

# Helsby Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held at 7.06pm on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in the Committee Room

### Present:

Cllr. Terry O'Neill – Chairman  
Cllr. Sam Johnson

Cllr. Mallie Poulton – Vice Chairman  
Cllr. Chris Ellams

Cllr. Stuart Hulse  
Cllr. Michelle Massey

### In attendance:

Cllr. Sarah Temple

1. Public Air Time. Proposed by Cllr. Hulse, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED – that the meeting be suspended for public participation – E07/19.** Cllr. Temple asked if the planter, maintained by Helsby Old Chester Road Allotment Association – HOCRAA and currently located outside of the One-Stop, could be moved to next to the railings at the top of the ginnel (where the bench used to be). In its current position, its being used as an ashtray, it accumulates litter and can get damaged by car doors opening due to close proximity to parked vehicles. HOCRAA will arrange to move the planter but have asked if it can be done quickly to enable them to replant with summer bedding. The committee suggested that the Clerk writes to Highways to seek their approval to move the planter to the suggested location. There being no further matters brought to the committee's attention it was proposed by Cllr. Hulse, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED – that Public Air Time be closed and the meeting reconvened – E08/19.**
2. Apologies for absence – received and accepted from Cllr. Barry.
3. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests – none reported.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Hulse, seconded by Cllr. Johnson and **RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 be accepted as accurate and duly signed by the Chairman – E09/19.**
5. Matters arising from the previous minutes
  - 5.1 Land known locally as the Maltby Triangle on junction of A56 Chester Road / Old Chester Road. The Clerk was hoping to receive 'Draft Management Agreement' from CWaC Localities Manager in time for the meeting but it did not arrive. The committee acknowledged that it was on its way and that CWaC had agreed to our request.
  - 5.2 Tesco Stores – request to install Belisha Beacons either side of the painted road markings. Tesco was unable to act on the Parish Council's request although they had promised to monitor. The committee reluctantly accepted the decision from Tesco.
  - 5.3 LITE would store the Standalone Reindeer until required. It had been added to the Assets Register – duly noted.
  - 5.4 Public Art. Cllr. O'Neill reported that he had seen a photograph of a 3-D Zebra Crossing that had been painted on the road somewhere in London. It had the effect of slowing the traffic down. Perhaps it was something that the Public Art money could be useful for – duly noted.

6. The committee reviewed its budget for 2019/20 as follows – duly noted: -

Budget Heading Code	Description	Budget 2019/20 £	Spend to date £	Predicted to 31/03/20 £
218	Planters	1,100	0	1,000
219	Village Clock	300	0	300
220	Maltby Triangle etc	1,000	0	1,000
223	Litter / dog / grit bins	400	0	400
224	Village Awards	200	0	200
225	Ho Ho Helsby	1,050	0	1,050
227	Bridge Lantern Lights	1,000	124	1,000
228	Christmas Lights	15,500	0	15,500
228a	Christmas Tree	2,700	0	2,700
229	SherwoodCourt Land	1,200	265	1,200
230	Street furn/BT boxes	500	0	1,000 <sup>(a)</sup>

(a) The end of year figures would increase due to the extra cost to employ KDE to provide electrical inspection certification for both defibrillators. The same budget would be used to employ Whittles to paint K6 Phone Box £596.40 incl VAT – duly noted.

7. Sherwood Court Site – no matters reported.

8. Miscellaneous Matters

8.1 Compost for planters. Proposed by Cllr. Hulse, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED – that the Parish Council be RECOMMENDED to donate a bag of compost (supplied by Village Produce Association) to each sponsor of the large green planters – E10/19.**

8.2 Daffodils. Due to pipe laying damaging some lengths of the daffodil run, the committee considered planting new bulbs in the autumn to plug the gaps. Cllr. Randles had checked out the areas requiring attention which were opposite number 304 Chester Road to Ideal Gardens (Turf business) and between the Horse & Jockey site and Plovers Lane. Proposed by Cllr. Hulse, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED – that the Parish Council be RECOMMENDED to purchase daffodil bulbs in time to be planted in the autumn to plug the gaps in the existing display between 304 Chester Road to Ideal Gardens and between Horse & Jockey development to Plovers Lane – E11/19.**

8.3 Cheshire and VE Day 75 – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The Pageantmaster had written re the celebration/commemoration of VE Day. The Parish Council would be joining in the National Beacon Scheme by lighting the beacon on the 8<sup>th</sup> May. Much discussion ensued about organising a village event.

The Parish Council could draw on its own experiences having organised a parade for the Diamond Jubilee and also that of Cllr. Poulton who arranged the St George's Day pageant in Frodsham. The organisation of an event would require the community, churches, schools and businesses to come together although it was generally acknowledged that the Parish Council would take the lead. It was proposed by Cllr. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Johnson and **RESOLVED – that the Parish Council be RECOMMENDED to place an article in Helsby News asking for all interested parties to contact the Parish Council if they wish to be part of Cheshire and VE Day 75 – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 celebration – E12/19.**

- 8.4 Conservation Area. The Parish Council was in the very early stages. Mrs Sue Lorimer had managed to obtain costs from Kirsty Henderson who was the Built Environment Officer (Conservation and Design) for Cheshire West and Chester Council. The committee viewed the sequence of stages and estimated costs for consideration. The CWaC Localities Officer had confirmed that the project / proposal would not be eligible for S106 funding. Proposed by Cllr. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Hulse and **RESOLVED – that the Parish Council be RECOMMENDED to use the unspent budget for Election Expenses totalling £3,556 to go towards meeting the professional fees and all other associated expenses relating to designating a Conservation Area in Helsby – E13/19.** Cllr. O'Neill reported that it was an important aspect of the Neighbourhood Plan review group to include 'Conservation Area' in the appraisal.
9. Village 'Best-Kept' Competition. The committee considered organising the event. Cllr. Poulton suggested having a 'Community Pride Awards' where people that did something outstanding could be put forward for selection in different categories. Although well received by the committee, they had always struggled getting residents to apply. Setting up a Facebook Page was strongly suggested by Cllrs. Massey and Poulton, that all Parish Councillors could input and advertise what the Parish Council was doing. Incoming comments would be blocked as it would not be promoted as a means to criticise or demean what the Parish Council was doing. It would not take the place of the Website, which was very well managed by Cllr. Ellams and one of the most important tools in the Parish Council's armour. Proposed by Cllr. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Hulse and **RESOLVED – that the Parish Council be RECOMMENDED to consider opening up a Facebook Page specifically to advertise Parish Council events and to impart useful information – E14/19.**

The committee agreed to consider Cllr. Poulton's 'Community Pride Awards' ideas for 2020/2021 if the response from Facebook Page is encouraging.

Proposed by Cllr. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Johnson and **RESOLVED – that the Parish Council be RECOMMENDED to organised the Helsby Village 'Best-Kept' awards for 2019 including the following categories – E15/19 -**

**Gardens South**

**Gardens Central**

**Gardens North**

**QD & OCR allotments – Parks Committee select based on the inspection results**

**Planter**

**Commercial premises**

10. Urgent matters - none reported.

11. Date of the next meeting – Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

The meeting closed at 8pm

Chairman's signature..... Dated.....

