



North Weald Bassett PARISH COUNCIL



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Clerk to the Council
Susan De Luca

26 June 2013

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

TO: MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

This Meeting is open to any other North Weald Bassett Parish Councillor who wishes to attend

You are hereby invited to attend a meeting of the **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE** which will be held on **Friday, 5th July 2013** at **Thornwood Common Village Hall, Weald Hall Lane, Thornwood** at **10am** to transact the business shown in the Agenda below.

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AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** 
To **RECEIVE** any apologies for absence.
2. **OTHER ABSENCES**
To **NOTE** any absences for which no apology has been received.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 
To **RECEIVE** any Declarations of Interest by Members

A Member with a personal interest in a matter must consider whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary, Non Pecuniary or Other Pecuniary Interest, and declare it accordingly. A Member who is unsure as to how to declare their interest should seek independent advice.

4.  CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES 

To **CONFIRM** the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2013, attached at **APPENDIX 1**. Allotment Sub Committee notes are attached for information.

5.  PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT 

On Friday, 14 June 2013, a quarterly inspection of each play area within the Parish was carried out by Councillors Mulliner, Hawkins and Bartram together with the Finance and Administrative Officer. A copy of the inspection report is attached at **APPENDIX 2**.

With regard to the inspection report, Members of this Committee are asked to **CONSIDER** how they wish to move forward with the following points:-

- a. School Green Lane Play Area
“Rub down, treat and repaint top bas to flat Swing and Cradle Swing. Priority 3”.
Despite several requests, this work has still not been completed.
- b. Thornwood Common Play Area
“Backfill the pot hole in the grass surface in front of the goal on the Monster Ball Games Wall”. Despite several requests, this work has still not been completed.
- c. Thornwood Common Play Area
It was noted during the inspection that there were a number of bags filled with dog faeces thrown into the rubbish bin inside the perimeter of the play area.

6. ASSET CHECKS

The Chairman of this Committee will give a verbal update at the meeting.

7. THORNWOOD ALLOTMENTS NATURE AREA

Members of this Committee are asked to **NOTE** that the Clerk has received confirmation from Kevin Mason of Epping Forest Countrycare that they have now completed the work which was being carried out on the Thornwood Allotments Nature Area. The works included diverting the top ditch into the nature reserve and digging out a small pond. Countrycare have created a dead hedge behind the bench and used the spoil from the ditch to create an embankment along the ditch line, which should make the site safe. The hedge on the recreation ground side has been reinstated and made bigger, the recreation ground side has been left as Countrycare found it. The footpaths through the nature area have been cut and raked and any overhanging trees and branches removed, there is now lots of colour from the wildflowers. Countrycare have confirmed that they will cut the whole site later in the year, once the flowers have finished.

8.  INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2013/14 WINTER SALT BAG PARTNERSHIP SCHEME 

The Clerk has received correspondence from Essex County Council inviting the Parish Council to participate in the 2013/14 Winter Salt Bag Partnership Scheme. Essex County Council are looking to support local communities to help themselves during periods of heavy snow and build on community resilience, therefore they would like to make available, to each participating Town and Parish Council, a one tonne wrapped pallet made up of individual 25kg bags for use by the community on the local highway. Essex County Council are offering this free of charge this year. A copy of the invitation is attached at **APPENDIX 3**. Members are asked to **CONSIDER** if they wish to participate in the scheme this year. The Clerk has been asked to respond to Essex County Council by 21st July 2013.

9. DOG BIN – SKIPS CORNER

The Clerk has received some comments back from Peer Group. They require the Parish Council to sign an undertaking, which will be tabled at the meeting.

10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Clerk has received correspondence regarding “Lighting Up North Weald” for the Christmas period. A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

11. FREQUENCY OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS 

Members of this Committee are asked to **CONSIDER** the frequency of the Environmental Committee Meetings and whether they should revert to being held on a quarterly basis, bearing in mind that the Allotment Sub Committee meets on a weekly basis.

12. ANY OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

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