

HALSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5 MARCH 2012 AT 18.00 IN THE PAVILION, STATION ROAD

PRESENT: Cllr. Jeff Baldwin -Chairman
Cllr. Barrie Blundell
Cllr. Karen Grosvenor

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk

The meeting convened at 18.05

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr. Chris Ford who was on holiday.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Nil.

3. ALLOTMENTS

A site visit had been made prior to the meeting.

After discussion it was agreed to recommend the following points to Council.

3.1 Clearance, Car park, Entry and Security

3a That clearance of the site including the proposed car parking area should be carried out as soon as possible.

One estimate has been received and the Clerk will source another two.

3b That the land should be fenced as soon as the clearance is finished. Clerk will source quotations.

3c That 6' green plastic covered chainlink fencing should be installed along the back of the land abutting the field owned by Mr Sellers and along part of one side of the car park by the public footpath.

That either 4' or 6' plastic covered chainlink fencing should be installed on the allotment side of the hedge in Beldam Haw

3d That wooden slatted fencing should be installed to the front of the car park and along part of one side abutting the prow.

3e That the entry to the car park should be via the drop kerb.

3f That a five bar gate should be installed at the entrance to the car park which will also serve as one pedestrian entrance .

3g That a metre wide pedestrian gate should be installed midway along the hedge in Beldam Haw.

3h That hawthorn whips will be planted to repair the hedge as necessary at a later date.

3.2 Water Supply

The Clerk has contacted Thames Water. There is no charge to make an application for a water connection. TW will survey the area and assess the entrance point for the supply and provide a quotation for the work plus supply and installation of meter.

Discussion points: recommended number of stand pipes; usage of taps with removable tops; sheep drinking water-style tanks.

3.3 Installation of car park and pathways

The cost of the 'hogging' or other medium and creation of these will be investigated.

3.4 Sheds

The Clerk has contacted SDC Development Control and has been advised that these can be erected.

The Clerk has also contact SDC to ascertain that this usage (allotments) is classified as continued use.

3.5 Grants

District Cllr. Williamson has agreed that he will support the project through the SDC Community Grant scheme; County Cllr. Parry will be pleased to support the scheme; Awards for All has indicated the scheme is something it would support.

The Clerk will impress on Mr Grove, who is dealing with the transfer, that grants are normally dependent on the applicant being the owner of the land.

3.6 Insurance

The allotments are covered by Council's public liability insurance. Accidents caused by negligence would not be covered.

4. INFORMATION

4.1 Cllr. Baldwin stated that there is a sewage pipe running under the proposed car park. The Clerk will contact Mr Grove and ask for this to be investigated.

4.2 The SID in Station Road should be installed shortly. County Cllr. Parry has signed all forms for the second SID.

4.3 District Cllr. Williamson has advised that Network Rail has written to Kent Highways & Transportation concerning the weight and number of vehicles using Wheatsheaf Hill. He will provide Council with a copy of the letter.

Meeting closed at 19.40