

# Workington Town Council

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## Minutes of the Environment Committee of Workington Town Council, 6pm on 31 May 2016 in the Town Hall, Workington

D Rollo (Chair)	Absent
C Armstrong	Present
B Dixon	Absent (apologies received late)
A Lawson	Apologies
P McHarry	Present
A McGuckin	Apologies
B Miskelly	Present
J Osborn	Absent
B Reville	Present
T Wardley	Apologies

In attendance: Town Clerk

### **E16.1 Chair of the Meeting**

In the absence of the chair of the committee, Cllr C Armstrong was elected as chair of the meeting.

### **E16.2. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs A Lawson., A McGuckin and T Wardley.

### **E16.3. Declarations of Interest**

No additional interests to those previously declared.

### **E16.4. Exclusion of Press and Public**

No issues.

### **E16.5. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 15 March 2016 were affirmed as a true record.

### **E16.6 Workington Nature Partnership**

The clerk reported that the WNP Officer had been continuing with her scheduled work. It was noted that she was currently on leave getting married, and the committee extended their best wishes to Raegan and her new husband. There was some concern about tipping at Mountain View in the natural areas, and these would be reported through the street scene process.

**Resolved:** To note the report.

**E16.7.            Workington in Bloom**

The clerk reported that the Workington in Bloom group was on schedule for the town entry in 2016. The hanging baskets and planting were expected in the next couple of weeks. Additionally work was being done by ISS to tidy up the area opposite the Town Hall on land owned by JC DeCaux. Workington Academy students were working on the panels from Washington Street, and it was confirmed that the palm tree on Vulcans Lane had died and would have to be removed.

**Resolved:** To note the report.

**E16.8.            Workington in Bloom Grants**

The committee considered the grant recommendations of the working group.

**E16.9.            Workington in Bloom**

The committee received notes from the latest Workington in Bloom working group meeting and considered their recommendations for grants.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Recommended by Working Group</b>	<b>Approved by Committee</b>
North Shore Street Residents	£100	£100	£0
Ashfield Junior School	£500	£500	£500
Fairways Residential Home	£500	£400	£0
Church Rd Youth Club	£500	£500	£500

The committee was concerned that Fairways Residential Home was a commercial entity and should not be reliant on grant funding. The committee was also concerned that North Shore Street Residents were applying for funding for a private garden. Whilst reserving the right to review every funding applicant separately, they did not feel they could accept the recommendation from the working group for these two applications.

**Resolved:** To make the grants shown in the table above.

#### **E16.10        Harrington Reservoir**

The committee received a report on the development work for improving access and desilting in the Harrington Reservoir Nature Reserve. Specifically it considered a request from the Borough Council's Parks and Open Spaces Officer that the budgeted Environment Contingency of £2,847 (Minute E15.28) be used to assist in the Access Improvement Plan.

**Resolved:** To note the report and to allow the contingency to be spent as requested.

#### **E16.11.        Back Lanes**

The committee received a report from the clerk on the proposed environmental improvement works to the rear lane of 23 to 77 Frostoms Road and for the gating of the rear of Murray Road.

**Resolved:** To note the report.

#### **E16.12.        Play Areas Development**

The committee considered a report on the latest position on the development of Play Areas across the town. There was some discussion concerning the size of the football pitch at Newlands Lane. The clerk asked for guidance on the deployment of the two Panna Court, recently purchased. There was concern about the lack of play provision in St Michael's Ward. It was noted that this had often been opposed by residents west of Senhouse Street. There was further concern about parking in Vulcans Park, but it was understood that this would have to wait until the council owned the park for any meaningful resolution.

**Resolved:** That the Panna Courts be deployed in Moorclose and Vulcans Park.

**Resolved:** To enter into discussion with Your Derwent and Solway Housing Association about play provision in St Michaels Ward, particularly west of Senhouse Street and north of Oxford Street This may include the commissioning of professional research into a suitable site.

#### **E16.13        Open Spaces**

The committee received a report from the clerk on the various Open Space group meetings he had attended around the town.

**Resolved:** To note the report.

#### **E16.14. Flood Alleviation**

The committee considered a report on the allocation of funding to help alleviate future flooding from the River Derwent. It was noted that the outcome of the Environment Agency/County Council Flood report was awaited and that there would be a greater appreciation of the needs once that was published.

**Resolved:** To continue to work with the communities in Barepot and Hall Park View to ascertain what was required and how the council could help. The Clerk would establish a sub-budget line for this.

#### **E16.15 Rosemary Lane**

The committee received a brief verbal report from the Clerk on the progress made towards ensuring Rosemary Lane is preserved as a Right of Way. Cllr Heaslip had taken the required forms away to be completed by as many witnesses as possible.

**Resolved:** To note the report.

#### **E16.16. Benches**

The committee considered the council's policy for the positioning and commissioning of benches. It was noted that further acquisition of parks would make a difference to this, but the council should be able to respond to requests for benches in a uniform way. There may be cost savings available for the bulk procurement, and there had been requests for benches in Salterbeck and Moorclose. It was further noted that bench installation requires the permission of the landowner, which is often the county or Borough council.

**Resolved:** To look at costs and bench designs and to create an assessment mechanism for siting. The Fun Days may provide a vehicle for such a consultation.

#### **E16.17 Other Environment Matters**

The committee requested that bin provision be reviewed and reported on at a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 19.08.