



Helsby Parish Council

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held at 7.15pm in the Parish Office at Helsby Community Sports Club on Monday 4th July 2022

Present:

Cllr. Terry O'Neill (Chairman)

Cllr. Chris Ellams

Cllr. Peter Duffy

Also present:

Claire Jones Parish Clerk

- Public Participation – It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting be suspended for public participation – **E09/22**. There being no matters brought to the Committee's attention, it was **RESOLVED** that Public Air Time be closed and the meeting reconvened – **E10/22**.
- Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Marsh and Branigan.
- Declarations of Members' Interests. None were reported.
- Confirmation of Previous Minutes. It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 21st February 2022 be accepted as accurate and duly signed by the Chairman – **E11/22**.
- Matters arising. Under Item 5, it was noted that an announcement had not been made in relation to the average speed camera pilot. However, Cllr. O'Neill outlined that the police were looking into replacing the handheld speed camera as the council's model was now out of date.
- The committee's expenditure for 2021/22 was noted and the budget for the year 2022/23 was discussed as follows:

Budget Code	Description	Budget 2021/22 £	Budget spent 2021/22 £	Budget 2022/23 £	Budget spent to date £	Predicted To 31/03/23 £
218	Bedding Plants	400	285	400	0	550
219	Village clock	0	0	300	0	0
220	Maltby Triangle/A56 Land	500	434	1000	0	500
223	Litter/dog/grit bins	400	908	400	204	400
224	Village Awards	200	0	200	0	0

225	Ho Ho Helsby Traffic M'ment	1050	1020	1050	0	1020
226	Road Safety	0	0	5000	0	5000
227	Bridge Lantern Lights	1000	577	1000	216	1000
228	Christmas Illuminations	15500	8779	15500	681	15500
228a	Christmas Tree	3000	3588	3000	0	3000
229	Sherwood Court Land	1500	756	1000	1563	3000
230	Street Furniture/BT boxes	250	0	10000	3609	10000
231	War Memorial	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		23,800	16,347	38,850	6,273	39,970

The following was noted:

- i) Budget Code 218 - to include monies owed from last year (£250) plus plants supplied this year as well as some additional plants due to new planters
- ii) Budget Code 219 – monies allocated in case of any repairs needed
- iii) Budget Code 220 – Cost for hedge work = £30 plus some potential tree work
- iv) Budget Code 223 – replacement bin supplied and fitted by CW&C in parish field
- v) Budget Code 226 – allocated to average speed camera pilot project
- vi) Budget Code 227 – bills to be paid quarterly, not monthly as reported at the previous meeting
- vii) Budget Code 228 – late payment for 2021/22 electricity. Some expenditure on new items expected this year
- viii) Budget Code 229 – monies spent on RoSPA inspection and repairs to table tennis table (£500 grant plus £958 HPC monies). Some monies allocated in earmarked reserves for landscaping improvements. Cost for hedge work = £140 plus some potential tree work
- ix) Budget Code 230 – 6 planters purchased. Potential cost of defib in phone kiosk (see Item 7.4)
- x) Budget Code 231 – potential costs for cleaning (see below)

7. Miscellaneous Matters

- 7.1. It was **RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council to seek quotes for new 3-year contracts for: the installation of Christmas lights plus associated work; and for Ho Ho Helsby traffic management – E12/22.**
- 7.2. It was agreed that Cllr. O'Neill and the clerk would meet with Ho Ho Helsby to discuss plans for Christmas 2022. Cllr. O'Neill agreed to identify any gaps along Chester Road for new lighting displays.
- 7.3. The contents of the latest RoSPA safety inspection held on 7th April for Sherwood Court were noted. The clerk agreed to contact Caloo in relation to the missing caps and to liaise with Helsby Garden Services about one of the broken spinner plates on the body twister. It was noted that the table tennis table top had now been replaced.
- 7.4. Members considered a resident's complaint in relation to parking issues on the grass verge on Denbigh Close. Cllr. Duffy agreed to liaise with CW&C and Hornsmill School and to potentially source quotes for some knee rail fencing.

7.5. Cllr. Duffy presented a report in relation to installing a defibrillator in the old BT telephone kiosk opposite Bates Lane on Chester Road. It was **RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council to:**

- **purchase a Lifeline View defibrillator, a locked cabinet and Battenberg decals for a KX100 from the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) at a cost of £1695 (and not to source alternative quotes as CHT is BT's preferred supplier);**
- **To engage CHT to install the defibrillator at a cost of £250;**
- **To purchase classroom training of the Lifeline View from CHT at a cost of £175 for 50 people;**
- **To purchase Perspex top and bottom panels to repair the kiosk at a cost of £124 plus delivery; and**
- **To apply for £1,500 from the CW&C Members Budgets Award Scheme toward the equipment – E13/22.**

Cllr. Duffy agreed to arrange a working party to clean the kiosk before any installation work was carried out.

7.6. It was noted that M and Y Construction had agreed to resurface and replace the bollards in the car park at Sherwood Court following their use of it as a storage compound. The clerk outlined that concern had been raised by Helsby Garden Services in relation to some areas of uneven paving at Sherwood Court. It was also noted that some of the brick planters were starting to deteriorate and the shelter roof might need some maintenance. It was **RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council to draw up a specification for a landscaping project at Sherwood Court - E14/22.**

7.7. It was **RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council to pay an invoice for £2,623.20 from CW&C in relation to the Draft Helsby Hill Conservation Area Appraisal work – E15/22** (note previous resolution in June 2019 'to use the unspent Election Expenses budget, totalling £3,556, to go towards meeting the professional fees and all other associated expenditure relating to designating a Conservation Area in Helsby – HPC99/19').

7.8. It was **RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council to purchase an A4 Queen's Green Canopy plaque and stakes from Royal British Legion Industries at a cost of £154.99 – E16/22.**

7.9. The clerk outlined that she had sourced quotes to steam clean the war memorial ranging from between £950 and £2,060. Having considered advice from the War Memorials Trust, the clerk suggested that a simple maintenance programme using a brush and water might be more appropriate as the inscriptions were still legible. Cllr. Duffy agreed to arrange a working party to carry out the cleaning.

7.10. Helsby The Art of Here - members considered the evaluation report for the Arts Council as drafted by creative producer, Angharad Williams. It was **RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council to accept the evaluation report for submission to the Arts Council and to put copies of the Art of Here leaflet and sound composition on the council's website – E17/22.** Members considered the proposed next stages of the project as outlined in the report but were more inclined to progress the idea of a sculpture as well as painting artwork on a number of the village planters and the scout/guide huts. The clerk agreed to contact Knowsley Council in relation to their recent sculpture project in Prescot. It was **RESOLVED to recommend to Full**

Council not to progress with the Stage 2 proposals as put forward by the working group and to meet with Carmel Clapson (CW&C’s Cultural Strategy Development Officer) about the council’s own ideas – E17/22.

- 7.11. Village planters – it was noted that two of the new planters were now in situ at Helsby Community Sports Club and Helsby Garden Services had carried out restoration work on one of the old planters. It was recommended not to purchase any additional new planters at present but to review this later in the year.
 - 7.12. In relation to the bridge light LED replacements, it was noted that a Section 50 (New Roads and Street Works Act 1991) licence would be required from CW&C. It was agreed to include this project in a S50 application for the installation of the Christmas lighting later in the year.
 - 7.13. Cycle North Cheshire feasibility study – no update was given.
 - 7.14. To note progress made on the village noticeboards – the clerk outlined that Northwich Town Council was due to install the new boards shortly.
 - 7.15. Members expressed concern and disappointment in relation to the volume of weeds and overgrown grass/vegetation around the village.
8. Relevant liaison committee and/or emission monitoring reports – the announced closure of the CF Fertilisers plant in Ince was noted. Cllr. Ellams outlined that he had written to the secretary of the windfarm liaison committee as no meetings had been held for several years.
9. Urgent matters – nothing was raised.
10. Date of next meeting – Monday 22nd August 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.24pm

Chairman’s signature Dated.....