



Minutes of the meeting of
Environment Working Group
Tuesday 9th July 2024, at 7.30pm
At Thanet House, London Road, Stroud GL5 2AD

Present

Cllrs Brookes, Fenton, Hillary (Chair), Jacobson and Saunders

In attendance

Kate Montgomery (Deputy CEO/Deputy Town Clerk), Pete Bradshaw (Green Spaces Manager, (GSM)) from Item 5.

Absent

Cllr Craig Horrocks

1. Apologies

Cllr Adrian Oldman (Personal)

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

None

3. Questions from members of the public

None

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee on 21st May 2024 were **approved** and signed by the Chair.

5. To receive the Green Spaces Manager Report

The Deputy CEO answered questions regarding the Green Spaces Manager report.

Councillors noted the project proposal to create a plant nursery and encouraged the team to bring this to the committee for discussion.

The Chair thanked the Green Spaces Manager for his report.

6. To receive the Budget Monitoring report to end of May 2024

The Deputy CEO answered questions about budget lines. A question was asked regarding clarity on the Environment Grants budget. The Deputy CEO will confirm this to the committee by email.

The report was received.

7. To note the report on Water Charges

The Deputy CEO explained the consultation about ground water run off at burial sites and the implications for any expansion or creation of a cemetery. The report was noted.

8. To approve an update to the Hire of Public Spaces Policy and Application Form

Members discussed the issue of fly-posting in the town and **approved** the new wording in the policy and application. The Deputy CEO was asked to give an explanation of what constitutes fly-posting in the documents.

Action:

Deputy CEO to include an explanation of fly-posting in the documents

9. To note a Wall Survey report

The Committee received the report. Members noted comments from the GSM around the removal of railings at the cemetery as being inappropriate when considering the structural integrity of the wall.

10. To approve a disposal

The disposal of the welfare unit was **approved**. Committee members explored the possibility of selling the welfare unit to another council or member of the public, however due to the costs involved in removing the unit and transporting it from the site, it was deemed that selling it back to the company it was purchased from would be the most sensible option.

The committee **approved** the relocation of the fuel store to the new cemetery.

11. To note the remaining funds in the Environment Grant fund

Members noted that there were no grant applications into the fund for the meeting. The committee were updated regarding previous successful applications and the recent widening of criteria to include preservation of wildlife. The Communications and Engagement Officer was asked to continue to highlight the fund in communications on social media.

Action:

Comms and Engagement Officer to plan some additional comms around the Environment Grant fund.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chair

Date