

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 9th JULY 2024 AT 7.30PM
IN THE TOWN HALL, MARKET SQUARE, HIGHAM FERRERS**

PRESENT:

Cllr C O'Rourke (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs P H Whiting
Cllr V K Paul
Cllr G Kelly
Cllr N Brown (as substitute for Cllr H L Jackson)
Mrs E M Arrow (Assistant Clerk)

1. **ELECT A CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr C P O'Rourke is elected as Chairman of the Environment and Recreation Committee.

2. **ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr G Kelly is elected as Vice Chairman of the Environment and Recreation Committee.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr H L Jackson, Cllr P McCann, Cllr P Tomas

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

6. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

7. **ANNUAL PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS**

RESOLVED:

That the annual play area inspection reports and summary spreadsheet are received and noted.

8. **BENCHES AT RIVERSIDE PARK**

RESOLVED:

That the existing bench that the council has in storage is reinstalled in the suggested location at Riverside Park.

That the offer of a memorial bench from a local resident is declined due to the unsuitability of the bench for public use, but an offer is made to the local resident to provide a memorial plaque to be installed on another bench at Riverside Park if they wish.

9. **THREE OAKS TREE SAPLINGS**

RESOLVED:

That the offer of 2 saplings from the original Three Oaks tree is accepted. That the following locations are considered for planting: Nightingale Way Open Space, Saffron Road Recreation Ground, Higham Heights and the Dogs Off Lead Area. That specific planting locations are to be decided following consultation with the Tree Warden and research in how best to place the saplings to give them the best chance of survival. That protective guards and stakes are installed to protect the saplings.

10. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT
RESOLVED:**

That the Parish Paths Warden report is received and noted with thanks to Marion Darnell.

11. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr Paul commented regarding a community fundraising effort to introduce more accessible equipment at Saffron Road Recreation Ground. Cllr Paul confirms that he is facilitating liaison with the council to ensure the goals between the council and community are clear and aligned.

Cllr Kelly reported on a climate response award scheme he has received information on. Cllr Kelly considers that the council has achieved some of the criteria for the award and wishes for the council to consider application. The details are to be forwarded to the Clerk for consideration.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

10th September 2024

Chairman

Date