

**HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL**  
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**MINUTES of the Remote Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**  
 held on  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7pm**

<b>Present:</b>	Councillors Fay, Davidson, McLeod, Powell, I Henderson, Todd, Ferguson, D Smith and Saunders
<b>In the Chair:</b>	Councillor M Fowler
<b>Clerk:</b>	Mrs Michelle Townsend
<b>Also present:</b>	No members of the public and no members of the press

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

None

<b>E01/20</b>	<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> Apologies received from; Horticultural Adviser – Cheryl Thompson
<b>E02/20</b>	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS</u></b> Cllr S Fay – in relation to item 12 - resident of Williamsburg Ave Cllr I Henderson – in relation to item 12 - resident of Low Road
<b>E03/20</b>	<b><u>ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR</u></b> <b>RESOLVED</b> to elect Cllr Powell as vice-chairman of the Environment and Community Committee for the 2020/21 municipal year.
<b>E04/20</b>	<b><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the Environment & Community meeting held on 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 (previously circulated) be approved by the committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
<b>E05/20</b>	<b><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b> <b>E41/19</b> – Local Highways Panel - Project request submitted for traffic calming measures in Williamsburg Avenue. <b>E41/19</b> – Local Highways Panel – Project request submitted for 20mph zone in High Street/Kingsway.
<b>E06/20</b>	<b><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</u></b> <b>E21/18</b> – Tree planting has been deferred until autumn 2020. <b>E26/19 – Low Road – 30 MPH Stickers</b> – With the assistance of the Police Cadets, councillors visited and distributed the stickers to residents on 14 <sup>th</sup> December.

E07/20	<p><b><u>HORTICULTURAL REPORT</u></b></p> <p>Cheryl Thompson provided the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•We have done our best to keep weeding the area by the Old Bank Studios (Kings Quay Street/Wellington Road). We have also cleared up the area to the front of the Old Lifeboat Shed and this looks far more attractive. There are still a few brown tailed moth caterpillars about even though a large amount of the 'tents' were cut out of the trees.</li> <li>•There has been a good show of red poppies on the slopes near the lighthouses. These are not at all in the area where the seeds were sown but have migrated further down.</li> <li>•Through Michelle, I was invited to meet with Ian Taylor regarding continued planting of the area by the Old Bank. He agreed that planting will continue and would like to see the grass improved. Mr Taylor has not had sight of the plan for the garden area at Esplanade Hall but I discussed with Ian the need for a suitable path to the fire door/disabled access. Unfortunately, the churchyard is used as a dogs' toilet so there is, in my opinion, a need for a fence/barrier of some kind to stop dogs using the Esplanade Hall garden area. Mr Taylor agreed to liaise with Mike Carran.</li> <li>•We also visited the barren piece of land at the seafront end of the Old Lifeboat Shed. Many people pass this as they walk along the promenade and into the Quay end of Harwich. Mr Taylor will consider improvements for this land.</li> <li>•The willow Mayflower is looking as if it may not recover and grow after such a dry period whilst the gardeners haven't been working. They have watered it three times recently but when I last looked, there was no sign of growth.</li> <li>•The two trees in the small garden newly created at the Wellington Road end of Church Street are not looking good due to lack of water but may survive.</li> </ul>
E08/20	<p><b><u>FLOOD MEMORIAL GARDEN</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Ferguson confirmed that she has met with Ian Taylor to discuss HTC's ideas for this area. A further meeting is taking place on 22<sup>nd</sup> July with TDC and a designer and it is hoped that plans will be available by the end of September. Once this project is further forward, discussions will take place regarding funding and the donation received from Harwich Haven Authority for the improvements to this area.</p>
E09/20	<p><b><u>EMERGENCY PLANNING</u></b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Cllr Fowler to become the lead member and assist the office with a brief review of HTC's emergency plan.</p> <p><b>FURTHER RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to arrange a test run of the plan.</p> <p><b>FURTHER RESOLVED:</b> Cllr Powell to represent Harwich Town Council on any further Parish &amp; Town Council Community Resilience Forums runs by Tendring District Council.</p>
E10/20	<p><b><u>WINTER SALT BAG SCHEME</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk advised that there were still 5 pallets of unused salt bags stored at the Harwich Mayflower Heritage Centre and some may perish if not utilised in the near future. HTC have been unable to make contact with HMHC and therefore are unable to confirm whether they are happy for a further 2 pallets to be delivered and stored on their premises this year for the High Street traders to utilise.</p>

	<b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to advise Essex County Council that Harwich Town Council do not wish to receive a delivery of salt this year but would like to continue to participate in the Salt Bag Partnership Scheme in future years.
E11/20	<b><u>TDC PROPOSED PLANTNG IN THE PARISH OF HARWICH AND DOVERCOURT</u></b> Members noted the correspondence received from TDC confirming the planting arrangements for the coming year.
E12/20	<b><u>LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL</u></b> The following update was provided by Cllr I Henderson; <b>Date of last LHP meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>Wellington Road/Church Street – Change of Priority</b> – Church Street has been resurfaced and the change in priority has been completed.</li> <li>•<b>20’s Plenty by Local Schools –</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>St Joseph’s, The Drive</b> – Cllr Henderson is disputing the findings as the LHP has advised that the location does not meet the criteria as the school’s entrance does not front on to the carriageway.</li> <li><b>All Saints, Main Road</b> – Colleagues in the Road Safety Education Team have attempted to make contact with the school but have not yet had a response.</li> <li><b>Harwich &amp; Dovercourt High School, Hall Lane</b> - Colleagues in the Road Safety Education Team have attempted to make contact with the school but have not yet had a response.</li> <li><b>Harwich Community, Barrack Lane</b> – Validation recommends to proceed with the design and implementation. Exact locations to be identified at the design stage.</li> <li>•<b>Parkeston Road – Installation of Zebra Crossing</b> – Awaiting findings from design. The scheme has not yet been through the consultation process.</li> <li>•<b>Low Road Speed Survey</b> – Still issues with speeding. Essex County Council are looking at creating further cycle routes as part of the Government’s Cycle Way Initiative and Cllr Henderson has suggested that Low Road is included.</li> <li>•<b>High Street/Kingsway</b> – In validation. Speed and volume surveys currently on hold as they would not give a true reflection of normal traffic usage due to Covid 19 and reduction in road use.</li> <li>•<b>Williamsburg Avenue</b> – Members noted the response received from the LHP confirming that it does not recommend to proceed any further with this request due to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-no reported personal injury collisions occurred within the last 3 years</li> <li>-20mph zones should be generally self-enforcing and motorists should be driving to the conditions of the road.</li> <li>-Williamsburg Avenue is an estate road and a no through route therefore only used by residents, deliveries and refuse vehicles.</li> <li>-There are raised tables on the approaches to the bends which are designed in a way to slow vehicles down before they approach the bend.</li> <li>-Further traffic calming measures could impact nearby properties due to increased noise and vibration.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
E13/20	<b><u>MATTERS RECEIVED IN THE POST OR ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS</u></b> None
E14/20	<b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b> The next meeting of the Environment & Community Committee is at <b>7pm</b> , on Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2020.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**