023.

It was suggested the following should be taken into account:-

Hanging Baskets / Planters / Fittings / Plants & Compost	3,500
Water Bowser Maintenance	200
Street Furniture	1,000
Best Kept Village Competition	40
Equipment for Handyman	150
Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations	2,000
Outdoor Gym Project	1,000
Cleaning Materials	40
Petrol for Mowers	150
Water & Sewerage Charges	280
Trade Waste Bin	750
Tree Inspection / Maintenance	3,500
Cemetery Lodge Repairs / Maintenance	2,500
Safety Work	1,000
Cemetery Markers	30
Machinery Maintenance	300
Topsoil	500
	£16,940

Proposed by Councillor Finch and seconded by Councillor Woods - **It was resolved that the above expenditure should be taken into account before the setting of the precept for 2022 / 2023.**

15/11/21 **Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Combined Cemetery & Environment Committee is due to be held on Monday, 20th December 2021, at 7.00 pm, in the Chapel of Rest, Cemetery Lodge, Burnham Road, Epworth. **It was resolved that the information be noted.**

16/11/21 **Closure of Meeting**

The Chairwoman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.