

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 10th JANUARY 2023 AT 7.30PM
IN THE TOWN HALL, MARKET SQUARE, HIGHAM FERRERS**

PRESENT:

Cllr C P O'Rourke (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs P H Whiting
Cllr H L Jackson
Cllr G Kelly
Cllr N Brown
Cllr P McCann
Cllr S Prosser
Miss A J Schofield (Town Clerk)
Mrs E M Arrow (Assistant Clerk)

2 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES**
None

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None

3. **MINUTES
RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th November 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

4. **PUBLIC FORUM**

A member of the public spoke on agenda point 6 regarding Tollbar open space. As a long term resident he wished to express his opinion that there is no need for the council to purchase and maintain play equipment for the Tollbar open space given there is a very well equipped play area less than 200m away that is owned and managed by Rushden Town Council. The resident circulated photographs of this play area to the councillors for consideration.

5. **CLERKS REPORT
RESOLVED:**

That the clerks report is received and noted.

6. **TOLLBAR OPEN SPACE
RESOLVED:**

That the council do not pursue the installation of any play equipment in this area considering there is an excellent existing facility nearby for residents.

7. **RIVERSIDE PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**

That a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal be undertaken for Riverside Park. That a budget of £1650 be set for the appraisal with comparative quotes sought.

8. **WELLIE WOMBLES
RESOLVED:**

That the Town Hall offers the loan of litter picking equipment through collaboration with the 'Wellie Wombles' group.

9. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT**

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Parish Paths Warden, Marion Darnell be received and noted with thanks to Marion for her assistance.

10. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

None.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

14th March 2023.

Chairman

Date