



# ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Members of the Environment and Heritage Committee  
are summoned to attend a Meeting at **7.45pm** on

**Wednesday 25 January 2017**

at 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton  
to transact the business shown in the agenda.

**Enid K Walsh**  
**Town Clerk**  
19 January 2017

**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 phone your apologies to the office on 020 8508 4200.

## 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 16 November 2016.
- 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 Matters for Report**  
To REPORT any further significant information on matters which have been previously discussed, in addition to those which may already be included on the agenda.
  - 5.1 Light up a Life – Min no EH208.6 (2015/16)**  
For information, the Light up a Life ceremony held on Kings Green on 3 December 2016 raised £178 for the St Clare Hospice.
  - 5.2 Allotments – Min no EH196.2**
    - 5.2.1 Pyrles Lane – GROW project**  
The new boundary fencing has been installed at this site at a net cost of £5,783. This cost of this work is to be met by the GROW Project from their successful grant application to the Town Council earlier this year.  
The Above and Beyond Charity with responsibility for the project has also been successful in its application to the Community Initiatives Fund with an award of £11,000.
    - 5.2.2 Willingale Road**  
For information, the meeting room at this site will not be used as a polling station in May 2017.  
  
The former chairman of the Debden Horticulture and Allotments Society has been asked to progress the transfer to the balance of society funds to a trust account held by the National Allotments Society.
  - 5.3 Heritage Plaques – Min no EH16.4.2**  
Officers are still waiting for written confirmation from the property owner that the blue plaque to commemorate the London General Omnibus Company garage on the Homebase building in Church Hill may be installed. Once this has been received, the plaque will be ordered at a net cost of £365 and arrangements for an opening ceremony finalised.

**5.4 Bus Service 167 – Min no EH16.6.1**

Passenger Transport at Essex County Council has advised that, from 11 March 2017, Transport for London will no longer run the 167 bus service between Loughton Station and Debden Station.

ECC is currently assessing the impact and deciding what, if any, action it needs to take in response. It has promised to inform the stakeholders once a decision has been made.

**5.5 Street Furniture**

Investigations into the possible reuse of the brackets originally installed in 2012 to house the Olympics lamp column banners in both the High Road and The Broadway have been undertaken.

The best value cost would involve an initial outlay of £3,650 to purchase new fittings with a 5-year guarantee and have them installed by an approved contractor. Ongoing costs would be £540 to change the banners plus £650 for each new set of 12 banners. All costs are net of VAT.

This would be subject to approval by Essex Highways.

Further discussions will be held with local groups to gauge the level of interest in this form of promotion.

**5.6 Christmas Window Competition 2016 – Min no EH16.9**

\* A report is provided on page 5.

**5.7 Public Rights of Way – Min no EH26.7**

The Committee is asked for its comments on a consultation being carried out by Essex County Council on a request from the Maple Gate Company (MGC) that owns the estate road along Maple Gate.

The MGC is requesting that highway rights are removed to enable it to take over the maintenance of the road, along with giving it better control of the security of the estate.

If no objections are received, the MGC will need to apply for planning permission for change of use from highway to private and, provided that is approved, a subsequent application will be made to the Department for Transport for an order to remove highway rights.

\* A plan is provided on page 6.

**5.8 Bus Shelters – Min no 16.5.3**

The Services Manager will provide an update at the meeting on the project to install a new shelter in Traps Hill.

**5.9 Local Highways Panel**

**5.9.1 Salt/grit Bins**

The Local Highways Panel has agreed to install a new bin at the junction of Shaftesbury with Staples Road. As this abuts a conservation area, a green or black bin is preferred to the standard yellow.

The Highways Officer is investigating whether it will be possible to have a bin of another colour.

The Committee is asked if it would be willing to fund the difference between a standard and a heritage bin. ECC has quoted a cost of £500 per bin, whereas the Town Council paid £350 in 2015 for the bin on Pump Hill green. For information, there is currently an earmarked reserve of £850.00 for salt/grit bins.

#### **5.9.2 New requests**

The Committee is asked whether the following project should be submitted to the Local Highways Panel for consideration:

Public Bridleway no 14 from Forest Way to Woodbury Hill - resurface with hoggin or similar to City of London requirements, to facilitate pedestrian and equestrian access, and install posts to prevent vehicle encroachment and avoid obstruction.

#### **5.10 War Memorials**

For information, the WWII memorial from St Mary's Church has been given to the Town Council for safe keeping. This joins the WWI memorials from Lincoln Hall and St Mary's already in storage.

#### **5.11 Replacement Waste Local Plan**

In June 2016 Essex and Southend-on Sea Councils submitted their Replacement Waste Local Plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination. Public hearings into the Essex and Southend-on-Sea Replacement Waste Local Plan adjourned on 7 October and the two councils have made a request to the Inspector to make several modifications to the Plan which would make it suitable for adoption.

The Schedule of Modifications, the Addendum to the Site Assessment & Methodology Report and the Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal are now the subject of a six-week consultation from 5 January to 16 February 2017.

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Environment%20Planning/Planning/Minerals-Waste-Planning-Team/Planning-Policy/Pages/Replacement-Waste-Local-Plan.aspx>

The Committee is asked if it wishes to comment and, if so, to prepare a response.

### **6 Financial Position**

- \* The current financial report is attached (see pages 7 – 8).

### **7 Air Quality**

- \* The Committee is asked to consider Cllr C C Pond's report provided on page 9.

### **8 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 was taken, the matter could be publicised and revisited at a subsequent meeting.

**9 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.

**Enid K Walsh**  
**TOWN CLERK**  
19 January 2017

**Agenda item 5.6**

**Christmas Window Competition 2016**

Many Loughton businesses decorated their windows as part of the town's festive celebrations. All Christmas-themed shop windows were automatically eligible for this competition. Businesses were, as before, split into three classes of entry – local/independent businesses, multiples/chain stores and charity shops.

The judges were town mayor, Carol Davies, assisted by councillors Tessa Cochrane and Judy Jennings. The results were as follows:

<b>Class</b>	<b>Winning businesses</b>	<b>£100 charity donation</b>
<b>LOCAL/INDEPENDENT</b>		
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Bababoom, 255 High Road, IG10 1AD</b>	<b>Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity (in memory of Ollie Anstey)</b>
Runner-up	Tonys, 61 The Broadway, IG10 3SP	
Highly commended	Cranbrook Electrics, 50 The Broadway, IG10 3ST	
Highly commended	Ice Events, 53 The Broadway, IG10 3SP	
<b>MULTIPLE/CHAIN STORE</b>		
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Mezesphere Restaurant</b> Connaught House, 112-120 High Road, IG10 4HJ	<b>NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children)</b>
Runner-up	Schmidt Kitchens 157 High Road, IG10 4LF	
Highly commended	Rhino, 155 High Road, IG10 4LF	
Highly commended	Starbucks, 243 High Road, IG10 1AD	
<b>CHARITY SHOPS</b>		
<b>Winner</b>	<b>St Clare Hospice Debden</b> 72 The Broadway, Loughton IG10 3SY	<b>St Clare Hospice</b>
Runner-up	Restore Community Centre, 68 The Broadway, IG10 3ST	
Highly commended	Save the Children, 20 The Broadway, IG10 3ST	

The judges chose: Bababoom for its sparkly display of “a beautiful tree and hanging baubles all co-ordinated in silver and white with an imaginative crescent moon”; Mezesphere that “definitely captured the Christmas spirit”; and St Clare Hospice Debden branch for its “charming depiction of animals on a bench looking at a Christmas tree with presents and house, no 1 North Pole”.

Each of the category winners received an engraved silver cup, a framed certificate and bottle of Prosecco courtesy of **MajesticWine** Unit 2 Station Road, IG10 4NX. The charities chosen by them, as shown in column 3, each received a £100 cheque donation from the Council.

An innovation this year was that, after the judging, a ‘thank you’ card was given to the shops to display in their windows. These cards were professionally printed at a cost of £50.

The Committee is asked if it wishes to continue this practice next year.

Report by Vivienne Messenger  
Planning Committee Clerk

**Agenda item 5.7**

**Essex County Council – Removal of highway rights – Maple Gate, Loughton IG10 1PS to IG10 1PR**

The Committee is ASKED if it wishes to comment on this proposal.



## Summary Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/12/2016

Month No: 9

## Recreation Committee Report

		Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Budget	Variance Annual Total	Funds Available	% of Budget
<b><u>Environment and Heritage</u></b>							
Christmas Best Dressed Window	Expenditure	334	391	375	-15	-15	104.1 %
Cemetery (1)	Expenditure	46,931	21,197	70,880	49,683	49,683	29.9 %
	Income	15,666	15,937	22,500	-6,563		70.8 %
Street Furniture	Expenditure	28,639	15,474	31,120	15,646	15,646	49.7 %
	Income	2,092	0	0	0		0.0 %
Allotments (2)	Expenditure	8,449	2,751	7,080	4,329	4,329	38.9 %
	Income	3,910	2,981	2,564	417		116.3 %
Cemetery (Debden Lane)	Expenditure	510	510	10,600	10,090	10,090	4.8 %
Other services (3)	Expenditure	1,160	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0 %
Service Re-charge (4)	Expenditure	74,400	0	90,000	90,000	90,000	0.0 %
<b><u>INCOME - EXPENDITURE TOTALS</u></b>							
	Expenditure	160,423	<b>40,323</b>	<b>212,055</b>	<b>171,732</b>	<b>171,732</b>	<b>19.0 %</b>
	Income	21,668	<b>18,918</b>	<b>25,064</b>	<b>-6,146</b>		<b>75.5 %</b>
	Net Expenditure over Income	<b>138,755</b>	<b>21,405</b>	<b>186,991</b>	<b>165,586</b>		

**Notes**

- 1) Cemetery (Church Lane) – the year to date expenditure is shown as £21,197. Estimated position as at 31/12/16 including the DSO grounds maintenance contract is £31,749. Included within the budget is £20,000 for the boundary wall repairs, £2,500 for path repairs and £3,000 for memorial testing.
- 2) Allotment income of £2,981 is represented by £344 from licence fees at the Roding Road site, £2,157 from plot rents at Willingale Road and £480 for the hire of the meeting room.
- 3) Other Services is the budget heading for a £1,000 contingency and £1,000 towards the community tree strategy 'special trees' project.
- 4) Service Recharge for 2016/17 is £90,000. Position as at 31/12/16 = £67,500.



**Agenda item 6**

**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>31.3.16</b>
Street furniture	10,337
Oakwood Hill Estate improvements	2,000
Allotments	1,000
Community toilet scheme	1,000
Cemetery	33,265
Cemetery plot maint endowment (restricted fund)	8,262
Lady Whitaker's Mead/new cemetery	45,000
Tree strategy	500
Roding Hub	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,864</b>

## **Agenda item 7**

### **Air Quality**

The last systematic report by Epping Forest District Council on air quality published at [www.essexair.org.uk](http://www.essexair.org.uk) dates from 2013, at which time the intention was to declare some Air Quality Areas in Loughton. There is no evidence this has been done. The reports from 2016 are to be published shortly.

The main cause of poor air quality in our parish (both urban and rural parts) is road traffic, with two motorways on our borders, and endemic stop-start traffic on the High Road and the A1168.

During the public enquiry on the Enfield NGAR in 2015, the Conservators expressed great concern that the A104 and A121, especially through Loughton, would become much more polluted from NOx emissions from extra vehicles. Local GPs have reported an increase in asthma cases in the young, mainly from the emission of particulates from diesel vehicles.

In 2016, the City of London, recognising threats to the environment in the green spaces as well as in the City itself, banned further purchases of diesel vehicles, and persuaded hire-car owners to switch hybrids to electric-only mode.

Diesel vehicles were being promoted by the Government only 5 years ago and given tax benefits. Official research (eg <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/research/key-issues-parliament-2015/health/air-quality-in-urban-areas/>) indicates that dealing with NOx and particulate pollution is now a government priority

What the Town Council can do:

- Replace its diesel vehicle with petrol, electric, or hybrid alternatives, as has already been mentioned by the Recreation Committee;
- Put pressure on EFDC to monitor and publicise vehicle pollution levels in the District;
- Cease (after a reasonable period) to pay mileage to officers and councillors for any diesel vehicle journeys;
- Require as a contractual condition its contractors to install particulate filters on any equipment they use (e.g. in grass cutting, site maintenance, etc), and the planning committee, where relevant, to request similar conditions in planning consents;
- Join with relevant bodies such as the Conservators and local GPs to reduce the levels of pollution;
- Lobby relevant committees; and
- Encourage residents, when changing vehicles, to choose the smallest and least polluting non-diesel cars for their replacements.

Report by Cllr C C Pond