

Tadcaster Town Council

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Open Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm

MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 JANUARY 2021 AT 7 PM ONLINE AT ZOOM.US MEETING https://zoom.us/j/99598741317

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN M Middlemiss

COUNCILLORS D Bowgett, J Chiswick, S Cobb, D Mackay, F Greig, R Sweeting & C

Stephenson.

CLERK J Crowther
DEPUTY CLERK J Mottershead

ALSO PRESENT 1 Member of the public

E62 APOLOGIES – (Item 1) - To receive, record and approve apologies for absence: - I Edmondson (Personal Circumstances)

E63 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – (Item 2) - To receive and record declarations of interest at this point or at any other point on the agenda - None.

- **E64 PUBLIC SESSION SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS (Item 3)** To allow members of the public to speak on any matter as it relates to the town Members of the public are asked to submit any questions in advance of the meeting to the Clerk.
 - A resident requested that a letter of thanks form the Council and Tadcaster residents be sent to Tadcaster Medical Centre for their outstanding efforts in the role out of the Covid 19 vaccination.

ACTION – Clerk to deal.

- E65 REIMPOSE STANDING ORDERS (Item 4)
- **E66 CLERKS REPORT (Item 5)** Clerk to update members regarding any environmental matters not itemised on this agenda None.
- **E67 PLANNING (Item 6)** Members to note and comment as required on the following applications received from Selby District Council: -

Planning Applications

22/20 – 33 Wharfedale Crescent – Demolition and rebuilding of existing garage and outbuildings.

RESOLVED - Members had no objection to the above application.

ACTION - Clerk to reply to SDC accordingly.

Granted Applications

4/20 – 4 West Mount – Demolition of existing garage/workshop and alterations to existing house and extension to form additional bedroom and garage and formation of new granny annexe.

20/20 – 35 Auster Bank View – Demolition of existing extension and erection of a new single storey extension and porch.

- E68 CORRESPONDENCE (Item 7) for members to note and make comments as required: None
- **E69 CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY BILL (Item 8) Yorkshire Local Councils Associations –** Climate and Ecology Emergency Bill Members to discuss a reply to the Climate & Ecology Bill Alliance.

ACTION – D Bowgett to deal with the above accordingly.

E70 VIADUCT - (Item 9) -

a. Friends of Tadcaster Viaduct – Councillor M Middlemiss to update members regarding a proposal for the formation of a Friends of Tadcaster Group.

Minutes of the Remote Environment Committee Meeting 12 January 2021

M Middlemiss reported that she had received a number of emails from a resident who would be interested in forming a Friends of Tadcaster Viaduct Group interested in maintaining and future preservation of the grade II listed Viaduct structure. Several influential people had shown an interest in the group.

The Clerk had spoken to the resident and had suggested that he attended an Environment meeting to discuss the matter.

Members supported the above idea.

R Sweeting felt that the legalities of the group would be required.

ACTION – Clerk to seek advice regarding the legalities of the group.

The Clerk reported that funding for the Viaduct through the group could be an option. If the Viaduct could be reassessed and made Grade II* Listed this could influence funding and attract tourism

RESOLVED - Following a unanimous vote members agreed the following: -

- That a recommendation for the formation of a Friends of Tadcaster Viaduct Group be taken to the Council meeting on 9 February 2021.
- Councillors S Cobb, D Mackay and M Middlemiss to represent the Council on the Group.
- That permission be sought from the Council for the release of the 2019 Viaduct Principle Inspection Report.

ACTION – M Middlemiss to forward the above resident emails to the Clerk.

b. Maintenance Update – The Clerk reported that the agreed Contractors were to start repointing and string course works during April 2021.

SDC Planning advice for the remedial works was being sought.

ACTION - D Mackay to chase the above advice.

E71 STUTTON ROAD/DORCHESTER ROAD FOOTPATH – (Item 10) - Members update to clear the footpath through North Yorkshire County Council Community Fund.

D Mackay reported that he had secured funding for the above works. Plans were for the first 325m2 of the footpath to be cleared of undergrowth levelled, remove rubble and a bollard be placed at the Stutton Road end to deter vehicle access. There could be possible future minimum costs to the Town Council.

The Clerk reported that there was a shortfall of approximately £173 for the first section of the footpath which could be taken from the Grounds Maintenance Budget. Long term the legal adoption of the footpath by the Council could be considered, allowing future maintenance.

E72 LITTER PICK – (Item 11) - Members discussed a way forward for 2021 Litter Pick – Members agreed that a Spring Litter pick could not be organised owing to Covid 19 restrictions.

RESOLVED -

- The Council not to hold a Spring Litter Pick this would be reviewed in Autumn 2021.
- That an article be placed in the Newsletter asking for residents to litter pick local areas. ACTION Clerk to deal
- **E73 LITTER BINS (Item 12)** Members discussed a way forward for maintenance to litter bins in the town.

Members were informed that following a survey of all bins in the town there were a number which required replacement or repair. SDC had been asked to clarify the Town Councils position regarding repairs and replacement bins.

ACTION – Clerk to chase the above information from an SDC Executive member and copy the Chief Executive requesting a copy of SDC Litter Bins Policy.

E74 PLANTING – (Item 13) - Members update of Tadcaster in Bloom 2021.

The Clerk reported that that Spring planting was going ahead and summer hanging baskets for the Bus Station had been ordered.

R Sweeting was concerned regarding the quality of the plants at the War Memorial.

Minutes of the Remote Environment Committee Meeting 12 January 2021

The Clerk reported that planting nurseries had undergone a difficult year in 2020, however overall planting had proved a success. Bright planting had been ordered for Summer 2021.

E75 CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS – (Item 14) - Members update of plans for 2021.

The Clerk reported that improvement plans for 2021 were underway, wrapping of street light columns on the Riverside and Mill Lane and in trees on the Riverside were being investigated.

ACTION -

- Clerk to contact NYCC regarding above street lighting illuminations.
- Clerk to liaise with the Illuminations Committee and report back to the Environment Committee, as necessary.

E76 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - (Item 15) - Update from Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme: -

- A Tree Survey had been completed.
- An online meeting requested by Tadcaster Flood Prevention Group with NYCC, Yorkshire Water and the Environment Agency to discuss reservoirs in the Washburn Valley was imminent.
- An EA online Client Group meeting was to be arranged in the near future.

E77 EMERGENCY PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE - (Item 16) -

- a. Members approved the minutes of the 10 November 2020.
- **b.** Members update of meeting held earlier in the evening Members had raised concerns regarding delays to the Environment Agency Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme due to Covid 19 restrictions and home working situations. Members felt a Client meeting was overdue. It was agreed to contact the EA regarding the above concerns.
- E78 COVID 19 (Item 17) Clerks update of the Councils functions during Covid 19 to date.

 The Clerk reported that there was only one member of staff working in the office at present.

 The Administration Assistant was coordinating childcare and working as efficiently as possible.

 R Sweeting reported that SDC had licensed Covid 19 Safety Marshals to inspect hospitality setting as required.
- **E79 ALLOTMENTS (Item 18)** To discuss any matters relating to the allotments.

The Deputy Clerk reported that rent for 2021 was being collected and a vacant plot was to be relet imminently.

E80 WEBSITE AND MEDIA ITEMS – (Item 19) - To suggest appropriate matters from this meeting to place on the website, Facebook and before the media: - Litter Pick Information, Dorchester Road footpath improvements, and a request for Summer Watering Volunteers.

ACTION – D Bowgett to include Watering Volunteer request on Facebook.

To consider exclusion of the press and public by virtue of the Public (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential I nature of the business to be discussed at agenda items only

E81 QUOTATION – Viaduct Vegetation Maintenance – (Item 20) - Member considered a quotation for ongoing vegetation maintenance of land from Wetherby Road and the Viaduct.

The Clerk reported that 2 quotes had been received for the above works.

RESOLVED -

- That the above quotation be accepted.
- That the above works be included in the Grounds Maintenance Contract due for renewal in 2022.

ACTION – Clerk to deal.

E82 QUOTATION – **Stutton Road/Dorchester Road Footpath** – **(Item 21)** - Members considered a quotation received for the clearing of the rest of the footpath, 577m2 which is not in as bad state. D Mackay felt that Fly Tipping Warning signs should be put up at the above site.

ACTION – D Mackay to contact NYCC to request that they supply the above signs.

F Greig suggested that notice of work flyers be posted to neighbouring properties.

Minutes of the Remote Environment Committee Meeting 12 January 2021 RESOLVED –

- That the above quotation be accepted
- That the shortfall for the project be taken from the Grounds Maintenance Budget.
- That quotes be sought for the future maintenance of the above footpath in due course. ACTION Clerk to deal.