

HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Large Front Room

Hessle Town Hall

Tuesday 14th January 2025

Minutes

Members present: J Bovill, J Langdale, M Sutton (Chair), & P Toogood (Vice-Chair)

Advisory Member (Non-voting) present: Ms G White (HDGA)

Also present: Ms J Woollin & Ms Z Baker (Trees and Nature Conservation (Planning)), and Mr L Stephens-Ramsden (Allotment Warden)

Clerk: Joanna Render

Apologies: Cllrs D Nolan, S Pickering & Mr B Waddington (Advisory non-voting member of the Tree Committee)

134952 DECLARATION ON INTEREST: The Chair 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

134953 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th November 2024 and authorise the Chair to sign.

(Bovill/Langdale)

Resolved - The minutes from the meeting held on the 12th November 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and the Chair was authorised to sign them.

Item 7b was moved up the agenda and discussed at this point in the meeting. The record of this item is at Minute 134958 (b)

134954 CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATIONS: To receive such communications as the Chair may wish to lay before the committee.

The comments from the tree surgeon and photos of the trees in Tower Hill Park were provided to the members prior to the start of the meeting.

The Chair advised members that there is a timescale attached to this request, hence why it is being covered under Chairs communications.

The Clerk advised that works have been carried out to trees on Tower Hill Memorial Park which overhang some of the properties along Northgate. She has today received a complaint from a resident that an overhanging branch has been left, and she has real concerns that this will come down into her garden, as previous branches have.

The Clerk has approached the tree surgeon, and his advice is to remove the most northerly tree. This tree has lost a few smaller branches to the weather and there has been some unauthorised removal of a large main stem which has caused problems. He would also recommend removal of the middle tree, which is a smaller one. He suggests that the third tree in the line to be retained as this is the healthiest.

Members agreed with the recommendations of the tree surgeon and asked that the application process was started with ERYC. Members would like to see replanting when removed.

134955 ALLOTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE: Committee to note and receive the Income & Expenditure to 30th November 2024
(Sutton/Bovill)

Resolved - The Income & Expenditure to 30th November 2024 was noted.

134956 BOOTHFERRY ROAD, FERRIBY ROAD AND TOWER HILL ALLOTMENT SITES:

- a) Allotment Warden's Report: The warden advised that he has been carry out work on the flood alleviation, grass seed planting along the newly created dyke- which is starting to come through, making the area look a lot better. He has also been planting Daffodil bulbs on site and at the Town Hall. The warden advised that the flood works in the main have been a success, before and after photos show this and he has received some positive feedback from some tenants who have been affected by the flooding in the past. He would still like to get in touch with the landowner of the field adjacent to the west of the site, as there is considerable run off onto the site. He also has concerns relating to the larger dyke which flows into the School - the Clerk will liaise with the warden with regards to this. Cllr Bovill agreed to look into the ownership of the land to the west of the site through the Land registry.
- b) Inspection of Plots: No visits undertaken. Date of next visit to be arranged. Noted.
- c) Gardeners Association: No formal report received. Ms White said that the main concern related to the flooding which has been covered earlier in the meeting.
- d) Plots: 8 Vacant plots – all offered out. Noted.
- e) Crime: None reported. Noted.
- f) Invoices: 4 invoices outstanding – all have been sent reminders. Noted.

134957 ALLOTMENT ISSUES: Committee to consider the following issues.

- a) Flooding – Committee to receive an update on the works undertaken and effectiveness so far. See photos of pre and post flood works. This item is covered under 134956 (a).
- b) The National Allotment Society – Committee to agree the renewal of the Town Council membership of £84.00.
(Sutton/Bovill)
Resolved - renew the Town Council annual membership of The National Allotment Society, at a cost of £84.00.

134958 TREE COMMITTEE / TREES & ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

- a) Committee to note the report of the Tree Applications received in November & December 2024.
(Sutton/Toogood)
Resolved - The report of Tree Applications for November and December 2024 were noted.
The following item was discussed at the start of the meeting.
- b) To Receive information from Ms J Woollin & Ms Z Baker regarding the role of an ERYC Tree Officer and the application decision process and in particular for applications

relating to trees in the Southfield conservation area. Committee to raise any concerns relating to this.

The Clerk provided all members and the officers from ERYC with copies of the emails raising the concerns of a resident and member of the Tree Committee.

The Chair welcomed Ms Woollin and Ms Baker to the meeting.

Ms Baker advised that she deals with the majority of the applications for tree works in the Hesse area.

CLlr Bovill expressed concern that a significant amount of work to trees seems to be allowed within the Southfield conservation area, and that members are not being given the reasoning behind the decisions being made - which can be frustrating. The green Southfield Streetscene is being destroyed and there is very little sign of re-planting taking place.

The officers advised that TPO's can be placed on groups of or individual trees that are considered a significant public amenity. If an application to prune/ remove is received reasons must be given as to why the works are required, detail of the works and extent - this must be supported by evidence / reports from an Arboriculturist. Each application is assessed on the evidence provided. If a tree is removed then replanting is required.

Works to trees within a conservation, and no TPO are covered under TCA's - these are not applications just notifications that works are going to take place. Notice of six weeks is required before works can be undertaken on trees within a conservation area. The works are assessed by Officers to ensure that they are suitable or accurate for the tree - if not then they ask that the application is amended, or suitable professional advice sought. If a felling request is received and relates to a prominent tree on the highway, and there are no defects or reasons that it should be felled then a TPO can be placed on the tree. The authority has no legal right to ask for re-planting of a tree in a conservation area, although this is often done after discussion with the resident.

The Clerk asked that the concerns raised by the resident be addressed - the officers said that they may not be able to address it all, but they would forward the reasons behind the decision on the particular application mentioned.

Ms Baker is happy to attend meetings to explain decisions made if this would help, or she can send through reports on why a decision has been made. The committee agreed that the reports would be helpful.

The Chair thanked the officers for attending the meeting.

- c) **Tinkler's Pit** – Committee to note the information received from the Forestry Commission Tree Officer in relation to the restocking of this land. The Clerk stated that she will continue to monitor with the Officer and update the members. Update noted.
- d) **Humber Forest** – Committee to receive the information with regards to the project and works within the East Riding and Hull area. Information noted.
- e) **New Homes (Solar Generation) Bill (Sunshine Bill)**– Committee to receive the information regarding the Bill and decide if they wish to support this.
(Sutton/Toogood)

Resolved - To support the New Homes (Solar Generation) Bill (Sunshine Bill) - requiring solar panels to be installed on all new homes. On behalf of the Town Council,

Cllr Toogood will email Emma Hardy MP to request that she support this Bill at the debate in Parliament on the 17th January 2024.

134959 APPLICATIONS – NOTICES of DECISIONS

- i) 24/03486/TPO – Stockdale Wood, Tranby Park – Grant Consent. Noted.
- ii) 24/03370/TCA – 49 Southfield – Raise No Objection. Noted.
- iii) 24/03416/TPO – 55 Southfield – Grant Consent. Noted.

134960 LITTER BINS REQUESTS - None for consideration.

134961 TOWER HILL MEMORIAL PARK -

- a) Committee to note the Income & Expenditure to 30th November 2024 relating to Tower Hill Memorial Park
(Sutton/Langdale)

Resolved - The Income & Expenditure to 30th November 2024 for Tower Hill Memorial Park was noted.

- b) Committee to consider the quotes for the maintenance contract for the park for 2025/26.

The Clerk updated the committee on the works of the current contractor and a discussion was held.

(Bovill/Toogood)

Resolved - that Countrywide Grounds Maintenance be given the contract for the provision of the maintenance of Tower Hill Memorial park for the period 2025/26.

- c) Committee to note that a meeting of the working party has been arranged for Monday 20th January, 6pm at the Town Hall. The main topic for discussion will be the works required to refurbish the sunken garden area. Noted.

134962 BENCHES - Committee to consider any increase in the quote for the installation of the bench on Jenny Brough Lane / Northwood Drive. Clerk will advise at the meeting.

The Clerk advised the members that due to the delay in obtaining a signed indemnity from the land- owner - she has requested new quotes from the two installers (original quotes date back to April 2024). The original preferred one has increased his quote by over £200.00, whilst the other contractors quote remains the same. Members discussed this and agreed to change installer due to the significant rise in quote from the original contractor.
(Sutton/Toogood)

Resolved - To accept the lower quote from C Greenlaw for the installation of the bench on Northwood Drive/ Jenny Brough Lane.

134963 TUBS & PLANTING

- a) Southgate area in front of the old post office – Committee to note that Mr Murray from ERYC Highways has agreed to tarmac this area, and has raised a job ticket, but no timescale for the works.

Members are delighted with this news and look forward to these works finally being carried out.