

**Minutes of the Environment Committee held at The Rackliff Centre on
Monday 23rd October 2023 at 7.30 pm**

Members Present:

Cllr A Britcher-Allan (ABA); Cllr P Gripper (PG); Cllr M O'Callaghan (MOC) Cllr A Funnell (AF); Cllr C Ducklin (CD).

Non-voting members; Jayne Sharratt

Officer Present: Deputy Clerk Linda Neusten

Members of the Public: Two present.

1. **Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting.** No one.
2. **To receive and approve apologies for absence:** Jenny Blackburn sent her apologies.
3. **Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests:** No prejudicial or personal interests were declared.
4. **Declarations of Lobbying:** None were declared.
5. **Open session for questions from the public:**
Two residents present:
 - i. Requested an update regarding the trees in Lower Green Road.
 - ii. Reported the drains in Lower Green Road 'held up' well in the recent heavy rain.
6. **Minutes of the last meeting held Minutes 24th April 2023:**
 - i. These were approved by the committee as accurate and signed by the Chair.
 - ii. Matters outstanding from last minutes - Electric Charging Point – this item was deferred until January 2024 as no information has yet been received from KCC.
7. **Thermal Imaging Camera:**
Free of Charge surveys to be offered again to village residents. Adverts will be placed in Rusthall Life, on the Parish Council Website, Facebook page and village notice boards.
8. **Update on litter picking event;**
Several Councillors will be participating in the 'Bonfire Committees' litter pick on **Saturday 28th October, 8am -4pm.**
For future litter picks it was decided to seek out other local groups to liaise with. Cllr O'Callaghan confirmed the new volunteering website is being created and it will include a dedicated Litter Pick page.
9. **Cycle Rack:**
Cllr Britcher-Allan confirmed we're waiting for TWBC officers to draw up the contract for the PC. They've been chased so we're waiting hear from them
This issue will then be reviewed at the next Committee meeting.

10. Solar Panels:

Two sets of quotes were looked at. It was decided to get first-hand information from someone who had had Solar Panels fitted. The committee agreed to seek feedback from Eugene Gardiner at Sunnyside Hall. It was also agreed that funding will need to be researched and then be reviewed at the next Committee meeting.

11. Emergency Plan:

A draft Emergency Plan was presented to the Committee. Cllr Britcher-Allan agreed to gather email responses from all Committee members. This will then be reviewed at the next Committee meeting.

12. Items for information: - Mark Rist, Director of Response and Resilience from Kent Fire and Rescue Services was suggested as a speaker for help with the Emergency Plan.

13. Next Full Environment Committee Meeting: - 22nd January 2024

The meeting closed at 9.13 pm.

Chairman:

Dated: