

Minutes of the Environment Committee

A meeting of the **Environment Committee** was held on **Monday 18th November 2024** at **19:00hrs** at **The Chamber Room, Bicester Town Council, The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester Oxon, OX26 6PS.**

Present:

Cllr Rachel Mallows (Chair)
Cllr Donna Ford
Cllr Sam Holland
Cllr Alisa Russell
Cllr Les Sibley
Cllr Damien Maguire
Cllr John Willett
Cllr Christopher Pruden

Public in attendance:

Brian Welters

In Attendance:

Mick Lee, Service Manager

34/ Apologies for Absence

2425 RESOLVED that apologies were received from Cllr Harry Knight and Cllr Nick Mawer.

35/ Declarations of Interest

2425 RESOLVED that no declarations of interest were received.

36/ Public Session

2425 RESOLVED that members of the public were present.

- Brian Welters – Thanked councillors for getting the climate resolution boosted

37/ Motion - Sunderland Drive pavilion Electrical refurbishment

2425 RESOLVED that the costs of the work were **approved** for supplier **B** to carry out the work with the provision that the work was signed off and certificated after completion.

38/ Motion - Garth Park Summer Bedding

2425 RESOLVED that the designs for the summer bedding at The Garth were **approved.**

39/ Outdoor Team Cabin

2425 RESOLVED that purchase of a mess room/drying room portacabin for the outdoor team was **APPROVED.**

After discussions regarding the use of Gath house it was decided that having a resale value for the portacabin was in the Councils best interest.

40/ Motion - Budget

2425 RESOLVED that the draft budget proposals for **2025/26** were **APPROVED**. Further questions raised and to be answered before Full Council Meeting in January.

The following information was presented to Councillors
Changes to Employer National Insurance contributions

Starting from April 5th, 2025, employer National Insurance (NI) rate will increase 13.8% to 15%, and the employer NI threshold (secondary threshold) will reduce from currently £9,100 per year / £758 per month to £5,000 per year or £417 per month.

300/Environment = £33,494.52, currently budgeted = £30,750
 Monthly NIC £2092.29 x 12 = £25,107.48 per year
 $(25107.48/13.8 \times 15) + ((9100-5000) \times 0.15 \times 8)$
 $27,290.74 + 4920 = 32,210.74$

308/Whitelands = £20,297.28; currently budgeted = £15,375
 Monthly NIC £1170.99 x 12 = £14,051.88
 $(14051.88/13.8 \times 15) + ((9100-5000) \times 0.15 \times 7)$
 $15,273.78 + 4305 = £19,578.78$

41/ Minutes of the Environment Committee

2425 UN-RESOLVED that the previous Meeting Minutes were not included in the Agenda.

Minutes that will be deferred until the next Meeting are:

- ENV02/2425 – Monday 22nd July 2024
- EN03/2425 – Monday 23rd September 2024

42/ Forward Plan

2425 Committee REVIEWED and COMMENTED on the Forward Plan.

Play area renovation timings

Investigation into dog friendly parks. Cllrs suggested the use some of the old play parks as they are already fenced in.

Solar light issue at Whitelands

Public consultation on Garth play area to investigate

43/ Date of Next Meeting:

2425 Monday 20th January 2025 - 7pm, The Chamber Room, Garth House

CLOSE OF MEETING: 20: 30hrs