

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Cllr O’Connell  
Cllr Roberts  
Cllr Sanford  
Cllr Baker  
Cllr Nicholls  
Cllr Stroud



**MINUTES OF THE WORKS & EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024**

**Present:** Cllr O’Connell Cllr Roberts Cllr Baker  
Cllr Nicholls

**In attendance:** Vanessa Lawrence (Clerk), Cllr Dutton

**WE48 24/25 To consider and agree to accept apologies for absence.**  
Apologies were received from Cllr Sanford

**WE49 24/25 Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda.**  
None received

**WE50 24/25 To approve the Minutes of the Works & Events Committee meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> May and 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024**  
The May minutes could not be signed off as the required number of councillors who were present at this meeting were not present. This will be added to the Agenda for the next meeting in September. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Works & Events committee meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Proposed Cllr O’Connell, seconded Cllr Nicholls 3 in favour – 1 abstention.

**WE51 24/25 Clerks/Chairman’s Report.**  
The Clerk’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting and will be held with these minutes. Updates were given on the following matters:

- Postponement of Town Crier competition
- Awaiting response from GCC regarding VAS
- Connection of water supply for the new burial ground
- Interest from Farmors School regarding designing the Milton Street garden area by the bus shelter
- Planting of memorial tree on Mill Lane
- Tree works at St. Mary’s Drive
- Reprinting of walking maps
- Purchase of tools and stone for repairs to dry stone walls.

The Clerk was asked to speak to the grasscutting contractor to ask him to cut the wildflower areas in the town.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact Willow Gardening Services**

**WE52 24/25 To agree to adjourn the meeting for Public Participation, if members of the public are present– there is a 5-minute time limit, (if applicable).**  
N/A

- WE53 24/25 To agree to reconvene the meeting following Public Participation (if applicable).**  
N/A
- WE54 24/25 Review of finances**  
No comments received, as these have been reviewed by Full Council

**WALNUT TREE FIELD**

- WE55 24/25 To consider and agree options for prevention of vandalism to dry stone wall at various locations in the field:-**  
Due to the continuing issues with children removing stones from the dry stone walls at various locations in the Walnut tree field, this matter has been brought to the Committee for consideration. These are two suggestions:  
i. installation of another camera  
ii. or wire netting.  
Discussion took place and the committee were reluctant to spend over £1k for a second camera at present. Wire netting was also considered to be a last resort measure. The committee decided that they would prefer to try less drastic measures, i.e. signs/stickers relaying the message that CCTV is in operation. It was **RESOLVED** to find suitable signs/stickers that could be placed around the field. Proposed Cllr O’Connell, seconded Cllr Baker – all in favour.
- WE56 24/25 To note repair to surface around roundabout in the playground.**  
This was to be done when repairs to basketball surface was done
- WE57 24/25 To consider and agree repairs to youth shelter Perspex window.**  
Quote from Caloo £1448 for them to supply and install or £1265 to supply only. We would then need someone to fit. The Clerk reported that she has been in contact with another contractor to obtain a quote which has not as yet arrived. As there isn’t a meeting in August, the Committee agreed that details of the second quote should be e-mailed to them and a decision made followed by formal approval at the next meeting in September.

**ACTION: Clerk to e-mail details of second quote to Cllrs and to add this matter to the agenda for September’s meeting.**

**NEW BURIAL GROUND**

- WE58 24/25 To consider and agree re-quote from Thames Water for water connection for the new burial ground.**  
The Clerk reported that due the delays in finalising details for the burial ground, the original quote for the connection of water to the new burial ground expired. As a result of this Thames Water have re-quoted. The cost has increased this as a result of price increases in April. Following discussion It was **RESOLVED** to agree the quote and to arrange payment asap. Proposed Cllr O’Connell, seconded Cllr Nicholls – all in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange payment.**

- WE59 24/25 To consider and agree how best to install circular benches in the Walnut Tree Field.**  
The Clerk reported that it was noted recently that the levelled ground around the trees in the new burial ground is extremely soft and that if the circular seats are installed they will probably sink. The recommendation is to put in some concrete blocks into which the seat

anchors can be placed. The Clerk was asked to contact the manufacturer for advice.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact LRE Engineering.**

**GENERAL TOWN MAINTENANCE & HIGHWAYS**

**WE60 24/25 Update on EV charging points.**

Cllr O’Connell reported that he is still waiting for further information regarding completion of the work to install EV charging points in the High Street. He will report back as soon as possible.

**EVENTS**

**WE61 24/25 To consider and agree a new date for the Town Crier competition due to postponement of event which was to take place in September 2024. Suggested dates - ( 17<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> May or (13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> September)**

Following discussion It was **RESOLVED** to agree a date of the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025 for the Town Crier Competition. Proposed Cllr Nicholls, seconded Cllr Roberts – all in favour

**ACTION: Clerk to contact the Town Crier Guild to advise of change of date.**

**OTHER MATTERS**

**WE62 24/25 To consider and agree actions on water quality testing on the Coln.**

Cllr Dutton was invited to attend the meeting to give the Committee any information regarding possible ways forward to ascertaining the effect on water quality in the River Coln as a result of sewage discharge. Discussion took place where it was agreed that testing of the water quality upstream and downstream together with insect sampling would be a way of establishing the damage that sewage discharge is having on the environment. Cllr Dutton provided contact details of organisation who are already involved in gathering information on river pollution and this has been given to the Clerk.

It was **RESOLVED** to make contact with the various organisations to seek advice and to arrange a meeting if possible. It was also agreed to speak to Cllr Harrison who recently attended a Sewage Forum to ask him to attend the next meeting. Proposed Cllr O’Connell, seconded Cllr Roberts – all in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact organisations to seek advice and arrange meetings, and to speak to Cllr Harrison.**

**WE63 24/25 Anything the Chair considers urgent.**

Nil of note.

**WE64 24/25 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm**

.....Chairman

.....2024