



Kington Town Council

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Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

held on Monday 18th March 2019 at 6.30 pm in
The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, St, Kington.

PRESENT

In attendance

Cllr J. Dennis – in the Chair

Cllr. J. Atkinson

Cllr. T. Bounds – agenda item 4 onwards

Cllr. M. Fitton – agenda items 1 – 4 only

Cllr. R. MacCurrach

Cllr. I. Wood-Johnson

Cllr. F. Hawkins

1 member of the public

Liz Kelso - Clerk

Agenda item

- Env 007.19 1. **APOLOGIES**
Apologies were noted from Cllrs. E. Banks and C. Forrester
- Env 008.19 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**
There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.
- Env 009.19 3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st JANUARY 2019**
The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2019, which had been previously circulated were accepted. The Chairman was authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.
- Env 010.19 4 **CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION**
The Clerk explained that the resolution to recommend to Full Council that a Climate Emergency be declared was invalid as it had been agreed without due notice at the last Committee meeting. The resolution by Full Council was valid but it was agreed to ratify the resolution made at Committee at the last meeting. Members welcomed the decision by Herefordshire Council to declare a Climate Emergency at their meeting last week.

Members then discussed how best to implement the Declaration and what structure the proposed working party might have in order to ensure appropriate action is facilitated. As noted at Full Council, it was agreed to consider this further after the forthcoming elections but in the meantime to research how other Councils are putting this into action.

Finally it was agreed that a letter be sent to Marines via the Twinning Association visit to France in May to advise them of the Town Council's decision and encourage similar action.

- Env 011.19** **5** **DOG FOULING WORKING PARTY REPORT**
- 1) Update**
It was noted that a dog bin has been reported removed, possibly by vandals.
- 2) Use of CCTV**
The Clerk outlined the regulations relating to the use of CCTV by a Town or Parish Council. It was agreed that at this stage, the Town Council has insufficient resources to manage such an installation.
- Env 012.19** **6** **STANDING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
- 1) Health & Safety**
- Several lights, particularly in Market Hall Street and Duke Street are not working leading to very dark footpaths which may be a safety hazard. These would be reported again to Herefordshire Council.
 - A blocked drain at the bottom of Gravel Hill is to be reported.
 - A fence in the Nisa car park has been damaged
 - The lane behind the Tavern is very narrow and slippery with leaves and requires sweeping
 - Drains in Harp Yard are blocked
- 2) Town Centre**
- A street sweep is to be requested
 - KLEEN will be holding a Spring Clean/Litter Pick session on 7th April
- 3) KLEEN**
- See note regarding Spring Clean above
- 4) Kington in Bloom**
It was noted that the Flower Tub outside the library has been replaced and all flower tubs will be cleaned prior to replanting in May.
- 5) Allotments**
Members noted the presence of two invasive species on the allotments, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed.
- 6) Recycling**
It was reported that the Recycling Centre can take black and brown plastic items.
- 7) Churchyard**
- It was noted that the PCC has suggested that trees be removed from the Churchyard to improve the views. Members agreed, however, that it is Town Council policy not to remove trees unless they pose a health and safety risk or the tree is diseased.
 - The PCC have also expressed concern that the roots of the Horse Chestnut may be growing under the Lych Gate.
- 8) Community Energy**
There was nothing to report on this agenda item.
- 9) Economic Development**
There was nothing to report on this agenda item.

10) Footpaths Scheme

A report on the meeting with stakeholders on 11th February was noted at which it was clear that there is some enthusiasm for setting up a joint group to manage footpaths locally in a way formerly undertaken by the lengthsman scheme, although lack of attendance by nearby parishes was disappointing.

11) War Memorial

There was nothing further to report on this agenda item although it was noted that the boxes around the War Memorial have been planted. The Clerk will report that the lights need repair.

12) Quarry Liaison

Nothing further to report on this agenda item although members noted that waste water pumps are believed to be installed now.

13) Trees

There was nothing further to report on this agenda item although members noted that a tree has come down in the Recreation Ground.

Env 013.19

7. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

There were no other items raised for the next agenda other than those mentioned above. The next meeting will take place on Monday 20th May 2019 at 6.30pm in the Old Police Station. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed
Chair of Environment Committee

Date