

MINUTES OF THE FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (FIED) COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2018 AT THE CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr H Murray

Cllrs: L Berry, L A Clarke, Mrs S-J Gilmore, Mrs S Horsman, M Sewart, G Smith and N Wylie

Attending under SO54: Cllr M Beanland (substituting for Cllr Mrs J Sewart)

62. Anyone attending or present at the Committee meeting declares that they are making, or intend to make, an audio recording and/or film the meeting

The clerk confirmed that the meeting is recorded for the purposes of minute taking and the recording is deleted when the minutes are produced.

63. Questions from members of the public

There were no questions.

64. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mrs J Sewart.

65. Approve as an accurate record the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting held on 13th November 2017

Amendments

The track to the Scout hut from Coppice Road has been resurfaced by Cheshire East Council but not the track up to the allotments.

The local community group are locking and unlocking the play area at Phillips Bridge.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting held on 13th November 2017, are, subject to the amendments, approved as an accurate record (8 for, 1 abstention)

66. To note action taken under SO51 regarding the shared space media release made by Cllrs Murray, Berry and Smith on 18th January 2018.

The Shared Space working group requested that information be made public under emergency provision because of the level of public interest in the progress being made on the Shared Space repairs and the time until the next meeting of FIED.

RESOLVED: That the action was noted (NC).

67. Receive and consider an update for November and December 2017 and January 2018 from the Operations Manager

The Operations Manager, Phil Cunningham, spoke on his written report. From discussion the following points were noted:

The Coppice Road Allotments Association (CRAA) was held on 4th February. The last AGM was in 2014. 15 allotment holders were in attendance. New officials were elected. Personnel were agreed to progress the communal building for which FIED previously agreed funding for £1,800 but the compost toilet was considered too expensive. The Operations Manager will investigate use of the Scout Hut and the decision will be reconsidered in six months. A plot holder was voted in as CRAA Vice Chair and the CRAA Chair agreed to continue for a further six months and then hand over to the Vice Chair.

Cllr Murray requested that the Operations Manager report to FIED about the allotments in six months and that Town Council information support is provided to the new Chair, on auditing and on installing a compost toilet.

The Operations Manager stated that CRAA will purchase and fit new fencing where it is required.

The Operations Manager will obtain comparative costings for the Village Ranger to be trained and certificated to spray herbicides using a knapsack on the Allotments and the Inclines, and for a contractor to be used.

Issues since the report.

The double yellow lines and H-bars on Park Avenue were painted last week. The London Road North and South parking bays will be installed this week. The restrictions on School Lane will be installed in the middle of March following the required consultation and legal work.

Slit drains were cleared on Saturday around Fountain's Place using a new piece of equipment not previously used by Ringway-Jacobs.

The milestone on London Road South was vandalised on Saturday night. The milestone is Grade 2 listed and was placed on good quality stone by the developer of Abbey Close. Cllr Clarke will look for correspondence on this work. The Operations Manager has contacted the heritage officer at Cheshire East Council about repairing the milestone.

A member raised the issue of the grids on London Road North which became blocked on Saturday after heavy rain as they had not been swept recently. The Operations Manager will ask ANSA to clear them.

The grill in the stream under Long Row is now nearly blocked again. The Operations Manager will ask Peaks and Plains to clear this grill regularly.

The Operations Manager reported that at Barnaby Park the paling fence continues to be damaged by vandals and he will arrange for removal of any pales left unattached. He confirmed that ANSA have repaired the fence three times and it appears that the fixings are not strong enough. Cheshire East does not accept the fence as one of their assets although it is on their land. The Operations Manager will pass Cllr Beanland the appropriate officer's name for Cllr Beanland to follow up.

The issue will be passed to the Community, Order and Public Safety committee for discussion with the policing team. FIED committee will then consider a decision about whether to continue paying for the locking and unlocking of Barnaby play area if the vandalism does not stop.

The Operations Manager will compare the fencing with the fencing at Brecon play area to see if the latter is stronger. A member stated that Cheshire East did not install the right strength of fence at Barnaby Park.

RESOLVED: That the written and verbal report for November and December 2017 and January 2018 from the Operations Manager is received (NC)

68. To receive and consider a report on the tree management on the Inclines from the Operations Manager.

The Operations Manager explained that following the Inspection and the review of the Management Plan in October 2017, there is tree felling work and a purchase decision to be made. A contractor has been carrying out work on trees with a Tree Preservation Order at the back of Woodside for a resident, as approved. Tree planting will be carried out from next year's budget. A payment of approximately £400 from this year's budget will be needed to repair a fence damaged by a falling branch.

The Operations Manager will ask the Town Council contractor what they do with the oak trunks once felled.

RESOLVED: That the report is received. That the budget is spent in line with the proposal (NC)

During the Inspection, the arboriculturalist noticed a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) infringement whereby a member of the public has put a large quantity of soil around a tree and re-aligned his fence so the tree is now within his garden. The Operations Manager has photographic evidence and has contacted the Cheshire East Tree officer.

RESOLVED: That the Council wait for the response of the Cheshire East officer and that no further action is taken at this time (NC).

69. To receive and consider a report on playground inspections.

The Operations Manager spoke to his report.

RESOLVED: That the report is received. That an annual inspection by ANSA – RoSPA is authorised.

In Hockley Park, it has been identified that a baby swing needs to be installed as there is no swing suitable for this age group and that it needs to match the existing equipment.

RESOLVED: That a matching baby swing is installed. That the decision is delegated to the Chair, Vice Chair and one other FIED councillor (NC).

70. Receive updates from the Task and Finish Groups a) Shared Space – Leader Cllr Graham Smith and b) Poynton Heritage Garden – Link Cllr Mrs Sandra Horsman

a) Shared Space– Leader Cllr Graham Smith
Cllr Smith provided the following verbal update:

- Cllrs Smith and Berry with the Operations Manager met with officers from ANSA who agreed that there will be targeted road cleaning. ANSA have been promptly responsive since the meeting.
- Cllrs Smith and Berry with the Operations Manager met officers from Ringway-Jacobs in Congleton and presented them with the log of 150 defects in the Shared Space area including interactive links to a set of photographs and a map showing all the defects. Ringway-Jacobs accepted this report and apologised for their delay in responding.
- Ringway-Jacobs stated they have started a review of all street lighting in the Shared Space.
- Ringway-Jacobs are carrying out a Cheshire East wide asset audit which will take six to nine months and will provide an update in June 2018.
- Ringway-Jacobs accepted responsibility for the bicycle racks in the Shared Space.
- Ringway-Jacobs began cleaning the slit gullies on 29th January 2018 as promised.
- Ringway-Jacobs confirmed there are stocks of special materials used in the Shared Space area in the secure compound and they will contact the Town Council with the quantity in three weeks.
- Cllr Smith asked Ringway-Jacobs if contractors for the utility companies could have access to the stored stones. Cllr Murray said that the original agreement was that these should be sold at cost price. Cllr Smith suggested they should be sold on a replacement basis plus 10%.

Cllr Murray said that the Town Council were not given copies of Shared Space Steering Group files when the contract was outsourced to Ringway-Jacobs and some personnel left the organisation.

Cllr Smith reported that all United Utilities repairs are in hand. It was agreed at the meeting that the Town Council would report all problems through the Cheshire East portal and it will be monitored for repairs and street lighting.

Cllr Smith informed members that Ringway-Jacobs accept that the Gateway surfaces are in a very poor state. Their whole team came to Poynton the week before the meeting. They will initially tarmac the Gateways in April or May. At a later date they will then dig down to repair the foundations properly as part of the permanent repair plan about which they will advise us as they are currently preparing the budget for 2018/19.

Cllr Murray advised that the carriageway also needs repairing and will need to be closed to protect the workforce.

Cllr Smith asked about the resin bonded pavement as Cheshire East officers are not sure about what went on. Cllr Murray explained that the Town Council agreed to pay to have the pavement resin bonded and not resin bounded as the latter was too expensive. The test piece looked suitable but the rest was not installed well by Ringway-Jacobs and so the Town Council refused to pay even though Ringway-Jacobs tried to effect a repair. Money remains in the Town Council reserves for this work.

Cllr Smith confirmed that the working group will draft a response to Ringway-Jacobs.

Cllr Smith advised that temporary repairs will be carried out as soon as possible to London Road North and South and the permanent repairs will be carried out after the completion of the A6- Manchester Airport Relief Road.

Cllr Gilmore left the meeting at 9.20pm.

RESOLVED: That the report is received with thanks to the working group (NC).

b) Poynton Heritage Garden – Link Cllr Mrs Sandra Horsman

Cllr Mrs Horsman reported that the Heritage Garden is fully planted and the heritage plaques will soon be installed. A minimal wash is the only maintenance of the benches required.

The group has funds to provide two half-planters outside the side entrance to the health clinic along with bird and bug boxes. Money has been donated by a number of Poynton organisations for ongoing maintenance and an application is being made to Cheshire East Council. A local celebrity is being sought to officially open the garden.

The wall sculptures will be replaced with larger sculptures and the old ones relocated in the village. The group is looking for a mining truck as the centrepiece.

A maintenance rota is being set up.

RESOLVED: That the report is received (NC)

71. To consider and approve the written remits for the Civic Hall building improvements and the Shared Space task and finish groups

Shared Space task and finish group

Cllr Murray talked through the revised version presented to committee and referred to the communication protocol which may be revised when the Council's Communication Strategy is approved to enable a quicker response of factual statements from the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the version of the Shared Space working groups remit as presented to committee is accepted (NC)

Civic Hall building improvements working group

Cllr Berry reported that the working group met with the Deputy Clerk to begin to consider options and quotations and now needs to agree the group's remit.

Cllr Smith offered to share his expertise but not to join the working group.

A member said that costed options are needed with pros and cons identified.

The Chair confirmed that a minimum of two options are required for renovating the chamber that address civic dignity, accessibility, increased income and health and safety considerations as recommendations to the FIED committee to be passed to Town Council for final approval.

RESOLVED: That the remit is refreshed and brought back to the next FIED committee meeting (NC)

72. To receive and note the income and expenditure report for October to December 2017

RESOLVED: That the income and expenditure report is received (NC)

73. Consider and agree any communication messages arising from this meeting

The following communication messages arising from this meeting were agreed:

- New charges for some household waste disposal and how to report incidents of fly tipping
- Installation of lines and disabled bays.

RESOLVED: That the communication messages as stated are approved (NC)

Meeting end time: 10pm