PRESENT:

Councillors: G Williams, S Perkins, N Jejna, R Bird, W Stapleton, M Baulcombe and A Shelton.

Officers: J Riddle (Clerk)

Public: 2 Including Councillors N Mees and F Purdue-Horan

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor M Baulcombe was noted as a substitute member for the vacant committee seat.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held on 03 December 2024, Folios 10247 to 10249, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING DECISIONS

The committee noted the update.

5. BUDGET TO ACTUAL TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

The committee noted the updated position.

6. HILL DRIVE ALLOTMENTS WATER LOCATIONS

The committee considered the costs of installation of an additional tap and relocation of a current supply. The committee agreed that rainwater harvesting was a preferred solution to water supplies to limit the use of mains water.

RESOLVED: to confirm the tenant progress rainwater harvesting solutions.

7. SEASONAL DECORATIONS

The committee were updated on the issues experienced during the 2024 festive period and requests from NCC for electrical changes and testing of tree brackets.

The committee agreed that the costs for wrapping and unwrapping of the co-op corner tree were considerable and alternative options for additional lighting in the tree would be considered after a site meeting had been held with NCC.

The Buttercross lighting failure was considered, and the electrical system height had been identified as an issue for future failures. The Clerk would progress options with RBC.

The committee were advised of NCC's request for pull out testing of the small Christmas tree brackets and costs. The committee also considered the failure of the small trees, the costs for replacement, testing, electrical checks and responsibility of any building repairs identified.

RESOLVED: to consider alternative options for the Town Centre Lighting Scheme with the contractor.

The committee agreed that after consideration of options, a meeting with local businesses would be arranged to consider the plans for 2025.

8. RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL ACTIVE TRAVEL MAP & BENCH MAINTENANCE

The committee received a draft copy of the Active travel map and a request to consider ongoing maintenance responsibility for a proposed bench near Lidl, subject to Lidl granting permission.

Additions and changes were noted to the draft map and in the current format the Committee confirmed that Town Council logos and branding should be removed as the map was not supported. It was agreed to request for additional work and changes to identify bus route locations within the town. The Committee also considered the request for bench maintenance responsibility and agreed that Lidl should be requested to maintain the bench if installed on their land.

RESOLVED: to request alterations and further detailed work to the Active Travel map and to confirm that the Town Council would not accept bench maintenance responsibility of a bench on land managed by Lidl.

9. WYNHILL PLANNING MATTERS

The committee noted that the Planning consultant was chasing RBC for an update on the discharge of conditions and that tree protection fencing would be progressed by Bingham Rugby Club.

10. BUTT FIELD SPORTS GROUND PLANNING MATTERS

The committee noted that the Planning application had been submitted with the support of the Town Council's planning consultant.

11. SUMMER FAIR

The committee noted the considerations around offering fixed stalls at future events and that a fixed stall option would not be available at the Summer Fair. Once options had been progressed for future Christmas Fairs, the committee would consider the options for the fixed stalls owned by the Town Council.

12. WYNHILL PLAYING FIELDS WATER COURSE STRUCTURE

The committee noted the update regarding the deterioration of the water course grate system at Wynhill and that the NCC flood officer was working on identifying the installer and owner of the asset.

13. MEETING WITH DISTRICT HIGHWAYS

The committee were updated that a walk of the Town Centre had taken place with County Councillor N Clarke and the District Highways Manager. Confirmation had been received that the County Council had commissioned VIA to undertake a feasibility study including consideration of a one-way system. Other parking and road issues were identified during the meeting and the information from the site visit would be given to the officers leading on the project. The Town Council would be statutory consultees on any proposed changes and further information would be shared with Councillors on receipt.

14. NETWORK RAIL REQUEST FOR TREE CLEARANCE

The committee considered the request from Network Rail for permission for tree clearance works at Langtree Gardens and Butt Field Sports Ground. It was noted that detailed information had been requested before further consideration of the request.

15. ROMANS QUARTER DEVELOPMENT

The committee noted the update from the meeting held with a Barratt Homes representative in November 2024. A site update was noted including homes occupied to date, remaining homes to build, play area anticipated opening date and expected handover of the Car Dyke and Archers Lake to the management agent selected.

An update on the Parsons Hill would be requested and expected timescale for repairs to the fencing at Archers Lake.

16. LINEAR PARK UNAUTHORISED ACCESS

The committee noted the unauthorised access and advice from the Police. Fencing and signage options would be considered if further trespass occurred.

RESOLVED: to write to the hunt with evidence of the unauthorised access.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Consultation - TRO 8391 B692 Fosse Way, Bingham - Proposed 40mph Speed Limit

RESOLVED: to support the plans for a reduced speed limit and to request consideration of extension of the 40mph speed limit to Saxondale Island.

18. CONFIDENTIAL

The following matters were discussed:

RESOLVED: to approve the confidential notes from the meeting held on 03 December 2024.

The meeting closed at 9.31pm.	
	CHAIRMAN
	Date:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

No recommendations were made.

RESOLUTIONS:

- To confirm the tenant progress rainwater harvesting solutions.
- To consider alternative options for the Town Centre Lighting Scheme with the contractor.
- To request alterations and further detailed work to the Active Travel map and to confirm that the Town Council would not accept bench maintenance responsibility of a bench on land managed by Lidl.
- To write to the hunt with evidence of the unauthorised access.
- To support the plans for a reduced speed limit and to request consideration of extension of the 40mph speed limit to Saxondale Island.