

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
HELD AT THE RIVER RAY ROOM, CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
WHITE POST ROAD, BODICOTE  
ON MONDAY 12th MARCH 2018, COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Mrs M. Christer (Chairman)      Cllr J Sacha (Vice Chairman)  
                 Cllr Mrs S Steel                                      Cllr Mrs Washburn  
                 Cllr N Buttler                                        Mrs V J Russell (Clerk)  
                 Mr R Phipps (associate member)      Mrs C Hill

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Blencowe & Watts (previous commitments).
2. **Minutes**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2018 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Open session:** No members of the public were present.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes of meeting held on 10 January 2018**
  - (a) **Litter collection, litter bins and dog litter bins:** Nothing to report.
  - (b) **Roads, footpaths and pavements:**  
**Footpaths/rights of way not on the County Council's Definite Map:**  
No response from the Ramblers.  
**Junction of Molyneux Drive/Weeping Cross:** Large pothole – Clerk to report.  
**Other potholes:** Once again, outside the Church and along Wykham Lane – poor quality of previous repair work: to be reported by Clerk.
  - (c) **Councillors' reports on village inspections**  
**Light on Millennium Sign:** Replacement bulb awaited.  
**Hedge alongside flyover bridge:** Clerk to report this had still not been cut back.
  - (d) **Town Furlong green**  
**Brass plaque by one of the trees:** No response from family. It was agreed that this should be removed from the agenda.  
**Post supporting a tree:** This was broken. JCB Gardening to be asked to replace the post.  
**Damaged southern edge of green:** Report on possible improvement work still awaited from OCC.
  - (e) **Proposed youth leisure facility for the village:** On hold.

**(f) Village buses and shelters**

The Chairman reported that a number of temporary bus stops have been installed. Location of bus shelters and bus stops were discussed and it was agreed that the Chairman would further discuss with OCC.

A letter of thanks has been sent to the gentleman who cleaned the bus shelter. The gentleman has said that he will clean another part of the shelter.

**(g) Refurbishment work needed to Millennium sign**

To be discussed at the next meeting.

**(h) Possible projects for developers' contributions**

Funding for the Weeping Cross was discussed. Cllr Mrs Steel agreed to pursue this with local businesses.

- Possible Parish Office & meeting room – *suggestions being explored*;
- A youth leisure facility (MUGA) – *possibly part of the Gladman's application*;
- Possible purchase of land for the village – *being explored*.

A considerable sum of money would be available from the s.106 agreements for the Spitfire development and Cotefield 1&2.

**(i) Wall at the bottom of Wards Crescent**

To be discussed at the next meeting.

**(j) Spitfire Play Area**

To be discussed at the next meeting.

**(k) "Have Your Say" meeting with the Police**

The previous meeting was cancelled because of weather conditions. This will now take place on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Chairman of this Committee had agreed to chair. This has been advertised on the website, notice board, facebook and word has been spread around the village.

**(l) Any other matters arising, not included elsewhere on the agenda: None.**

**5. Churchyard: No matters to discuss.**

**6. Burial Ground**

**Footpaths:** The paths need clearing of grass and soil. The clerk to instruct our contractor once the weather improves.

**Hedge:** Our contractor has been asked to cut by mid March.

**Metal signs:** It was agreed that Cllr Buttler would liaise with the clerk to confirm the sizing, fixtures and wording.

**Permissive Path extension:** Awaited.

**Unauthorised items on headstones:** Areas to be checked again.

**7. Flyover land**

The tree has been removed and the rail repaired.

The mini roundabout and verges opposite the school have been damaged.

The clerk to report to OCC.

**8. Maintenance of flowerbeds**

The Chairman said that a resident has volunteered to plant the beds. The beds looked nice last year with 150 geraniums. IT WAS AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL that the same number should be purchased in red.

The Chairman to order from the nursery used last year which delivered promptly and the quality was good. They should be planted by beginning of June.

**9. Weeping Cross Memorial Project**

The clerk confirmed that the stone has been ordered. Further donations have been received from Westminster Group plc, Sacha Barnes and District Cllr. McHugh. The ceremony would be held on Saturday 10 November – details to be organised.

**10. Refurbishment of the War Memorial**

No news on the Faculty. Cllr Buttler agreed to try and obtain an update for the next meeting.

**11. Beacon to commemorate the end of World War One**

Bishop Loveday Primary School has said that they will send a choir. The clerk said that she was responding to the questions asked by the Royal British Legion. The village hall is available from 4.45pm. The Chairman agreed to ask the WI if they would organise the refreshments. Bodfest members would light the beacon, but a resident would be asked if he would like to open the event. The Parish Council's Insurers would need to be notified.

**12. Policy for retention of green open spaces and verges**

A draft policy had been prepared prior to the meeting. This was discussed, amended and would be recommended to Council for approval.

**13. Risk assessments**

The risk assessment prepared by Cllr. Watts was discussed. The clerk agreed to follow up on the litter bin that requires repairs and the visibility issues, when exiting the burial ground, which should be brought to the attention of OCC. Councillors agreed that there was no need to refurbish the benches in the burial ground since the plan is to remove them. The Risk Assessment would be presented to Council. All Councillors would be reminded to continue to monitor the village and to report any Health & Safety related matters to Cllr. Chris Watts, the Health & Safety Officer.

**14. Sustainability and green issues in the Parish - nothing to report.**

**15. Items for information/for the next agenda**

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2nd May 2018 at 7.15pm - venue to be advised.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm