

**KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THURSDAY, 19th JANUARY AT 8.00 pm
AT BURTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Munro in the Chair

Mr T Scott (KHCA/BEG), Mr N Windett (Kirklees Countryside Manager), Cllrs B Armer, M Atkinson, S Beresford, P Brook, R Burton, A Cooper, P Cunningham, K Dunn, S Dunford, D Hardcastle, J Hirst, J Paxton, M Pitts, C Whittingham and B Wightman.

In attendance: Mrs R Perry and Mrs A Royle

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Barraclough and M Sykes, the reasons for which were accepted.

**E39 Apologies and
Declarations of
Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

There were no members of the public present.

**E40 Public
Participation**

Resolved: To hold all the items in the public session.

E41 Public Admission

Resolved: To note the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 17th November 2011.

E42 Minutes

Members noted the year's budget and latest financial statement.

E43 Budget 2011 – 12

Members considered the detail of the competition and had a lengthy discussion. The competition will be opened to allotment holders at Shepley and Grange Moor. It was noted that it may be better to just have one prize category rather than several. The Council has been notified that the Horticulture in Overton, Wakefield may be willing to sponsor the event and provide a judge.

**E44 Competition for
Best Kept
Allotment**

Recommended: To have one prize category for the Best Cultivated Allotment at both Grange Moor and Shepley allotments.

Recommended: To contact the Horticulture to confirm the sponsorship/judge and take advice on the criteria to be used for the competition and rules.

Recommended: To agree a budget of £200 to cover the costs of the competition.

Members considered the grant application for £1,185 to contribute towards the purchase of additional hanging baskets for Kirkburton and Highburton to tie in with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

**E45 Kirkburton &
Highburton
Community
Association**

Recommended: To defer the application to the next Environment meeting when it was hoped the Council will have decided on support to be provided to community groups to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

Members were unable to receive an update on this project as the Councillor involved in the project was unable to be at the meeting.

E46 Farnley Tyas Mill

Recommended: To defer this item to the next meeting.

The Clerk reported that she had consulted with all the allotment tenants and 8 people had said they were interested. These people have indicated what topics they are interested in including organic and information on how to grow leeks and sprouts. The course will run for 6 weeks for 2 hours each week at Grange Moor allotments and weather permitting, will start April / May time.

**E47 Vegetable
Gardening
Workshop**

Recommended: To run the course for 6 weeks for 2 hours each week and to enquire about the cost of purchasing a gazebo for use in case of wet weather.

Resolved: To agree the Terms of Reference for the Working Party as follows:

- To liaise with the residents and community groups to identify suitable pieces of land for the fruit trees, and involve them in planting days.
- To make recommendations to Council on the varieties and locations for planting after taking appropriate advice.

E48 Fruit Trees Working Party

Resolved: To elect the following Members on to the Working Party: Cllrs R Barraclough, A Cooper, K Dunn, A Munro, B Wightman and C Whittingham.

Members noted the advice received from Kirklees Environment Unit regarding the formalities to be followed when installing new boxes and considered how to proceed. It was suggested that Council might contact the Green Business Network (a Kirklees Council and Calderdale Council joint initiative based in Heckmondwike) to see if they might be able to provide the boxes. Woodcrete boxes need to be purchased as they have a longer life. It was noted that land owners permission must be sought before installing bat boxes.

E49 Bat Boxes

Recommended: To order two boxes in the first instance to be installed at Grange Moor allotments

Recommended: To invite Mr John Atkinson of Kirklees Environment Unit to a future Environment Committee meeting to advice on procedures to be followed.

The Clerk reported on the current situation and Members considered how to progress the project. It was reported that Cllr Sykes had used the flail machine and taken all the weeds down to ground level thus clearing a large area. It was suggested that a meeting may now be appropriate to discuss how the land is to be organised and consider the various options.

E50 Proposed new Allotment Garden by Shepley Methodist Church

Recommended: A meeting to be arranged between the Rector of Shepley Methodist Church, Cllr Sykes, Julian Faulkener and the Clerk.

A suggestion of introducing a beehive to each ward was made and discussed. It was agreed to discuss it further as a project when the project form had been filled in and returned.

E51 New Projects

Members noted the date of the next meeting; 15th March 2012.

E52 Date of Next Meeting

Members were asked to supply the Clerk with full details and information of all items required on the next agenda by 2nd March 2012.

E53 Items for the Next Agenda

The Clerk reported that she had had an e-mail with regard to Ha'penny Bridge at Battyeford. In conjunction with British Waterways the work will be put in hand but the timescale of when this will happen is unknown.

E54 Correspondence / Information

The meeting then closed.