



**Tadcaster Town Council**  
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Open Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm

## **Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting TADCASTER TOWN COUNCIL**

**Date:** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 **Time:** 7pm  
**Venue:** The Ark, 33 Kirkgate, Tadcaster, LS24 9AQ  
**In attendance:** Cllr K Poskitt (Chairman), Cllr D Bowgett, Cllr G Butcher, Cllr S Cobb, Cllr C Metcalfe, Cllr R Sweeting and Cllr P Tunney. In addition, 3 residents.  
**Officers:** J Crowther, Town Clerk. G Ashton, Locum.  
*Late arrivals:* none. *early departures:* none  
*The meeting opened at 7pm*

### **AGENDA**

#### **EC/25/21 APOLOGIES**

- a) To receive and record apologies for absence.  
Cllr Stephenson provided apologies in advance of the meeting. Apologies not received from Cllr Chiswick and Cllr Mackay.
- b) To resolve to approve reasons for absence.  
**Resolution: to accept and approve the reasons for absence from Cllr Stephenson.**

#### **EC/25/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

- a) To note any written requests for dispensation the Clerk may have received from members.  
None received.
- b) To consider any new dispensation requests – none received.
- c) To receive Declarations of Interests from members not already declared under the members Code of Conduct or members Register of Interests, in any business to be transacted.

#### **EC/25/23 PUBLIC SESSION – Suspension of Standing Orders**

Standing Orders will be reinstated on the closure of this agenda item.

**Resolution: to suspend Standing Orders 2(f) to allow members of the public to raise items of interest in the public session. Unanimous.**

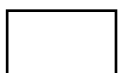
*The Chairman used her discretion to bring forward this agenda item to allow residents to speak on this topic.*

**EC/25/06 a)** To consider the proposal from a resident to discuss the feasibility of a Petanque terrain in the town and any next steps.

Resident 1 – a representative from the Tadcaster Twinning Association circulated a paper with regard to the installation of a Petanque terrain in Tadcaster. Discussion through the paper, some level of interest in the town and the Twinning Association have worked closely with Wetherby Twinning Association and played pétanque at the courts in Wetherby. Can be played competitively or just as a leisure activity and is accessible to all age ranges and abilities. Consideration of available land in the town, funding would need to be explored. Suggestions for residents / members to visit Sherburn Petanque Gardens.

Resident 2 – suggested that there is already a level of interest from local residents with a number of signatories. What level of interest (number) would the Town Council consider a reasonable number to pursue this project idea. Suggestion of a community funding opportunity for example, via the Lions Club /Round Table.

Members raised queries regarding the level of resident interest, suggestions of suitable locations including the riverbank (once flood defences are in place), Rosemary Row playing fields, Parklands, Magnets ground. Spoken informally to trustees of the Magnets ground. Both Cllr Cobb and Cllr Bowgett expressed an interest in supporting the Twinning Association in setting up a working group to explore this project idea.



Several members raised the current budgeting restrictions of the Council and would wish to see some considerable match funding from the Twinning Association through grant funding / other funding streams. Request from members for some surveying of local residents to establish the level of interest. The Council are in principle in support of the project.

Resident 2 – update on the viaduct. No update to report back. The chairman said that if the community would wish to set up a community group, they could.

**Resolution: to reimpose Standing Orders (2f) and continue with the business agenda. Unanimous.**

**Resolution: for Cllr Cobb and Cllr Bowgett to report back from the next Tadcaster Twinning Association meeting and to understand any progress made in terms of levels of interest in the town, funding streams and feasible locations.**

**EC/25/24** To **NOTE** as a true and correct record, the MINUTES of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 04 June 2024.

**RESOLUTION: to note the minutes of the last meeting of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 as a true and accurate record.**

#### **EC/25/25**            **EVENTS MANAGEMENT**

- a) To provide an update on the progression and planning of the Christmas Market

Cllr Sweeting confirmed that the planning of the Christmas Market is progressing. Lots of interest in stalls. Thankful to the RAF cadets who will be in attendance. Vote of thanks from the Chairman to Cllr Sweeting and the Clerk.

- b) To consider the Safety Advisory Group request to update the EMP (Event Management Plan) for Remembrance Sunday

The Chairman provided a verbal update. The Event Management Plan is progressing with sound advice received from outside agencies to support the additional information required for this year (for example Counter-terrorism). Training for Protect/Prevent, C&G Certificate for Road Traffic Management. 2 Councillors have the (LANTRA) qualification. The Clerk has carried out the C&G training to do the road closure, Cllr Butcher has an additional (LANTRA) qualification. Thanks to the Clerk who has collated all the information in preparation to submit to the Safety Advisory Group. List of key roles for the event: Cllr Sweeting, Lead; Cllr Butcher, Safety Officer; Clerk, Organiser; Cllr Poskitt, First Aid, (Parade Commander, Safety Officer). Emergency Plan in place but will require updating in the near future.

#### **EC/25/26**            **ASSET MANAGEMENT**

- a) To consider the proposal from a resident to discuss the feasibility of a Pétanque Terrain in the town and any next steps. *Business considered higher up the agenda.*

- b) To consider the management and repair/replacement of the Bridge lights (fairy lights)

Clerk provided a verbal update. 3 wrap around lights on the bridge, surrounding 3 lampposts. Cost of repair and replacement to the lights. Timers and lights are knocked out every time Highways/ NYC close the bridge.

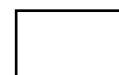
Clerk has carried out some research in terms of costings and options. Call out charge to re-set every time the lights are switched off due to a bridge closure. Lift off at Christmas (£100), cost of removal/ install (£300) at any other time of year, new lights £180 (£60 x 3) and call out charge is approx. £1,180, cost of electricity is £650 annually. Suggestion of Lights could just be on at Christmas time when Christmas lights are on throughout the town (ie November to Jan). Currently on 4pm-midnight every night.

**Resolution: to adopt as part of the Christmas illumination programme. Unanimous.**

- c) To consider the quotation for the crown topping of tree at the Middlemiss Allotments Quotation of £275. Creating a lot of shade in the allotments. Cost of heavily pruning and chopping down the tree to removal is the same cost.

**Resolution: to approve a heaving pruning/crown topping of the affected tree.**

- d) To consider the Tadcaster Viaduct EA vent pole emissions update – defer to next meeting as information not received.



e) To consider a community-led working group to represent Tadcaster Viaduct (no powers)  
Noted.

f) To consider the instruction of the Clerk to provide 3 independent quotations for the land registration of the Riverbank land

The Clerk provided a verbal update. Valuation of the land is required. Three companies could be approached locally to provide independent quotations for the land registration.

**Resolution: to approve and instruct the Clerk to source 3 independent quotations for the land valuation and to bring back to a future full council meeting.**

g) To consider the repairs or removal of LP23, New Street streetlight

Quotation of £675.00 to remove the light fitting and £450 to replace the light fitting. Electrician happy to provide a quotation for removing the light fitting and apparatus (£70). NYC then quoted £50 to take down to the white box.

**Resolution: to instruct NYC to take the LP23 back to the 'white box' at a cost of £50.00.**

Full survey took place several years ago of all street lights in the town owned by the Town Council.

This would inform if NYC would consider adoption or the Council continue to maintain the street light.

h) To consider the War Memorial seating project

A young person who visited the north of England and the town of Tadcaster, had contacted the Council regarding the feasibility of new seating on the footpath near the War Memorial. The quoted cost of £1,045.00 for 3 benches, planters, installation etc. Cllr Poskitt happy to offer some of her locality budget to cover the cost of this project. Mixed views from members who spoke warmly about this project and suggested it is a worthy idea, yet some suggested it may create anti-social behaviour in the area.

**Resolution: Members agreed not to support this project idea at the present time.**

i) To receive a verbal update on the Christmas Lights 2024

The Clerk provided a verbal update, illuminations will be the same as last year with the exception of the street column lights. Intermittent street columns wrapped with coloured lights down the main thoroughfare. Suggestion of rotation to create some longevity to the illuminations.

j) To receive an update on the maintenance of the VAS signage

Cllr Bowgett met with the Engineer 10 days ago, repairs made and data generated is correct.

#### **EC/25/27 POLICY & GOVERNANCE**

a) To consider the adoption of the Keeping Hens Policy (t&c's)

**Resolution: to approve and adopt the Keeping Hens Policy. Carried.**

b) To consider the adoption of the Bio-diversity Policy - Defer to next full council meeting.

c) To consider any applications to the Town Council Grant Aid – none received.

#### **EC/25/28 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

a) To note receipt of the Parish Precept letter from NYC

#### **EC/25/29 To consider the agenda items for the next meeting**

Parking on Station Road (next Full Council agenda), Potential areas for Green Spaces in the town (Community Sports Trust), ongoing maintenance of the Bus Station (County Cllr Poskitt). List of Actions.

**EC/25/30 To note date, time and location of next meeting** – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (Cllr Metcalfe provided his apologies in advance of the meeting).

*The meeting closed at 8.40pm*

