

Notes - Environment Working Party

6.30pm - 6 August 2025

Present: Councillors Casson, Graves, Jump, Larkin, Stather & Ward

1. Appointment of Chair

It was proposed by Councillor Jump, seconded by Councillor Graves, and agreed unanimously that Councillor Ward be appointed as Chair

2. Apologies

Apologies received from Cllrs Kind, Longbottom, Marten

Agreed: that apologies be noted

3. Review of Strategic Plan actions relevant to the Environment Working Group

Councillors reviewed the actions proposed as part of the Strategic Plan for 2025-26 and identified those that fitted within the Environmental Working Party remit.

Agreed: that all of the actions under priority 3 and the actions in priority 5 'to support the Friends of QE Memorial Gardens' and 'to work with local groups to support volunteering to implement local environmental projects' should become the responsibility of the Environmental Working Party

4. Memorial Gardens

a) Review of grounds maintenance specification

Councillors discussed work currently included and frequency of visits. It was noted that the central bed needs more regular weeding.

Agreed:

- i. **That the current contractor be requested to provide dates he proposes to visit and undertake work**
- ii. **That a map is produced showing areas of concern**
- iii. **That specification for works is produced to include current work and the borders and bed at the back of the garden**
- iv. **That a range of contractors be invite to quote for the works for 2026-27**

b) Additional rose bush

The Clerk referred to attempts to find a suitable rose to commemorate VE day. A councillor suggested there was a Vera Lynn rose which might be suitable.

Agreed: that the Clerk investigates the possibility of obtaining a Vera Lynn rose for the central bed.

c) Additional work required

Councillors discussed the need to remove the bunting and get an electrician to investigate the issues with the lights on the Memorial Garden gates.

Agreed:

- i. **that the issues with the lights on the gate area be investigate**
- ii. **that councillors remove the bunting on Tuesday 12 August**

5 Queen Elizabeth Memorial Garden

Councillor discussed works required at the QE Memorial Gardens, noting that the ground was currently very dry

Agreed:

- i. **That the pagoda will be painted later in Sept/Oct**
- ii. **That the ivy would be stripped off later in the year**
- iii. **That more bulb planting would take place to add to the exiting display**
- iv. **That Councillor Graves will investigate a stone plaque**
- v. **That repairs be undertaken to the bins**
- vi. **That the Clerk investigates the provision of a brown bin for the site**

6. Verge Planting

Councillors noted that bulbs planted previously had been killed by weedkiller being sprayed around street signs, despite having agreement from ERYC to plant in these locations. It was important that we get agreement from ERYC about where planting can take place to try to minimise this in future.

Councillors also requested clarification around the special expenses allocated for planting at West Green.

Agreed:

- i. **That the Clerk contacts ERYC to avoid future planting being sprayed with week-killer**
- ii. **That the Clerk clarifies the situation with regard to West Green**

7. Cottingham in Bloom

Councillor noted the success of the initiative at Cottingham Station. The entry had now been judged with the outcome being announced at an award ceremony in mid September.

It was agreed that the railing planters would be plnetd up for the autumn.

Agreed: that councillors plant up the railing planters in Late September/early October

8. Parish Council Assets

- a) Consideration of salt bin locations/replacement of damaged bins

Councillors agreed the replacement of the salt bin on Canongate and the principle that damaged bins should be repaired. Councillor suggested that two additional sites were put

forward for salt bins: the junction of Dunswell Road and New Village Road, and the Corner of Abbots Park and The Garths

Agreed: that the salt bin on Canongate be replaced and new salt bins ordered for New Village Road/Dunswell Road and The Garths/Abbots Park

b) Requests for additional bins/seats

Councillors requested that the bins outside Sainsburys and at the Bus Shelter be replaced with bins with ash trays on the top and the existing bin outside Sainsbury's being moved to replace the damaged bin on Oakdene.

Agreed:

- i. **that the Clerks investigate the possibility of replacing the bins outside Sainsburys and at the Bus Shelter with bins with ash trays on the top and the existing bin outside Sainsbury's being moved to replace the damaged bin on Oakdene**
- ii. **That bins are added to the next asset management review so that councillors can check their condition**

c) Ash receptacles

This was covered by the previous item.

8. Dog Stickers

Councillors referred to the increasing complaints about dog fouling and suggested that current markings and stickers needed replacing.

Agreed:

- i. **that the Clerk request lamppost stickers from ERYC**
- ii. **that councillors remark the pavement using the agreed stencils**

The meeting closed at 7:42pm