

Harrietsham Parish Council Environmental Committee

Minutes of the Environmental Committee Meeting held on Thursday 17th March 2016 in the Parish Office Committee Office starting 7:30pm

1. Present: Cllr Glenda Dean, Cllr Ken Kay, Cllr Michael Williams, Co Opt, Sharone Amos and David Oversby.
2. Apologies: No apologies. No members of the Public.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as signed. Proposed by Cllr Dean and seconded by Cllr Williams.
4. Matters Arising:

Nothing to mention
5. Declarations of Interest declared

Nothing to mention
6. Review of Amenities Contracts
 - 6.1 Amenities Contract tenders were opened in full view to ensure envelopes were sealed before opening. All three Contract tenders and costs were discussed at great length from the following suppliers: Heber £15,430.00, Landscape Services £19,596.00 and JB Landscapes £21,000.00. Environmental Committee voted on the matter where Heber came first with two to one against. Cost was the prime decision, but will require Full Council to vote. It was also mentioned regarding poor performance against Heber for current running contracts. Value for money is important, but equally important that a good service is provided.
 - 6.2 Appointment for an Amenities Contract Manager was also discussed. This will require further discussion and to include a Salary figure.
7. Playground report and remedial action
 - 7.1 Playground report requires replacement of bushes on the top shackle for the buddy swing. Replacement bolt and nut have temporarily been fitted. Replacement chains also discussed which will require further investigation. Previous install for the Mats appear to have not been placed correctly that requires attention. Cllr Dean to research should some guarantee be active with the company that installed the mats. Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds (£250) was approved by Full Council for the playground fixings. However, it was mentioned that 106 monies to the value of Fifteen Thousand Pounds (£15,000) is available for the Glebe Field Playground. This will require Full Council to approve.
8. Church wall letter 'informal path' discussion
 - 8.1 St John the Baptist PCC Secretary Ms Katherin Daking wrote to the previous chairman 'Mr Allwood' on 20th January 2016. Request for HPC to consider a donation towards the cost of a gate between the churchyard and the Parish Council Meadow. Environmental Committee voted resulting in 'NO' as it is not a HPC matter.

9. Village Tree competition

9.1 The KENT Men of the Trees correspondence received on the 5th of March relating to Trees in the Village Competition was discussed at length. Decision to defer for consideration next year.

10. Soil mounds on the Glebe Field.

10.1 Seeds are now available and will be sown this year. Mini digger was mentioned in previous minutes, but now not required. Sharone Amos will report back to the committee regarding current condition of the mounds to enable the best opportunity and time to sow the seeds.

11 Items for discussion at the next Meeting

Nothing mentioned.

10. Date of next meeting – 19th May 2016

11. Meeting closed at 21:17hrs.