



HENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Meeting of Open Spaces Committee
held on Tuesday 11 February 2020 at 1:30 pm
In the Parish Council Office at The Henfield Hall.**

Present: Cllrs G Perry (Chairman), R Kendall, M Eastwood, N Stevens, D Jemmett and A Sharp

In attendance: Mr K Wright (Clerk), Ms C Fullman (Deputy Clerk), Mrs R Grantham (Administrator) and Mr J Willis (Tree Warden)

MINUTES

1. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Cllr Jemmett declared a personal interest in agenda item 9, as a member of Henfield Cricket Club.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllrs A Rickard and N Farrell.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2020

Approved, signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. THE CLERK'S REPORT ON ANY MATTERS NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA

The report was circulated and published prior to the meeting.

The Deputy Clerk reported that a further response has been received from the area Highways Manager in respect of the Manor Way verge and the Wantley Estate verge, who commended the project but informed that a license and further information will be needed regarding any trees planted.

John Willis, Tree Warden, confirmed that the planting at Oakhurst is complete

The Chairman adjourned the meeting

5. OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting

6. TRAILS

Cllr Eastwood reported that he had received the draft version of River History and Rise of Henfield Trail from PMW for approval.

7. TREE SURVEY 12 MONTH WORK

The report and quotations were circulated and published prior to the meeting. It was confirmed that all quotes are still valid.

Cllr Sharp noted that there were some works mentioned in the tree survey that the contractor who conducted the 3 month work felt may not be necessary. Cllr Kendall advised caution when going against the professional advice given in the survey. Cllr Sharp said that the survey is a only a recommendation for consideration. John Willis was invited to contribute towards the discussion, he stated that the condition of trees can be subjective and that professionals tend to err on the side of caution.

Cllr Kendall repeated his concern that the council could be liable for any injury caused by a tree.

Councillors inspected the survey further and the Chairman commented that it had been agreed in a previous meeting that work would not take place on the trees in the Sandpit.

Cllr Eastwood also advised caution and recommended accepting the advice in the survey. Cllr Stevens also recommended taking the professional advice in the survey.

The Clerk joined the meeting at 1.45pm

The Deputy Clerk noted from the February 2019 meeting that there had been discussions with Andrew Colebrook regarding conducting an interim 18 month survey as well as a post storm inspection.

The Chairman noted that it is the beginning of nesting season so there is some urgency, especially given recent bad weather. She suggested a compromise and allowing a contractor to use professional judgement on the severity of the work. Cllr Kendall stated that he feels contractors require clear instructions.

The Clerk informed all of the difference between an Arboriculturist and a Tree Surgeon.

After further discussion, it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Kendall, **SECONDED** by Cllr Stevens and **VOTED** four in favour, one against and one abstention to accept the quotation from Contractor 1 at a cost of £4,315.00 for the full remit of 12 month work as specified in the tree survey.

Action Point: Deputy Clerk/Administrator to instruct contractor.

8. TREE Work

1. To consider the report and decide if to grant permission for the contractor to carry out the work as per the scope described in the report at the cost of the contractor's client.

John Willis confirmed points as per the report. The Deputy Clerk confirmed receipt of Public Liability Insurance and Risk Assessment.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Eastwood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Kendall and **VOTED** all in favour to give permission for the work to be carried out as per the details supplied.

2. To consider and decide if any work is to be done to the Hazel Tree as identified by the Tree Warden.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Eastwood, **SECONDED** by Cllr Kendall and **VOTED** all in favour to remove the Hazel tree identified by the Tree Warden.

Action Point: Deputy Clerk/Administrator to inform the contractor of permission from the Committee.

Action Point: Deputy Clerk/Administrator to investigate potential work to the Hazel Tree

9. CRICKET CLUB CAR PARK

The content of the report was received and noted. It was identified that the land is owned by the Parish Council and leased to the Cricket Club. After discussion, **it was resolved** to request further quotations.

It was **PROPOSED BY** Cllr Eastwood, **SECONDED BY** Cllr Sharp and **VOTED** five in favour with one abstention to share the cost with the Cricket Club on a 50/50 basis.

Action Point: Deputy Clerk/Administrator to inform the Cricket Club and request further quotations for comparison.

10. PLAYING FIELDS

1. Memorial Field

Cllr Jemmett reported that plans for a new cricket pavilion have now been drawn up and they are now pursuing funding. Cllr Eastwood noted that the village end of the Memorial field is extremely wet and covered in leaves and questioned whether the pipe from the A281 was depositing water. Cllr Sharp confirmed this was not the case. Cllr Eastwood added that grass seeding and leaf clearing may be required in the Spring.

Action Point: The Works Officer to investigate whether there is any suitable equipment to deal with the clearing of leaves.

2. Rothery Field

The Clerk informed all that the mole situation has been reported.

3. Kings Field

The Clerk informed all that the ground is proud where the sewage pipe work took place and suggested that this may have to be rolled in the future.

Action Point: Cllr Eastwood to contact the Football Club regarding a meeting to discuss the pavilion project.

11. LOCAL CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT PLAN

1. Litter

The Chairman informed all that a group wondered if SH2030 could promote the Keep Britain Tidy's, Great British Spring Clean Event, as a member of public had highlighted litter problems. It was asked whether the Committee and Council would support promoting a week of litter picking throughout the parish.

It was resolved to support this campaign by publicising it and encouraging local groups and clubs to be involved.

The Clerk recommended that SH2030 issue safety guidelines.

2. Plantlife and Verge Management

The report about verge management was received.

The Chairman, Cllr Sharp and the Works Officer met and it was suggested that within the village itself there will be no changes, but potentially there were 9 other areas that could be allowed to become more wild in order to encourage pollinators.

Action Point: Deputy Clerk/Administrator to ask Works Officer, whilst working, to identify areas that could be left wild for pollinators.

12. CYCLING EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

The Chairman and Cllr Eastwood attended a meeting with a group of local cyclists. The cyclists informed that their priority was for a safe route from Small Dole to Henfield. Various other possibilities were discussed at this meeting. The cyclists also mentioned cycle racks in the centre of the village and suggested for Henfield to become more involved with Sustrans, to enable officially adopted routes.

Cllr Eastwood confirmed that the meeting created a positive engagement with the cycling community.

Action Point: The Deputy Clerk/Administrator to investigate the landownership in the area.

13. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Chairman has drafted a report to deliver at the meeting. The decision to delegate the ownership of the displays was inconclusive.

The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Goodyear is coordinating the event.

14. CLERK'S REPORT

1. Financial update.

The Clerk reported that budgets are under, with the exception of the storage container. £3,200.00 has been spent on the website for the Henfield Trails and the grass cutting budget has been lowered for next year.

2. Any further updates
None

15. MATTERS REQUIRING CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS OF:

1. This Committee: Memorial Field condition
2. Full Council: Litter Week
3. Other Committee: Cycle rack to Village Centre

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the date of the next meeting was incorrect on the agenda.

The next meeting of this Committee will be held on Tuesday 10th March 2020 in the Parish Council Office

Meeting Closed at 2.43pm