

**KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THURSDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 pm
AT BURTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Atkinson in the Chair

Mr G Cliffe, Mr T Scott (KHCA & Civic Society), Mr N Windett (KMC Countryside Officer), Clrs Bottomley, Burton, Cunnington, Hardcastle, Hickey, Hirst, Hutchinson, Moreton, Paxton, and Rock.

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Barraclough, Cooper, Cruden, Dunford, Heward, Holroyd, MacDonald and Sykes, the reasons for which were accepted. Cllr Hardcastle and Cllr Hutchinson apologised for their late arrivals.

**E17 Apologies and
Declarations of
Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

Resolved: To note the minutes of the meeting on 19th June 2008.

E18 Minutes

Cllr Hutchinson entered the meeting.

Members noted the draft Environmental Plan, which had been prepared with the intention of supporting the Council's Aims & Objectives.

E19 Environmental Plan

Resolved: To adopt the Environmental Plan and to update it at each meeting.

The Chairman invited members to contact her with amendments/additions to the Plan between meetings.

Cllr Hickey reported that he hoped to start working on the walk in Flockton soon. He also reported that some of the waymarking discs had been removed from the posts on the Farnley Tyas walk, and alternative ways of fixing them would be investigated.

**E20 Waymarkers &
Footpaths**

The Clerk reported that the seat was on order and arrangements had been made for applying the top coat prior to it being installed. It was agreed that Cllr Hickey would speak to Mrs Webster about the plaque.

E21 Memorial Seat

Members noted the current budget statement.

E22 Budget/Grants

Resolved: To allocate £5,000 for environment grants.

The Chairman reported that the scheme was underway.

**E23 Project Proposals
a) Water Butts**

Cllr Hardcastle entered the meeting.

Members considered the draft proposals and discussed the details. Members expressed the wish that all the primary schoolchildren be invited to take part, and that if vouchers are given as prizes, they are for shops within the Kirklees area.

**E24 b) Sunflower
Competition**

Resolved: That the Chairman and Clerk obtain further details on all the various aspects of the competition for discussion at the next meeting.

Members looked at the quotes obtained for bird and bat boxes. The following were suggested as possible locations for bat boxes:

E25 c) Bird & Bat Boxes

Shelley College, Kirkheaton Churchyard, Flockton Churchyard, Memorial Garden in Kirkburton, Kirkburton Churchyard, Grange Moor Churchyard.

Resolved: To write to the schools to enquire if they would be interested in having 3-4 boxes each.

The Clerk reported on a seminar she had attended given by Encams on the subject of refurbishing green spaces and increasing their usage with the joint purposes of encouraging people to walk more for health reasons and to reduce the number of car journeys. Members were asked to put forward suggestions of locations in the Parish where this may be appropriate.

E26 d) Green/Open Spaces & Public Seats

Members also discussed the possibility of acquiring additional public seats – the following locations were suggested: Highburton Recreation Ground and Parkside recreation area in Kirkheaton. Various seats were reported as requiring attention, which are being dealt with by the Risk Assessment Committee in order of priority.

Members discussed the possibility of working with Kirkburton Civic Society by putting together a heritage trail in Kirkburton and providing information boards to highlight the historical features. This would tie in with the Civic Society walks. It was agreed to obtain further information for the next meeting.

E27 e) Heritage Trail in Kirkburton

Members considered the grant application from Shelley First School for £530 to purchase gardening equipment and a water butt for their community garden project.

E28 f) Shelley First School

Resolved: To recommend the Council awards a grant of £530 to Shelley First School for the purchase gardening equipment and a water butt for their community garden project.

It was suggested that funding could be put towards providing a Safe Walk to School on Healey Greave Meadow when the lease has been signed.

E29 New Projects for 2008-09

Members considered the draft grant form and rules/criteria and methods of publicising the grant scheme more widely.

E30 Parish Council Environment Grants

Resolved: To adopt the form and rules/criteria as presented with the inclusion of closing dates for receipt of applications. Also to publicise the scheme via the website, village magazines and posters in the noticeboards.

Members considered the proposal of introducing a Public Question Time session before Environment Committee meetings.

E31 Public Question Time

Resolved: To introduce a public session of up to 15 minutes with the time limit for individual contributions being at the Chairman's discretion.

Members noted date of the next meeting as 20th November, and the change to the January meeting to 22nd January 2009.

E32 Dates of Meetings

- To invite Jane Fowden of Kirklees Environment Unit to the next meeting.
- To consider the development of the memorial garden in Kirkburton.

E33 Agenda Items

The Clerk requested members to notify her of the planting locations for the autumn crocus as a matter of urgency so that the appropriate licences to cultivate/permissions could be obtained before planting, as required.

E34 Correspondence & Information – Autumn Crocus

The Clerk reported that it was not possible to plant autumn crocus on the Fenay Greenway, but Sustrans welcomed other varieties of wildflowers on this site. A representative of Sustrans is to provide a list of suitable plants.

The meeting then closed.