

BARTON - UPON - HUMBER TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of an ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING held via ZOOM
BETWEEN COMMITTEE MEMBERS & THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
On MONDAY 18 MAY 2020 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillor J Evison (Chairman)

Councillors A Chapman, Mrs A Clark, N Jacques and Mrs J Oxley.

Also Present: Councillor Mr J Sanderson. Ms S Richards (Town Clerk) & Mrs C Clark (Deputy Town Clerk)

5. **Apologies for Absence**

None

6. **Declarations of Interest**

Barton Lions Club – Councillor A Chapman (personal interest)

Barton Civic Society – Councillor N Jacques (personal interest)

7. **Reports from Outside Organisations**

(a) **Barton Lions Club**

Barton Lions members have been holding meetings online using Zoom since April and finding these are successful. Environmental activities have been on hold however plans are being made for the activities below.

Following the 2019 bonfire and fireworks event, a dead tree was identified and contact was made with the Civic Society. Lion Colin is trying to locate the dead tree to see if this can be felled and a new tree planting to replace.

They are to help Friends of Barton Line with renovating the running board at Thornton Curtis station and also are looking to adopt the Barton Line in conjunction with a local resident.

Barton Lions will be helping with bulb planting and would ask if this scheduled for October 2020, a donation will be paid towards the bulbs if this happens.

The club is interested in any wild flower planting schemes and tree planting also if any help needed, they are ready to respond. They had looked in to a scheme with Woodlands Trust but find it a very complicated application process.

They are to offer assistance to Far Ings Nature reserve as and when the restrictions are lifted, a working party will be set up to help clear the backlog, reeds etc

The club is ready to assist with the litter pick (now 11-27 September Great British Spring Clean) which is planned for later this year, and has recently donated litter picking kits to some of the local schools.

(b) **Barton Rotary Club**

Mrs C Edwards advised because of the ages of their members, they have suspended their meetings until further notice. Therefore they do not have any items to report.

(c) **Barton Civic Society**

1. Neighbourhood Plan – North Lincolnshire Council have approved the area of the Parish/Electoral Ward of Barton for the Neighbourhood Plan. In normal times they had planned the next step of holding a meeting with various people to enlarge the Steering Group, set up sub groups and plan the first round of public consultation. This is obviously not possible at present, but they will try to “meet” in some way to plan a way of doing this so they are ready to consult wider when circumstances permit. They are currently looking at drafting the initial questionnaire and the possibility of some sort of on line survey, as well as getting paper copies to people. It was agreed to give an update in the next Bartonian.
2. Interchange Plans – Andrew Robinson and Councillor N Jacques “attended” a positive meeting via Skype with North Lincolnshire Council Officers and Councillors on Friday 1 May to discuss the progress with the Interchange. It seems that the proposals are now being worked on by various departments within the Council. The lease of the first area of land is now ready to sign, but North

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Lincolnshire Council does not want to do this until planning permission and funding are in place so they don't pay rent on land not in use.

The eastern portion up to the Environment Agency land is still under discussion. It is not registered to any owner on the Land Registry but Network Rail think they may have an interest in it. Councillor Waltham talked of compulsory purchase if needs be, as that land is essential to achieving the number of car parking spaces to relieve the pressure on the Town Centre Car Parks. Highways circulated a list of 16 questions/ issues for consideration. Many are detail and cannot be answered until the full design process. One key question is on who will fund the design and build of the project (North Lincolnshire Council, Barton Town Council or Barton Civic Society). The Civic Society does not feel that is their role to fund car parks, having spent over £2000 already getting the initial concept drawn up. Fundraising has not yet started as they wish to go to potential funders with a "shovel ready" scheme as Councillor Waltham put it, so that will have to wait until design work is done and planning permission is granted.

8. **Minutes of Meeting held on the 10 February 2020**

It was noted that these minutes had been signed as a correct record, for action as necessary, at a meeting of the town council held on 4 March 2020.

9. **Matters Arising**

(a) **Planter at Pumping Station Waterside Road** (Min Ref:- 271(a)/120)

The contractor has suggested leaving this planter outside the Pumping Station as a suitable location at corner of Finchley Close/Malkiln Road would possibly hinder grass cutting. The previous vandalism has also stopped. It was agreed to accept the contractor's advice.

(b) **Various items** (Min Refs:- 269(a)(b) 271 272 273(f)/120-123)

All items have been progressed but replies outstanding due to North Lincolnshire Council staff down by 30-40% due to covid-19.

(c) **Forward Planning 2020** (Min Ref:- 273/121)

The Deputy Clerk advised the Best Kept Garden and Hanging Basket Competition has been cancelled for 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions (Min Ref:- 333(ii)/148). The town planters and hanging baskets along with the flowerbeds on Ferriby Road and Barrow Road contracts will all be undertaken by AN Robinson Ltd this year. North Lincolnshire Council is unable to guarantee availability of their team due to safe working procedure during Covid-19. Please see report below from the Contractor, AN Robinson Ltd.

Hanging baskets:

20 baskets have been made up for a few weeks now and will be hung during w/c 1st June, when all danger of frost is past.

Planters:

11 planters have been stripped and dug over ready for planting, mainly those in the town centre, and these will be planted up during w/c May 18th.

The remaining 15 planters contain wallflowers which are still flowering so these will be stripped and replanted on a gradual basis during w/c 18th and 25th May.

Some of the planters have suffered from the dry conditions due to the North and Easterly winds which have been prevalent over the past few weeks.

Flower beds on Ferriby Road and Barrow Road:

The flower bed on Barrow Road has been dug over and will be planted up with dahlias during w/c 1st June.

The two beds on Ferriby Road have also been dug over but both are riddled with tree roots, particularly the one on the Northern side of Ferriby Road. The bed on the Southern side near Lidl is also in the shade for most of the day. The contractor would therefore suggest that consideration is

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given to abandoning these two beds from 2021 and possibly creating one larger bed on the wider verge on the Southern side of the road, well away from the trees. This would obviously have to be agreed with North Lincolnshire Council and would be subject to position of services and sightlines etc. These beds will be planted up for this summer with geraniums during w/c 25th May and 1st June, but given the presence of tree roots, it is likely that additional watering visits over the 6 allowed for in the contractors' quotation will be needed.

Resolved

- (i) Additional watering visits to be undertaken on Ferriby Road as needed;
- (ii) Moving Ferriby Road flower beds to be looked at later in the year with advice from North Lincolnshire Council and the contractor.

10. **Wildflower planting on verges** (Min Ref:- 341(b)/153)

Members were reminded this was discussed at 9 December 2019 Environment meeting when advised North Lincolnshire Council would be trialling this in Scunthorpe to help reduce grass cutting, details of this trial were currently not known. Councillor J Evison advised North Lincolnshire Council were also hoping to plant wildflowers in the Top Field area over autumn. It was agreed to contact them with other areas to look at around the town if they would be suitable, including Barrow Mere, The Beck, Butts Road (near Cricket Ground), Waterside Road (Haven side), Far Ings Road to Gravill Pit Lane and other areas which crop up from the town council's grass cutting.

Resolved North Lincolnshire Council to be contacted with suggestions of other possible areas, if suitable, to trial wildflowers in the town including Barrow Mere, The Beck, Butts Road (near Cricket Ground), Waterside Road (Haven side), Far Ings Road to Gravill Pit Lane and other areas which crop up from the town council's grass cutting.

11. **Carbon Footprint Task and Finish Group Tree Planting** (Min Ref:- 343(3)(ii)/157)

Members discussed the previously circulated tree planting sites report which included suggestions from residents who had completed a form in the April 2020 Bartonian. It was agreed to contact North Lincolnshire Council with all suggestions, some were felt inappropriate, but North Lincolnshire Council should advise on suitability. Public consultation with all residents close to suggested sites would also be required. It was agreed for Councillor N Jacques to send an update for the next Bartonian, thanking residents for their responses and asking for more suggestions.

Resolved

- (i) North Lincolnshire Council to be contacted with all tree planting area suggestions for suitability;
- (ii) Councillor N Jacques to send an update for the next Bartonian, thanking residents for their responses and asking for more suggestions.

12. **Public Seat – Fleetgate/Newport**

Councillor J Evison advised the public seat at Fleetgate/Newport junction is damaged and needs to be replaced. It was agreed this could be funded from 2020/2021 earmarked reserve for repairs/renewals for the Environment Committee. We currently have an outstanding order for a public seat on Far Ings Road (Min Ref:- 272/121) due to the contractor not work due to covid-19. It was agreed to arrange both seats with this contractor when they return to work.

Resolved the public seat at Fleetgate/Newport junction to be replaced, with funding from 2020/2021 earmarked reserve repairs/renewals for the Environment Committee.

The Chairman, Councillor J Evison closed the meeting at 7.25p.m.

..... Chairman

3 June 2020