

NEW WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF
NEW WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 20TH NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7PM
AT ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH HALL**

Present: Councillor R Breed (Chairman)
Councillor J Matthews
Councillor C Mumby
L Dyas, Clerk to the Council

1 member of the public

		Action
14/E17	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies were received from Cllr Baker and Simpson	
14/E18	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> There were no declarations of interest	
	<u>Priors Green – To receive and consider report from Friends of Priors Green Group</u> Cllr Matthews circulated a report from Alan Duckworth from Friends of Priors Green Group. It was agreed the plan looked good and the Chair looked forward to receiving the report from the environmental specialist. The Clerk was asked to find out how much funds were ring-fenced within the S106 so the development could take place. It was important to move this project forward as we would be open to criticism if nothing was done. It was felt that more residents would visit Priors Green if the Council kept on top of the management plan. Cllr Mumby enquired about the £200.00 for the rowan tree and Cllr Matthews said it had not been planted yet. It was important to keep on top of the site so no further tipping took place. Resolved: It was proposed to enquire from NELC about a grit bin at Priors Close car park and the Clerk will put this on the Parish Council agenda.	Clerk Clerk
14/E20	<u>Tidy Up Together Campaign</u> Cllr Breed said that when this was going on, the area was blitzed but some of the jobs were not carried out. However, it seems to have died a death since then. A suggestion was made to tie it in with a national event, involve the schools, ward councillors and NELC. The campaign happens once a year, but if you tie it in on a recognised day, you have more chance of involving others. Resolved: The Clerk to look at the calendar for a national day event	Clerk
14/E21	<u>Flower Beds</u> The Chair said he would check on the condition of the flower beds	Chair
14/E22	<u>War Memorial</u> The Chair said the standard around the memorial was good and no complaints had been received. It was suggested that the wreaths were removed in May rather than September as they had past their best by then. Resolved: The Clerk to look on the internet for guidance regarding how long wreaths should be left at a memorial.	Clerk
14/E23	<u>Allotments</u> Rent Collection – It was agreed that the Tenants Association would collect the rents by the 1 st June and let the Council have a cheque for the full amount. Additional Allotments – It was suggested that the Environmental Committee looked for some land for additional allotments.	

	<p>Any Other Issues – The Chair informed the meeting about the fire which took place on the 5th November when a Chinese lantern landed in the allotments, and the damage it caused. The fencing has now been repaired and the rubbish will be disposed of. The Chair asked the Clerk to check the insurance to see what it says regarding inflammable products in storage. It was also suggested that a first aid box should be kept on site.</p>	Clerk
14/E24	<p>Cemetery The Chair said we had been looking for some suitable land for 5 years as the original land which had been identified is now being used for housing. There is an application to provide land for a cemetery as there is a demand for burials as opposed to cremation.</p>	
14/E25	<p>Street Cleaner The street cleaner now has a Sharps bin and the new high vis jacket has been ordered and will be here in a couple of weeks' time. It was identified there were 5 grit bins situated at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 School 2 Greenlands 1 Cardiff Avenue 1 Enfield <p>It was asked what the street cleaner did when there was thick snow on the ground. The Clerk to enquire from NELC for generic risk assessments relating to their street cleaners so they can be adapted for our purposes. The Committee said the street cleaner did a good job.</p>	
14/E26	<p>Problem areas within the parish relating to environmental issues: Fly tipping – It was reported that the layby near Tesco's had lots of rubbish strewn there for up to 3 days. The Chair has sent an e-mail to NELC and is awaiting a response. Cars for sale – Cars are still being advertised for sale at the Tesco's layby. Dog fouling – There is currently a campaign being run by NELC.</p>	
14/E27	<p>New Waltham in Bloom 2015 It was suggested to approach businesses for sponsorship and some local suppliers were mentioned who could be approached for any funding to support engraving and mounts.</p>	
14/E28	<p>East Midlands in Bloom 2015 The Chair said there is a lot of work involved in this competition. It was decided to defer this until 2016 when New Waltham in Bloom would be up and running.</p>	
14/E29	<p>Cycle Tracks Still awaiting a report from A Snell, the Cycling Officer at NELC. They were originally looking at the possibility of building a track from the bypass but this might not happen due to the cost.</p>	
14/E30 (A) (B) (C)	<p>Any Other Business It had been flagged up to NELC regarding skips on the highway should be lit and a cone positioned. Please let NELC know if you see any skips without a light or cone. The Clerk and Cllr Williams had been in discussion regarding a new noticeboard being erected on the village green. This will be on the agenda on the 3rd December 2014. A request had been received from a member of the public regarding erecting signs at the entrance to the village. We would eventually require 5 signs, but a proposal was made to put 1 sign into next year's budget. This will also be included on the agenda on the 3rd December. However, would we lose the New Waltham strip sign at the entrance to the village?</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8.40pm</p>	

