



# Helsby Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held virtually at 7.10pm on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 via Zoom

### Present:

Cllr. Terry O'Neill – Chairman  
Cllr. Chris Ellams – Vice Chairman  
Cllr. Mike Branigan  
Cllr. Peter Duffy  
Cllr. Michelle Massey

### Also present:

Claire Jones Parish Clerk

1. Public Air Time – Proposed by Cllr. Duffy, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED that the meeting be suspended for public participation – E1/21**. There being no matters brought to the Committee's attention, it was proposed by Cllr. Duffy, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED that Public Air Time be closed and the meeting reconvened – E2/21**.
2. No apologies were received.
3. Declarations of disclosable interests. None were reported.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Ellams, seconded by Cllr. Branigan and **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 be accepted as accurate. They would be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity – E3/21**.
5. Matters arising from the previous minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Reports were received as follows:
  - Sherwood Court outdoor gym maintenance – the Clerk to order paint and contact Cllr. Bowers based on his offer to help with the maintenance work.
  - Litter picking – the Clerk to contact scouts to see if they would be willing to organise future events.
  - Noticeboard – it was noted that an order had been placed with Greenbarnes and delivery was expected by end March. The Clerk to arrange installation with Northwich Town Council in due course.
  - Best Kept Village Awards – due to continuing COVID restrictions, it was proposed by Cllr. Massey, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED to postpone the competition for another 12 months – E4/21**.

- SecREETs meeting – Cllr. O’Neill outlined that he had attended the meeting on less common metals.

6. The Environment Committee budget for the year 2020/21 was noted as follows:

Budget Heading Code	Description	Budget 2020/21 £	Budget Spend to Date £
218	Planters/Bedding Plants	400	270
219	Village Clock	300	0
220	Maltby Triangle/A56 Land	1020	382
223	Litter/dog/grit bins	400	0
224	Village Awards	200	0
225	Ho Ho Helsby Traffic M’ment	1100	0
227	Bridge Lantern Lights	1000	525
228	Christmas Illuminations	15500	13105
228a	Christmas Tree	3000	3390
229	Sherwood Court Land	2000	915
230	Street Furniture/BT boxes	250	0
231	War Memorial	1000	0

The following was also noted:

- Code 218 - invoice expected shortly for bedding plants at around £400.
- Code 219 - decision made at Full Council on 8/2/21 not to service clock this year due to access difficulties.
- Code 220 – some monies remaining to be spent on possible tree work.
- Code 223 - vandalised bin removed from play area by Northwich TC at a cost of £117.60. Replacement to be considered by PCA Committee in April.
- Codes 224 and 225 not held due to Covid.
- Code 227 – another bill of around £130 expected.
- Code 228 - £240 paid to Northwich TC for repairs to reindeer.
- Code 229 – invoice due from Ascent Arboriculture for £1260.
- Code 230 potential project to install defib in newly purchased box on Chester Road (with grant funds).

A short discussion was held about the possibility of providing a planted Christmas tree in future years. Cllr. Duffy outlined that he had sought some advice from Ascent Arboriculture. Members agreed to consider options at a future meeting.

7. Miscellaneous matters

- 7.1 ‘Helsby the Art of Here’ public art project – Cllr. Ellams outlined that a creative producer was being recruited and that he was working on another slide presentation for the display screen. Cllr. Ellams agreed to take part in the creative producer interview process, if available.
- 7.2 Helsby Hill Conservation Area – Cllr. Ellams reported that he had been in discussion with James Dixon, Conservation Officer at CW&C, in relation to providing some frequently asked questions and answers for the website. He also agreed to

establish whether the Parish Council could choose not to proceed with the designation should the conservation area proposals prove to be generally unpopular with local residents. Cllr. Ellams agreed to set up a working group meeting shortly.

- 7.3 Maltby Triangle – members considered the various conditions as outlined in the lease agreement. It was agreed that the following tasks would be incorporated into the new general assistant’s work duties – weeding, litter picking, annual bedding, sanding and painting the bench. It was proposed by Cllr. O’Neill, seconded by Cllr. Ellams and **RESOLVED to seek three quotations for various work to the lime and cypress trees – E5/21.**
  - 7.4 Sherwood Court outdoor gym maintenance and Welcome to Helsby signage – Clerk to arrange work. Members noted various offers of assistance.
  - 7.5 Phone box opposite Bates Lane – Clerk to contact Cllr. Bowers in relation to grant funding for the defibrillator.
  - 7.6 New parish noticeboard – see update under item 5.
  - 7.7 Noticeboard repair at Sherwood Court – members noted a delay of the replacement parts due to a backlog through UK ports.
8. Liaison committee and/or emission monitoring reports – Cllr. Ellams outlined that he had attended a virtual liaison meeting at Liverpool Airport. It was noted that overall CO<sup>2</sup> emissions had fallen there by at least 50% over the last 10 years and they were currently looking at reducing emissions from their standby diesel generators.
9. Urgent matters – it was noted that the Clerk had reported damage to the grass verge along Primrose Lane caused by a hedge cutting vehicle with CW&C.
10. Date of next meeting – to be agreed.

The meeting closed at 7.46pm

Chairman’s signature ..... Dated.....