

Main points arising: Amendments to previous minutes/ Operations and Events Manager's update/ Dog fouling/ Finger posts/ Footpaths/ West Ward recreational facilities/ Clifford Road traffic issues/ Queensway Revitalisation Group/ Visitor Economy Working Group.

MINUTES OF THE FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (FIED) COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2015 AT THE CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr A Smith

Cllrs. Mrs R Horsman-Johnson, Mrs S Horsman, G King, B Lewis, Mrs J Sewart and G Smith

Attending under SO 54: Cllr P Hoyland, substituting for Cllr I Hollingworth

Attending under SO 56: Cllr L A Clarke

58. Apologies for absence

Cllrs. G Bartos, I Hollingworth and Mrs I Thornton-Maddocks

59. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

Cllr Mrs Sewart declared a non-pecuniary interest in the agenda item on Clifford Road (para. 66 below) inasmuch as she has friends and family in the area.

60. Minutes of previous meetings held on 8th December 2014 and 26th January 2015

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee of 8th December 2014 are approved as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (NC)

The following amendments were proposed to the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting of 26th January 2015:

Clifford Road (p.185) – Second sentence of the second bullet point amended to read, *“There was an argument that this issue arose as a consequence of Shared Space, since the congestion caused by the Shared Space road works had contributed to the problems on Clifford Road.”*

Litter Bins (p.186) – The sentence amended to read: “*Following discussion it was agreed that the dog waste bin on Lady’s Incline next to Brecon field is removed*”.

Cllr Mrs Sewart explained that Appendix A of the Standing Orders gives the Town Council guidelines on writing minutes. With reference to those guidelines Cllr Mrs Sewart proposed that paragraph 57 is amended thus:

- To include the full stated agenda item;
- The minute should not refer to individual speakers unless they request to be named;
- The proposer and seconder are not named;
- Page 189, paragraph 57 – the resolution should read, “*It was proposed and seconded that the letter referred to be received.*”

Cllr Lewis felt that minutes are such that anyone who did not attend the meeting can understand the discussion that took place.

RESOLVED: That the proposed amendments are agreed (7 - 1 against)

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting of 26th January 2015, with the amendments as agreed, are approved as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (7 - 1 against)

61. Update for January and February 2015 from the Operations and Events Manager

Street Lighting

It was reported that several tall central lights on pedestrian refuges are out on Chester Road and Dickens Lane. The Operations Manager will follow up with CE.

S106 Monies

The Operations Manager was directed to the Aldi planning application to verify where the S106 monies from this project are to be allocated.

The Chairman confirmed that the issue of the First World War memorial bench is on the Memorial Garden agenda.

On the Aldi S106 monies, it was suggested that Cllr West is asked to research the issue as Chairman of Northern Planning. The Operations Manager reported that he had been supplied with some information regarding S106 monies from a number of Poynton projects by CE. However, he had asked for more details on what money was still outstanding and that CE consult the Town Council in future on where S106 monies are to be allocated. He has not yet received a response, and this will be included as an agenda item at the next meeting should there be anything further to report.

Other Issues

The following issues were raised with the Operations Manager:

- Towers Road and Park Lane – blocked gullies and overgrown hedges;
- Pavement of Towers Road left in a deplorable state, with the elderly from the local care home walking in the road instead;
- Yellow lines – what can be done about the historic faults on the double yellow lines which are unenforceable unless compliant with the law.
- Ponding on Park Lane by Willow Close

The Operations Manager has collated a full list of double yellow line faults and submitted them to the CE Local Highways Officer and is awaiting a response.

The lack of dropped kerbs on Chester Road by the entrance to Ash Lodge was discussed and the Operations Manager was asked to submit a request for these to the LAP Highways committee.

The unattractive and dirty state of Park Lane one Sunday morning was raised, as was the issue of weeds growing through the front of properties on Park Lane and the number of cars parked on shop fronts and obstructing pavements on Saturday nights. There was discussion on how to tackle the litter on Park Lane. It was noted that there has in the past been a specialised vehicle to clean up and the Chairman asked the Operations Manager to investigate this further. It was pointed out that CE are supposed to control litter. A Member suggested that instead of funding a fifth PCSO, a man is employed to sweep gutters etc.

RESOLVED: That written update for January and February 2015 from the Operations and Events Manager is received with thanks (NC)

62. Dog fouling

A request was made to find out how many Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) have been issued by the Town Council for any offence.

On the third to last bullet point of the Operations Manager's report it was noted that:

- Dog fouling is a civil offence and nothing to do with the PCSOs - it would be surprising if the PCSOs carry this out.

A Member noted that there has been a report in the Macclesfield Express of an FPN issued for dog fouling – he will try to locate this.

RESOLVED: That the report on dog fouling from the Operations and Events Manager is received (NC)

63. London Road South finger post

The option of cast aluminium, three way signs at £750 were proposed, to replace those that had been vandalised/broken off.

Concern was raised about the likelihood of any metal signs being stolen. It is also unlikely that ownership would be transferred to the Town Council - the CE decision on the ownership of all three finger posts should first be clarified.

RESOLVED: That the option of the cast aluminium, three way signs at £750 is agreed (2 - 6 against – resolution failed)

Members discussed the finger posts and agreed in general that they are of heritage value, but the issue of ownership needs to be established if the Town Council are to repair them. The Operations Manager will investigate the issue of Town Council insurance on this issue.

A Member asked if it is possible to get in writing the position of CE ownership from a responsible officer. The Operations Manager explained that he has pursued this issue as far as possible with CE. It was suggested that the issue is taken up with the Heritage Officer and if required with a Town Council/ CE Ward Councillor.

Following discussion these actions were agreed:

- To clarify the transfer/ownership of a single or all three finger posts;
- Legalities of making the transfer and ownership;
- Look into the cost of insurance;
- Report to a future meeting

RESOLVED: That the report is received, and that the Operations Manager pursues the actions stated above (7 - 1 abs)

64. Remit of the Footpaths Task & Finish Group.

The following amendments were agreed to the remit:

- That it is amended to incorporate a cycling strategy;
- (Third bullet point) – There is a change to *boundary* to ensure connectivity;
- (In the objective section) – delete the word, *foot* from footpaths (when amended should read, *to optimise paths*);
- Add – *paths in Poynton, upgrading to increase use and user types where possible and appropriate to benefit residents and visitors alike*;
- Led by a representative of the Town Council;
- Oil pipeline maintainer/owner is included as a stakeholder with a statutory right to be kept informed.

RESOLVED: That the remit with the amendments is received and progressed to the next stage (NC)

65. Recreational facilities in Poynton's West Ward.

Cllr Hoyland provided a verbal report and updated Members on the work being undertaken by a resident volunteer, Mr David Jacks, on the idea of a play park on Glastonbury Estate. This began as a speculative request and has taken 18 months to progress. Mr Jacks has undertaken some initial consultation with residents who border the proposed site.

Cllr Hoyland explained that there are two issues to be aware of and consider:

- This is CE land. It is enclosed with hedges and CE policies are such that they cannot support a play park that is not visible to local residents. The options are either:
 - To remove the hedges;
 - Transfer the land to the Town Council.

Cllr Hoyland's recommendation is to have the land transferred, given that Mr Jacks has volunteered to put in the effort and work required to progress the issue in terms of the consultation and getting funding etc. This would minimise the impact on Town Council staff. Mr Jacks has personally paid for planning advice of about £50 to £100. Cllr Hoyland suggested that the Town Council consider reimbursing the cost, subject to an invoice.

From discussion further questions were raised about the location, safeguarding and the need for a play park. Cllr Hoyland asked if at this stage there could be a decision in principle for the Town Council to take on the land. The Chairman suggested that further research was required.

As another option it was suggested that CE are asked for the land on a long lease to help progress the issue, allowing Mr Jacks to liaise locally.

Cllr Lewis asked if this play area initiative was connected in any way with that previously led by Cllr Beanland on the Bird Estate near Lostock Hall Primary School. Cllr Hoyland clarified that this was a different and separate scheme.

RESOLVED: That Mr Jacks is thanked for his efforts, encouraged to continue with his research; that, if it is feasible and satisfies everyone, Members will ask at Town Council if they agree to take on the land; that Mr Jacks would continue to do the work without assurance that the Town Council would give any money towards it - this will depend on the research results; and that Mr Jacks is reimbursed planning advice costs subject to the production of an invoice (NC)

66. Road narrowing and other traffic issues on and around Clifford Road

RESOLVED: That the written update from Cllr Mrs J. Sewart regarding road narrowing and other traffic issues on and around Clifford Road is received (NC)

67. Restart of the Queensway Revitalisation Working Group.

Cllr G Smith spoke about his written report. It was suggested that the Aldi S106 agreement is considered. The Aldi planning application and minutes of the planning meeting where it was considered will provide helpful information.

RESOLVED: That the written report from Cllr G. Smith to restart the Queensway Revitalisation Working Group is received and the recommendation to do so approved (NC)

68. Visitor Economy Working Group.

RESOLVED: That the written update from the Visitor Economy Working Group is received, and a donation of £500 to the Cheshire's Peak District group approved (NC)

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm