



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Duston Parish Council
Duston Community Centre
Pendle Road
Duston
Northampton
NN5 6DT

Environment Committee Minutes **Thursday 19th October 2023**

Chair: Cllr P Enright-King

Councillors Present: Liddon, Ingram

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gary Youens – Clerk

Ryan Ikavnieks – Assistant Clerk

Cllr Andrew Dickinson

EC41/23. To receive apologies for absence

- Apologies for absence was received from Cllr Ennis-Clerk

EC42/23. To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21th September 2023

- **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21th September 2023 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair (APPENDIX A).

EC43/23. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda

- Members were reminded of the need to declare any interests in the items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. There were no interests declared.

EC44/23. Public Participation Session

- There was one member of the public who came to speak upon item EC48/23, they also raised concerns over the location of the gate, suggesting that there may be a risk to the users of the gate if the ground is wet in conjunction with it being a slope and that there are potential trip hazards. They suggested that locating the gate closer to the play equipment would be a more suitable location.

EC45/23. Goal Posts at Errington Park

- Goal posts at Errington Park have been removed not put back up with season. The Clerk said the goals post have not been put back up by WNC contractor as nobody was booking and paying for the pitches.
- **RESOLVED:** To recommend to Full Council the purchase of junior goal posts for Errington Park using CIL and that the clerk contacts Idverde and Trilogy Active to implement this decision.

EC46/23. Air Pollution Monitors Report

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the report on Air Pollution Monitors was received and discussed (APPENDIX B).
 - b) That the Clerk contacts the West Northamptonshire Ward Councillors to request that the current traffic air quality monitoring project be extended to Duston.

EC47/23. Re-wilding Project Update

- Councillors were reminded that the Operations Officer had written a report on the current state of the Re-Wilding Project and ideas on how to best expand the project, was received and noted during the previous Environment Committee Meeting. The Clerk provided a verbal update stating that no substantive work can carried out in relation to the Re-Wilding Project.
- **RESOLVED:** That the verbal update from the Clerk was received.

EC48/23. The Creation of a Formal Pathway between Sam Harrison Way and Mendip Park

- The Clerk said signs have been put on the fence warning of uneven surface. It is understood that the land still belongs to the developer but under contract to the estate management company. The issue of ongoing liability costs of creating path need to be

considered and a formal written agreement with the estate management company would need to be in place to deal with this.

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the Clerk contacts contractors to acquire an estimated plan and costing for the installation of an accessible pathway. This would be funded by S106.
 - b) The Clerk contacts Meedfleet and displays the plans, seeking permission to action the work on the land that they are responsible for.

EC49/23. Memorial Benches

- **RESOLVED:** That request for personal memorial benches will be assessed on a case by case basis and that the full cost incurred be funded by the requestee.

EC50/23. Trees at Pond Farm Close

- There is an ongoing issue of a resident complaint with the large trees at Digby Close blocking out light on Pond Farm Close. It is understood that the trees are not causing any structural damage to property and are in a healthy condition. These trees are not the responsibility of Duston Parish Council.
- **RESOLVED:** That a resident issue surrounding trees from Pond Farm Close blocking light to a residential property was received, noted and discussed. No action from Duston Parish Council should be taken.

EC51/23. No Mow May

- **RESOLVED:** That the recommendation to Council is that Duston Parish Council should not participate in No Mow May in 2024.

EC52/23. Environmental Schedule of Works

- **RESOLVED:** That the report and update from Resources & General Purposes Committee on Environmental Strategy for Insourcing and Outsourcing was received and noted (APPENDIX C). The Environment Committee supports the new strategy.

EC53/23. Clerk Update

- The following updates were received from the Clerk.

- New Bench in Mendip Park – Contractors have been engaged with and work shall commence imminently.
- Anti dog fouling signs – The Covid-19 Play Safe signage is in the process of being replaced by Anti dog fouling signs, the Operations officer is preparing the new signs to be installed.
- Planters for outside Co-op – The planters have been ordered, and are set to be delivered on Friday 20th October 2023.
- Planters for outside Duston Community Centre - The planters have been ordered, and are set to be delivered on the week commencing on Monday 30th October 2023
- Planters for Limehurst Square – Due to manufacturing issues, there has been a delay in receiving the Planters For Limehurst Square, however, we have received an E-Mail stating that they should be delivered on Monday 23rd of October 2023
- Concrete base for two benches adjacent to Errington Play Area – Contractors have been engaged with and work shall commence imminently.
- Relocation of Covid Remembrance bench in Cemetery – The bench has been removed from its original position due to a large amount of bird fouling and the old concrete base has been crushed up and filled up. The new location has been designated and Contractors shall be installing it imminently.
- **RESOLVED:** That the update from the Clerk on outstanding Environment Projects was received and noted.

The meeting closed at 8:34pm