

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 18th MARCH 2025 AT 7.45PM AT MILLFIELDS PAVILION**

PRESENT:

Cllr D Jackson
Cllr E McNeill (Chairman items 53.3 & 54(ii))
Cllr S Mortlock (Chairman)
Cllr J Neish
Cllr A Whyte

IN ATTENDANCE:

Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)
There were no members of the public present.

50. To receive Apologies for Absence.
Cllr C Norman – personal
Cllr G Norman – personal
51. To Receive Declarations of Interest relating to items on the agenda.
Cllr Mortlock item 54(ii) known to applicant
Cllr Mortlock item 53.3 husbands' company has quoted.
52. To approve Minutes of Meeting held on 21st January 2025.
Resolved: That the minutes be signed as a true and correct record (Prop McNeill, Cllr x 2nd Cllr Jackson) 4 in favour, 1 abstention.
53. Garden Plots.
53.1 To receive a report on occupancy/vacant plots
Noted
53.2 To consider request for the transfer of Plot 2a into spouse's name.
Resolved: That the request be approved. (Prop Cllr Mc Neill, 2nd Cllr Whyte) All in favour.

Cllr Mortlock left the meeting 7.51pm.

- 53.3 To consider quotes for replacement hand gate to the site from the car park.
Matter brought back as requested following January meeting.
Clerk has approached 2 more contractor only 1 further quote received.
It was noted that the quotes were not like for like. Mortlock Construction is a local company, and the price difference was negligible.
Resolved: That the quote from Morlock construction be accepted (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr Neish) All in favour.

Item 54(ii) taken out of order whilst Cllr Morlock was out of the room.

Cllr Mortlock returned to the meeting 8.05pm

54. Cemetery
(i) To consider a proposal for dealing long term with the conifer hedge Mill Way cemetery.
Clerk provided a report on the matter.
General consensus was that any solution will be a major operation and expensive.
Access will be an issue for any contractor.
Cil cannot be used for maintenance works hence need to start financial planning for remedy.
Resolved; That the Clerk arrange a meeting with suitably qualified tree surgeons to discuss options, likely issues and cost indication for removal and replacement with either hedging, fence or a mixture of both. Findings to be brought back at a suitable date.
(Prop Cllr Mortlock 2nd Cllr Whyte) All in favour.
- (ii) To consider residents request for tree works Mill Way cemetery.

Cllr McNeill spoke to say that in her opinion the trees are healthy and were in situ long before the bungalow was built. Such work should it be approved would also set a precedent for other subsequent requests.

Cllr Whyte commented that there would be a need for ongoing maintenance but if trees are obscuring the solar panels there may be a compromise to be made.

Cllr Neish agreed with all that had been said but added Council should not pay for any works that may be carried out.

Clerk reminded members that it is currently bird nesting season and that no works can be done until autumn.

Resolved: That the resident be asked to provide a report on the solar panel performance for consideration by Council after bird nesting season. (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr Neish) All in favour.

55. Items to report.

- Clerk reported residents' complaint about Millfield's car park being full so that access could not be gained to the allotment plots.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Chairman

Date