



# **ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

Members of the Environment and Heritage Committee  
are summoned to attend a meeting which is to be held by ZOOM  
(digital meeting platform)

on **Tuesday 26 January 2021 at 7.45pm**  
to transact the business shown in the agenda.

**Mark Squire**  
**Town Clerk**  
20 January 2021

**Councillor C C Pond (Chairman)**  
**Councillor C P Pond (Vice Chairman)**

Councillors

P Beales  
T Owen

T Cochrane  
S Pewsey

C Davies

Note to Councillors:  
If you are unable to attend the meeting,  
please email your apologies to the office [contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk](mailto:contact@loughton-tc.gov.uk)

## A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies**  
To RECEIVE any apologies for absence.
- 2 Declarations of Interest**  
For Councillors to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any items on the Agenda.
- 3 Confirmation of Minutes**  
To CONFIRM the minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2020.
- 4 Public Representations**  
To hear any representations from members of the public who have registered a request to address the Committee in accordance with no 5, Appendix C, of the Standing Orders.
- 5 Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) - Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy**  
EFDC's recent adoption of the new "Air Quality Mitigation Strategy" would enable them to grant/release planning consents which could adversely affect the Special Area of Conservation (SAC).  
  
Members to review and discuss. See report attached page 4.
- 6 Town Clerk's / Chairman's Report**  
To report (for discussion only) on any further significant information / matters that may be of interest to Committee members.
- 7 Allotments**
  - 7.1 Willingale Road Allotments**  
Nothing to report of material interest – An oral report may be provided by the Town Clerk if appropriate.
  - 7.2 Roding Road Allotments – Request to re-position gate and fence**  
An on-site meeting between the Town Clerk, Services Manager, representatives of the Allotments Committee and the local resident concerned will take place shortly.
- 8 Loughton Cemetery**
  - 8.1 Holm Oak**  
An on-site meeting between the Town Clerk, Services Manager, EFDC Planning Officer and the local resident concerned will take place shortly.
  - 8.2 Contingency plan for back up Gravedigger**  
To note that as a precautionary measure, a second 'gravedigger' will be sourced as back-up in case our current contractors are indisposed. This is particularly relevant during the current Covid pandemic.
  - 8.3 Extra capacity for cremated remains interments – Min no EH231.4**  
The Town Clerk will provide an oral update.
- 9 Bus Service**  
A trial bus service is due to replace the current bus route 87. The Committee Chairman will provide an update.
- 10 Heritage Plaques – Min no EH 192.**  
At the last E&H meeting it was agreed to proceed with the following two new Blue Plaques:

- Arthur Bacot (1866-1922), Entomologist, who lived at 19 York Hill, Loughton
- Sir Leonard Erskine Hill (1866-1952), Physiologist and Sir Austin Bradford Hill (1897-1991), Epidemiologist, who lived on the site that became Nafferton Rise.

The owners of 19 York Hill were written to requesting permission to instal the plaque for Arthur Bacot. Permission has been received and the owners have been advised that the matter will be progressed (following the Services Managers' return) to decide on the siting of the plaque.

The plaque at Nafferton Rise is to be sited on the entrance gate piers to Nafferton Rise. A resident that I believe Cllr Chris Pond has made initial contact with, was written to in January to obtain consent for this plaque. However, she has advised that as it is to be sited on the entrance gates – permission will need to be sought from all residents of the 'Close'. I will be following this up, once I have established all the residents that need to be contacted.

(As this plaque will need to be of a special design to fit the limited space, a quote has been obtained and was referred to the Chairman of the Committee, and the Town Clerk – details can be provided, if required).

N. B. To note that the replacement plaque to commemorate the bus garage will be refitted, high up upon the Lidl supermarket wall.

**11 Christmas Window Competition 2020**

Committee members to note the report on page 5.

**12 Noticeboards**

An update on the repositioning of the EFDC Housing Office noticeboard along Debden Broadway will be provided by the Services Manager.

**13 Financial Position  
Current Financial Position**

The current financial position is attached together with details of the funds available from earmarked reserves.  
(see pages 6 - 7).

**14 Environmental Issues**

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Committee to discuss concerns and improve the ambience and environment of Loughton by tackling adverse factors and promoting positive ones.

The methodology agreed is as follows:

Councillors should send to the Town Clerk at least 14 days before the meeting a statement of what the eyesore is, its exact location, its ownership, if known, and the desired course of action. Members would discuss the matter, come to a conclusion, and then the Clerk would write to the responsible body outlining what the Town Council would like to see done. If no action were taken, the matter could be publicised and revisited at a subsequent meeting.

**15 Future Work of the Committee**

The opportunity for members to suggest topics to be considered by the Committee at a future meeting, subject to the Committee's agreement.

Note: No substantive discussion may take place under this item as the required statutory notice of the topics will not have been given.

**Mark Squire**

**TOWN CLERK**  
20 January 2021

## **Agenda Item 5**

### **Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) - Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy**

There is great concern that EFDC's recent adoption of the new "Air Quality Mitigation Strategy" will enable the District Council to grant/release planning consents which could adversely affect the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC) We would not wish any of the current protections for the SAC to be eroded in any way, nor inappropriate new housing to be consented (which gives rise to the "need" for a proposed Clean Air Zone CAZ).

This proposal became known to Loughton Town Council (LTC), at late notice before the 2020 Christmas break. LTC Councillor Chris Pond 'called in' this agenda item which was raised at the EFDC Overview & Scrutiny meeting, held on 7 January 2021, on the basis that this proposal was unsound. The 'call' at the meeting was lost by 7 votes to 5 with 5 abstentions and the proposal ultimately went through. All 3 Loughton Town Councillors on this EFDC Committee voted against the proposal.

On 12 January 2021 EFDC stated 'We have upheld the decision to adopt the Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy for Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC). It will allow careful and considered developments in the district to proceed with the appropriate measures to mitigate the impacts on air quality in the Epping Forest of any developments and the current backlog of planning decisions to be released in the coming months.

There is a growing local social media campaign against EFDC's proposed CAZ, which has been brought to the attention of Loughton Town Council (LTC). We have received a number of messages from irate and concerned local residents and we are aware of their comprehensive list of arguments against this proposal- see summary below:

- the new "Air Mitigation Strategy" is a way around the SAC and will lead to massive over-development of Epping Forest which will cause irreparable damage to the forest;
- leading to more vehicular traffic and large HGVs and therefore more pollution whilst ensuring bringing more people to the area to fill the new houses;
- something which will have a far-reaching impact on many individuals, especially during such hard financial times, has been pushed through with no real consultation with local residents;
- concern on a potential financial levy for motorists driving through the forest and the negative effect on local people (especially those on low incomes);
- main culprits of high pollution levels in our local area comes from M25/M11 articulated lorries, buses and coaches and other commercial vehicles that travel along the route daily;
- to circumnavigate the CAZ which will add additional miles to local people's journeys leading to additional fuel purchased, driving longer journeys & creating more pollution.

At the time of writing we are aware that there may be a call for a Special Council Meeting to discuss the Air Quality Mitigation Strategy and the Clean Air Zone.

MS 19.1.21

**Agenda Item 10**

**Christmas Window Competition 2020**

A press release to launch this competition was issued in October 2020. Following Government Covid guidance in November for a further month's lockdown, resulting in the temporary closure of many local shops and businesses, it was decided to defer the competition and a new press release was issued to that effect.

At the E&H Committee meeting on 25 November 2020, min no EH246, it was agreed that although no formal competition would be held, the Councillors that traditionally judge the competition would visit shops throughout the town in December and certificates would be awarded to business owners who they considered had made a special effort to decorate their premises.

While the Councillors prepared a list of businesses to be recognised in this way, unfortunately, the latest Government lockdown was imposed, again resulting in the closure of most of the local shops and businesses meaning it was not possible to issue any certificates.

Report by Debra Paris  
Administrative Officer  
15 January 2021

Agenda item 13

Loughton Town Council

Summary Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 20/01/2021

Month No: 8 up to 30.11.2020

Environment & Heritage Committee Report

		Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Budget	Variance Annual Total	Funds Available	% of Budget
<b><u>Environment &amp; Heritage</u></b>							
Christmas Best Dressed Window	Expenditure	367	0	350	350	350	0%
Cemetery (Church Lane) (1)	Expenditure	51,677	24,802	62,495	37,693	37,693	39.7%
	Income	12,593	10,144	14,700	4,556		69.0%
Street Furniture (2)	Expenditure	26,684	20,564	32,005	11,441	11,441	64.3%
	Income	0	100	0	-100		0.0%
Allotments (3)	Expenditure	8,161	1,020	10,335	9,315	9,315	9.9%
	Income	3,301	2,701	3,220	519		83.9%
Cemetery (Debden Lane)	Expenditure	924	580	600	20	20	96.7%
Other Services (4)	Expenditure	6	0	3,700	3,700	3,700	0.0%
Service Re-charge (5)	Expenditure	97,000	0	0	0	0	0.0%

**INCOME – EXPENDITURE TOTALS**

Environment and Heritage Expenditure	<b>184,820</b>	<b>46,965</b>	<b>109,485</b>	<b>62,520</b>	<b>62,520</b>	<b>42.9%</b>
Income	<b>15,894</b>	<b>12,946</b>	<b>17,920</b>	<b>4,974</b>		<b>72.2%</b>
Net Expenditure over Income	<b>168,926</b>	<b>32,020</b>	<b>91,565</b>	<b>57,545</b>		

Notes:

1. Actual cemetery expenditure to date including the grounds maintenance contract costs totals £38,139 which would be 61%. The budget includes £23,0010 for wall repairs.
2. The Street Furniture income of £100 was a donation from the Kipling Society for a Blue Plaque
3. The allotment income is now coming in after being delayed due to Covid, we have now nearly received all payments.
4. Other services budget is a contingency sum.
5. Service re-charge for 2020/21 is £97,000 – position as at 31 December 2020 is £72,750 i.e. 75%

**Agenda Item 13**

**Earmarked Reserves**

A summary of the Committee's reserves showing the amounts available from reserves in this current financial year is provided below:

<b>Environment &amp; Heritage Committee</b>	<b>1.04.20</b>
Street furniture	5,850
Christmas lights	600
Community toilet scheme	1,000
Cemetery	27,265
Cemetery –professional fees	10,000
Cemetery plot maintenance endowment (restricted fund)	8,262
Lady Whitaker's Mead/new cemetery	38,670
Tree strategy	500
Cycling measures	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>92,647</b>