

Redacted copy for  
Public website  
Change  
Daphy clerk.

EARL SHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the

LEISURE, PARKS, CEMETERY & OPEN SPACES (LPCOS) COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at 7 p.m. on

Tuesday 01 August 2023

At the Public Library, Wood Street, Earl Shilton, LE9 7NE.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors: Ms D Almey, C Ladkin, J O'Neil, M Tebbett and Ms C Wells.

Town's County/Borough Councillors: R Allen  
C Allen

In attendance: Deputy Clerk: Mrs C Houghton.  
Head of Groundcare: Mr G Bennett.  
Town Cllr: Mr M Leman  
Members of the public: Four members as recorded.

Point of Order:

Members had to appoint a Cllr to Chair the meeting due to the Chairman being absent.

**Resolved: Members appointed Cllr D Almey to Chair the meeting.**

23/023 Chairman's welcome and opening remarks.

Cllr D Almey welcomed all Members to the meeting.

**Noted & Received.**

23/024 To receive apologies for Member absence.

**Resolved: to accept the apologies from Cllr A Bates as tabled and recorded.**

23/025 Declarations of interests. To receive disclosures of member's interests, i.e., the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda.

Cllr D Almey – agenda item 23/032, due to being a member of the Waterloo Memorial group.

**Resolved: to allow Cllr D Almey to remain in the room whilst this item is discussed but will not be involved in any discussion (unless asked by Members to provide information).**

23/026 To receive and approve as a true record the minutes of the LPCOS Cttee meeting held on 04 July 2023.

**Resolved: that the minutes of the LPCOS Cttee meeting of the 04 July 2023, as tabled, be accepted as a true record of proceedings.**



Point of Order: The Chairman brought forward item 23/031

**23/027** Public Participation:

- a. Public speaking protocol – requests received by the protocol deadline to be submitted to the Clerk with details of the agenda item they wish to address/relate. **None.**
- b. That the meeting may be adjourned to allow members of the public to make representation about items that are not on the agenda (Electors' Time).

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow the residents to inform and engage with the Council regarding the ongoing issues with the lime trees located at QEII Hall Field Park (relating to agenda item 23/031). Residents expressed their concerns over the height and overhang of the trees and how the sap from the trees is becoming harmful to their pets and stopping them enjoying time in their gardens. Residents made it clear that they are fully aware that ESTC are trying everything possible to have works carried out on the trees to reduce the issues, but they understand that HBBC, who are the planning authority, are not authorising the works due the trees having Tree Preservation Order's on them, as HBBC are against the trees being pollard. The residents felt assured by the support of Town & Borough Cllrs and that ESTC will continue to find a solution with HBBC to maintain the trees that is healthy for the trees but also will eliminate the issues for the residents.

**Resolved: Borough Cllrs informed the residents that a site visit has been agreed (date to be confirmed) with the HBBC representative to discuss the matter and that ESTC will keep all parties informed of any updates.**

Cllrs thanked the residents for attending the meeting. The four members of the public and the two Borough Cllrs left the meeting after agenda item 23/027.

**23/028** To receive a verbal report from the Head of Groundcare.

The Head of Groundcare gave Members a full breakdown of workload, machinery inventory and also what the team may require in the future with regards to training and equipment. Members asked questions on the report given and thanked the Head of Groundcare for their time.

**Noted & Received.**

**23/029** To receive a written monthly report from the Deputy Clerk.

Members received in their agenda pack a detailed report from the Deputy Clerk listing income received, unscheduled outgoing expense, works that have been completed since the last meeting, scheduled works for the month ahead and general updates such as;

- i) the cemetery mapping is still in the final preparation stage, hoping to have it finalised soon.
- ii) the nest swing seat has been installed at QEII Hall Field Park.

- iii) play equipment has been greased as requested. This is carried out on a regular basis by the Groundcare team.
  - iv) after the last meeting all residents that contacted ESTC regarding Oakdale Open Space have been contacted to advise it is remaining as a wild meadow area.
  - v) the Head of Groundcare is aware that the manhole cover at Maple Park needs the cement touching up that surrounds it. He assures Members that it is not a problem when mowing around it. The manhole needs to be kept as it is, so it allows access if needed to the water pipes that lay beneath it.
  - vi) the double gate on the toddler area at Wood Street Park has been chained closed as requested.
  - vii) BMX track at Wood St Park has had repairs works carried out
  - viii) the bottom gateway (towards Leicester) wooden planter has been damaged by what looks like a vehicle reversing into it. The Deputy Clerk & Head of Groundcare spoke to the contractors on site, but no one has taken responsibility for it. The Groundcare team will investigate the costs of repairing it.
- Resolved: Members agreed that items v), vi) & vii) need to be discussed in further detail, so these will be on the agenda at next month's LPCOS meeting.**

23/030

Correspondence received:

- a. Late correspondence received since this agenda was set.

- i) the football club who hire the pitches at Weaver Springs Park have asked ESTC to take on the maintenance, at a cost, of the new additional smaller pitch.

**Resolved: Members agreed to charge ~~Redacted~~ per season for the maintenance of the pitch. The Deputy Clerk will arrange this.**

23/031

To update Members on the potential works to the Lime trees located at QEII Hall Field Park.

This agenda item was dealt with as recorded above under agenda item 23/027.

23/032

To discuss the options for the Waterloo Memorial trees located at Wood Street Park in the wild meadow area.

Members were made aware that the 6 trees that were planted in memory of the Battle of Waterloo at Wood Street Park are no longer in place. Members discussed if the Council should replace them.

**Resolved: Members felt that the trees should be reinstated by ESTC. The Deputy Clerk will gain quotes to present to the Cttee at next month's meeting.**

23/033

To update Members on suggested plans for Weaver Springs Park football grounds in relation to the Earl Shilton Sustainable Urban Extension Development.



Members were presented with a layout, provided by the developers, of how they imagine the new layout of Weaver Springs Park could look. This includes the football pitches, training area, pavilion, car park and play area. Members were asked to consider any other ideas they may have and then later these can be suggested to the developers. The Football Club who currently hire the pitches has also received a copy of the layout for their consideration.

***Noted & Received.***

**23/034** To consider the possibility of having one or two defibrillators installed within the Town.

With the request from the July Full Council meeting, Members of this Cttee were asked to consider locations to have one or possibly two defibrillators installed.

***Resolved: it was agreed for the Deputy Clerk to contact local business to see who would be willing to house the unit. This will then be reviewed at the next LPCOS meeting.***

Cllr M Leman and Mr G Bennett left the meeting after agenda item 23/034.

**Confidential Items – in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public will be excluded from the agenda items below by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed and will be requested to withdraw. Members will decide as necessary to resolve to go into Private Session. So Resolved.**

**23/035** To consider quotes to have a *Letter to Heaven* post box installed at Mill Lane Cemetery.

Members discussed this matter in detail, considering all aspects of the post box and how it would work. The local Churches were contacted for opinions on this idea and Councils who have implemented this idea, to see how they manage it and whether they have encountered any negative feedback and how they handle any letters posted etc.

***Resolved: Members agreed to refer this agenda item to next month's meeting as they would like to allow the local Churches longer to respond with their feedback.***

**23/036** To review a quote from the manufacturer to have doors supplied for the ESTC utility vehicle.

Members understand the request from the Groundcare Team for this equipment but felt that a full review of ESTC plant & machinery is necessary before any further kit is purchased. The Deputy Clerk will arrange a site visit in September which will allow Cllrs to see the inventory of equipment and then discuss options with the Groundcare team to consider what is needed. The Head of Groundcare will then be invited to the October LPCOS meeting to discuss the matter in further detail.

***Noted & Received.***

**23/037** To consider purchasing another Stiga mower for the ESTC Groundcare team.

This agenda item was dealt with as recorded above under agenda item 23/036.

**The meeting closed at 8.35 pm with Cllr D Almey thanking members for their attendance and contributions.**



