

**HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**ENVIRONMENT & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**  
**Large Front Room**  
**Hessle Town Hall**  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**Minutes**

Members present: J Langdale, D Nolan, M Sutton (Chair), & P Toogood (Vice-Chair)  
Advisory Member (Non-voting): Ms G White (HDGA),  
Clerk: Joanna Render  
Apologies: Cllrs Bovill & Pickering, Mr & Mrs Morris

**134779 DECLARATION ON INTEREST:** The Chairman read out the following – “Members must declare their pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in items at this meeting – rather than personal and prejudicial interests – and ensure that they act appropriately”

None received

**134780 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and authorise the Chairman to sign.  
(Sutton/Langdale)

**Resolved** - The minutes of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and the Chair was authorised to sign.

**134781 CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATIONS:** To receive such communications as the Chairman may wish to lay before the committee.

The Chair advised that Mr & Mrs Morris (Advisory Non-voting members) no longer wish to be on the committee and have resigned with immediate effect.

**134782 ALLOTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE:** Committee to note and receive the Income & Expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024  
(Sutton/Toogood)

**Resolved** - The Allotment Income & Expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024 was noted.

**134783 BOOTHFERRY ROAD, FERRIBY ROAD AND TOWER HILL ALLOTMENT SITES:**

- a) Allotment Warden’s Report: The Clerk gave an update. The warden continues to carry out an excellent job in keeping the communal areas tidy. She requested that if any tenants or members of the HDGA had jobs that required doing they should be brought to her, and she will instruct the warden – he should not be asked directly to carry out jobs on site.
- b) Inspection of Plots: The clerk advised that a visit had been undertaken on the 5<sup>th</sup>, whilst there are some plots which require attention and letters have been issued, it was better than the previous visit.
- c) Gardeners Association: No formal report. Ms White advised that anything of concern was covered within the agenda.
- d) Plots: 6 Vacant - 3 offered now and 3 available after 31/10/24. Noted.
- e) Crime: None reported. Noted.

- f) Invoices: Rental increase letters have been sent to all tenants. Invoices will be raised and issued for November. Noted.

**134784 ALLOTMENT ISSUES: Committee to consider the following issues.**

a) **Flooding – Boothferry Road** – Committee to note that ERYC have no issue with the planned alleviation works and permissions are not required for watercourse connection. The Clerk has submitted a request to the Finance, Asset & Personnel Committee for additional funding. Noted.

b) **Poultry**

i) Committee to note that from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 there is a requirement for the registration as a keeper of less than 50 poultry or other captive birds with DEFRA. The Clerk advised that posters have been placed around the site advising tenants of their responsibility to register their poultry with DEFRA and to also update the Town Council office. She confirmed that she has already received information from a couple of tenants. Update noted.

ii) Committee to consider the request from a tenant on the Boothferry road site to keep ducks as they are more efficient at keeping slugs down. The committee discussed this request, Cllr Nolan advised that they do need more facilities than chickens and that this should be considered if permission is granted. The Clerk advised that she will investigate the requirements for the welfare of ducks and advise the tenant, if the committee are happy to agree to the request.

(Sutton/Langdale)

**Resolved** - To give permission to the tenant to keep ducks on the site, however prior to this the Clerk will look into the welfare requirements and liaise with the tenant.

c) **‘Messy’ Letters** - Committee to note the email from a tenant who had recently received a ‘messy’ letter. Copies of the 3 ‘messy’ letters currently used were provided to the committee. The Clerk advised that as well as this letter complaining about the ‘messy’ letter system and the detrimental effect they can have on the mental well-being of tenants, she was also receiving emails about the state of plots and how these were having a detrimental effect on the mental well-being of the neighbouring plot holders, with some emails suggesting that the Town Council needed to do more to remove tenants quicker off neglected plots. The Committee discussed this and all agreed that the tone of the letters was reasonable and that there was no need to for any changes to them or to how they are issued. Noted.

d) **Tower Hill Allotment** – Committee to consider the request from the tenant of both plots for funding to replace the fencing.

The Clerk advised that the tenant has not yet submitted the costings for the fencing for consideration.

e) **Hessle Town Council - Shield & Certificate awards at the Annual HDGA Show** – Committee to consider if they wish the Clerk to continue with the judging, and preparation of the letters and certificates, given the poor attendance for collection at this year’s event.

Cllr Sutton expressed disappointment at this year's show – she felt that the Deputy Mayor had no real role to play in the proceedings and asked the HDGA to consider if they would like a Civic presence at future shows. Also, did they still wish for the Council to award certificates for the shield winner, New tenants, and highly commended plots – the Clerk explained that there is a significant amount of resource that goes into the judging, writing to recipients and preparing the certificates and this year less than half of the recipients collected them. Ms White said that the attendance numbers had been less than in previous years, but it was disappointing that the number of certificates recipients in attendance was so low, and she fully understood the council position. She agreed to take both issues to the next meeting of the HDGA committee and obtain their views and refer back to this committee.

(Nolan/Sutton)

**Resolved** - Ms White to discuss the Town Council Civic presence at future HDGA Annual Shows with the HDGA committee and also the views on presenting Shield, New Starter and Highly Commended certificates to tenants given the low turnout for collection at this years' show. She will bring comments to a future meeting.

#### **134785 TREE COMMITTEE / TREES & ENVIRONMENT ISSUES**

- a) Committee to note the report of the Tree Applications received in July, August & September 2024. Noted.
- b) Committee to note the refusal relating to 24/01696/TPO – 14 Clowes Court. Noted.

**134786 LITTER BINS REQUESTS** - None for consideration. Committee to note that Cllr Langdale has requested a larger litter bin for Tower Hill park – which they have agreed to. The Clerk advise that this had yet to be installed. Cllr Langdale to chase up with ERYC.

#### **134787 TOWER HILL MEMORIAL PARK -**

- a) Committee to note the email and photo from a resident on Northgate regarding wind damage to a tree and subsequent information provided by the Tree Surgeon relating to the health of the tree and potential action. Committee to discuss and make a decision on any tree work.

The Clerk advised that a branch had come down into the garden. The Committee considered this, and the comments made by the tree surgeon and discussed the appropriate course of action. Cllr Sutton is reluctant to see the removal of the trees unless they are in poor health, as this will set a precedent. The committee agreed to the removal of some of the smaller branches overhanging the gardens of Northgate properties backing onto the park. .

(Sutton/Nolan)

**Resolved** - To remove some of the smaller branches to the trees overhanging the gardens of Northgate properties backing onto the park.

- b) Committee to note the email from a resident and response from the Clerk regarding the ASB and Fly tipping in the park. The Clerk advised that the fly tippers had been seen on the park CCTV and this footage along with the information from a resident has been passed to ERYC Streetscene enforcement. Noted.

c) Committee to note the email from a resident and consider the following

- i) The removal of the wheelie bin, currently placed near to the vehicle entrance. The Committee discussed and agreed to ask ERYC to remove the wheelie bin and to instal a permanent bin near to gate. Cllr Langdale will ask ERYC to do this.

(Sutton/ Langdale)

**Resolved** – To contact ERYC and request that the wheelie bin near to the main gate be removed and request a fixed litter bin be placed near to this entrance. Cllr Langdale will speak with ERYC.

- ii) The assessment and possible removal of an overhanging branch from a tree opposite number 35 Tower Hill. Cllr Nolan has viewed this and does not see it as an issue, the tree is quite a distance from the residence. The tree will be monitored through the normal assessment.

(Nolan/Sutton)

**Resolved** – No works to be undertaken on the tree opposite number 35 Tower Hill. Tree to be monitored as part of the tree assessment plan.

**134788 MEMORIAL BENCH** – Committee to note that the Memorial bench with engraved plaque has been ordered. Noted.

**134789 PUPS IN THE PARK (formerly Bark in the Park) 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024** – Clerk advised that all arrangements are going well, with a few craft stalls / food vendors attending.

**134790 JENNY BROUGH LANE BENCH** –

a) Committee to note that the indemnity agreement has been left with the owner of the land to sign. Once received back the order for the bench can be placed. Noted.

**134791 BENCH – FIRST LANE** – No updates

**134792 TRANBY LODGE GATE** – Committee to note that the consultation is now live. The Clerk advised that the closing date for the consultation is 20<sup>th</sup> September (online) and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (hard copy)

**134793 BUDGET 2025/2026** – Committee to consider items for the 2025/26 budget.

As well as the bench on First Lane, Cllr Sutton asked that members consider any items for the budget 2025/26 and bring to the next meeting of the Environment & Open Spaces committee for consideration.

Cllr Nolan requested that the Tower Hill Park master plan be brought to the next meeting for consideration of any works that can be put forward in the budget recommendations.

