

LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**Wednesday 13th July, 2022 at 6.30pm held in the Day Centre,
London Rd, Halesworth**

Present: Councillors; J Moseley (Chair), R Kellett, R Lewis.

In Attendance: P Welby (Assistant Town Clerk), Lisa Simmonds, Revd. Gini Williams.

Minutes

1. Apologies - Cllr Dunning, Martin Dominic.

Gini Williams introduced herself as the team vicar at Blyth Valley Team Ministry and that she was interested in joining the committee.

2. Declarations of Interest – none.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes:

Norse have been made aware of the repairs needed on the skate park.

Cllr Kellett still follow up with Cllr Cackett regarding EV charging points. The Thoroughfare Working Group are also looking at the layout of the middle car park in order to accommodate them.

Martin Dominic's river survey will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Open Spaces – ESC are drawing up an agreement for HTC to be able to work on the open spaces in Halesworth. Clerk will email residents who put themselves forward as contacts to see if they are still interested and whether they would be keen to meet at the space for an update.

The budget will be on the agenda for September.

5. Skatepark – As part of the Youth Forum (Youth Action Halesworth- Rural) work the consultants ACT have visited the skate park. Cllr Moseley is hoping that a separate consultation can be conducted for the skate park from the consultants used in the YAH-R work. This should be completed by the autumn.

The skate park will be on the agenda again in September.

Clerk to keep chasing companies approached for complete refurbishment.

6. Mowing of Open Spaces – The green space near the station on Bramblewood Way has now been put on the 'no mow' list. Cllr Kellett will approach Halesworth in Bloom regarding them doing a survey of smaller green spaces such as verges that could be considered by ESC to go on the no mow list.

The Clerks are currently trying to put together a map of green space ownership in the town for reference.

7. New Community Fund for Environmental Projects in Suffolk – Cllr Kellett will look at this new funding stream to fund the climate convention she has planned for the spring.

8. Committee Action Plan:

1. Lisa Simmonds and Cllr Kellett are putting together a 10 year plan to plant trees in and around Halesworth.
Cllrs Dunning and Kellett are investigating what would be involved in Halesworth becoming a 'plastic free' town.
EV Charging – Cllr Kellett is following this up with ESC for the middle car park.
The climate forum planned by Cllr Kellett may be able to link up with the Church's planned environmental themed celebration and possible thanksgiving service next year.
2. Play areas – The town should have three NEAPs (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play). Some of these will be progressed such as the one in the town park. Others are on hold for the time being.
3. Open Spaces – this objective is on track. It is planned to visit all spaces again in September.
4. Skate Park – work is being done through the Youth Forum and the Clerks to progress this
5. There are Council reps on the two main leisure providers in the town HCSL and Campus.
6. The River – Suggestion that Martin Dominic brings his findings together with a summary and possible action plan.
7. Festive Lights – This is being handled by the Clerks' office.

9. Anti-Litter Banners – A suggestion has been received by a resident that the Council create anti litter banners for the railings in the park. It was decided that the banners were unfortunately likely to become litter themselves and that perhaps a better suggestion was to have positive message stickers on the bins themselves to encourage people to use them and take pride in their park. It was also agreed for the Clerk to look at new bins for the park especially 'novelty' ones that may encourage younger park users to throw their litter in them. There was also a suggestion of replacing the bins in the park with double recycle bins to encourage recycling.

10. News Items – Cllr Kellett will write a summary from the action plan as to what the committee responsibilities are. This can then be used on the Council's website.

11. Correspondence – ESC have offered HTC a planter from a previous Covid grant. It was agreed to let the Thoroughfare Work Group look at locations for this. Correspondence from Halesworth in Bloom was discussed.

12. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 20th September