

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on**

**5th March 2024 at 7pm**

**Present:** Cllrs J Turner (Chair), J Ashton, D Shaw

**In attendance:** Deputy Clerk, Dave McDougall (Litter Free Baildon) and Richard Nottidge (BHS)

# ENV2324/35 Chair’s opening remarks

Cllr Turner welcomed members of the public to the meeting and introductions were done.

Cllr Turner also confirmed that Friends of Baildon Moor are looking for members to join and would be happy to welcome individuals from Friends of the Earth and Walkers are Welcome.

# ENV2324/36 Approve reasons for absence.

Resolved to approve reasons for absence of Cllrs Sharkey and Wyatt-Millington.

# ENV2324/37 Disclosures of interest

# Cllr Ashton declared an interest as a volunteer at BHCC.

# ENV2324/38 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of 7th November 2023.

**ENV2324/39 Clerks Report**

The Deputy Clerk advised on various issues:

* The Deputy Clerk advised that the committee will now receive regular updates on risk assessments for upcoming events etc such as BHCC Management Team planned activities.
* The Jenny Lane Play Area works are hopefully going to start on 29th April 2024. There is also the prospect of group of Councillors, as well as a small group from one of the local schools, being shown around the area as the works begin.
* The Baildon Spring Clean Fortnight will run from 15th March to 31st March 2024. Dave McDougall, in attendance on behalf of Litter Free Baildon, advised that there are various events running across Baildon over the fortnight. Cllr Turner thanked Dave for his hard work in keeping the village clean. Richard Nottidge also confirmed he would raise the event at the next BHS meeting.

**ENV2324/40** **Important Information from Councillors and Staff**

None

**ENV2324/41** **Baildon Horticultural Society / Allotments**

Richard Nottidge gave a brief update on the front hedge of the Thompson Lane allotments. It was noted that the hedge had been removed and a new fence installed. This was done well and looked neat. The site was now much more secure and everyone at BHS was happy with the result.

Richard then gave a detailed report on the need for securing the rear of the Thompson Lane allotments where the current fencing has been in a dilapidated state for a while. This is now causing security concerns as well as health and safety issues with people and kids trespassing on the site. Richard provided 3 quotes that have been sourced from local companies for erecting new fencing at the site. BHS will clear the site beforehand. Bradford Council have already confirmed to BHS that the trees that need to come down do not have TPOs on them. Richard also advised that he had discussed the fact that the work may need phasing over 2 years with each of the contractors and they were receptive to this. The Chair thanked Richard for his report and the work he had put into the project.

Resolved that:

**ENV2324/41.1 – To approve quote 1 of £9200 and delegate the arrangement of the works, and payment, to the Clerk.**

**ENV2324/41.2 – The works be phased over 2 financial years (24/25 and 25/26).**

**ENV2324/41.3 – To fund the works as follows:**

* 24/25 - £1500 from the Allotments budget line and £4039 from the allotments earmarked reserve.
* 25/26 - £1500 from the Allotments budget line and £2193 from the allotments earmarked reserve.

The Management Agreement was also discussed. Richard advised that BHS were concerned that the agreement would be signed only once every 5 years due to committee turnover.

**ENV2324/41.4 – Resolved to review and sign the management on a yearly basis and delegate the same to the Clerk and Chair of the Environment Committee.**

**ENV2324/42** **Bracken Hall Countryside Centre**

The Deputy Clerk provided an update from the BHCC Management Team and ongoing developments. The Deputy Clerk provided Management Team Terms of Reference which had been discussed at the recent meeting, as well as 4 risk assessments covering group visits, indoor activities, outdoor activities and general visitors.

**ENV2324/42.1 Resolved to receive and approve the updated Management Team Terms of Reference and Risk Assessments.**

The BHCC Managers report was received and discussed. The committee noted their concerns regarding the counting methods for footfall and their accuracy and discussed whether the Management Team should explore option for more accurate counting.

A report from the Change Group was received. Cllr Turner advised that while there is an update to be received from the Management Team at the end of the year, it had been discussed whether it would be beneficial to have an interim update / report at the next committee meeting.

**ENV2324/42.2 Resolved that the Change Group will bring an interim report to the committee at the summer meeting (date TBD) as well as bringing a report to the autumn meeting, and that this report will include details on protocols used for recording footfall.**

**ENV2324/43 Grit Bins**

A report from the Deputy Clerk was received and noted.

# ENV2324/44 Painting the Village Centre Railings

The Deputy Clerk gave a brief report on the possible works and the quotes were considered.

**Resolved to approve the painting of all the village centre railings for the sum of £1963 from the Green and Clean budget line and delegate the commission and payment for the works to the Clerk.**

# ENV2324/45 Committee Budget

The 23/24 committee budget was received and considered.

Resolved:

* Footpaths (3002) - £1000 moved into a new Jenny Lane Woodland Play earmarked reserve as per ENV2324/25. £1500 moved into the BHCC reserve. £500 moved into a new Footpaths earmarked reserve.
* Green Spaces Fund (3005) - £2200 moved into the new Jenny Lane Woodland Play earmarked reserve as per ENV2324/23. £800 vired into the BHCC operating / projects budget line.
* Baildon Green and Clean (3011) - £500 moved into the BHCC earmarked reserve.
* Baildon Benches (3021) - £1966.67 moved into the earmarked benches reserve.
* Tree Planting (3025) - £1000 moved into the earmarked tree planting reserve.

**ENV2324/46 Planning Applications**

Resolved to make the following comment:

24/00325/FUL - Baildon Town Council has concerns about over-development of this constrained plot of land given the plans to build 3 properties on such a modest site. As such Baildon Town Council objects to this application.

24/00454/FUL – No Comment

24/00457/HOU – No Comment

24/00430/HOU – No Comment

24/00363/HOU – No Comment

24/00358/LBC – No Comment

24/00268/HOU – No Comment

24/00293/LBC – No Comment

**ENV2324/47 To notify the Clerk of any items for future agenda.**

Baildon Town Council grit bins to be widely promoted

**ENV2324/48 Next meeting date(s)**

TBD