

Frodsham Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee

held in Town Council Office, Castle Park
On **Tuesday 21 July**, at 7pm



Present: Cllr A Oulton (Chair), Cllr C Ashton (Vice Chair), Cllr L Jones, Cllr M Poulton, Cllr F Sutton, Mr J Beswick, Mr T Blundell, Mrs A Scriven (Office Manager) & Mrs H Catt (Service Manager).

Meeting 2

No	Item	Action
23	Apologies for Absence were received and accepted by Cllr L Brown, Cllr R Knowles & Mr G M Bondi	
24	Declarations of Interest: Cllr Sutton declared an interest in matters relating to Crowmere, Marl Pits and footpath 17.	
25	Minutes of Meeting held on 23.June were approved by the Committee and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.	
26	Matters Arising: none	
27	Opportunity for the Public to Speak: none	
28	Tree Matters	
28.1	To note that the area around the newly planted yew trees in the hedge at the Community Centre has been sprayed with weed killer, to prevent further strimmer damage.	
28.2	To note that thus far we have not received a CWC response re fallen Tulip Tree replacement.	AS
28.3	2 taxus hicksii, approx 1m tall, have been ordered to replace the dead ones at the Cemetery and the Memorial Field.	PM
28.4	<i>Castle Park Squirrels:</i> advice received from the Environmental Department of CWC is to be passed to the rangers for Castle Park with a request that they do not create a designated feeding area as it is felt that this would create more problems. It was agreed to request alternative measures to control the population of squirrels. It was also agreed to request that signs are erected asking the public not to feed the squirrels as this is believed to be successful in Grosvenor Park in Chester.	AS
28.5	<i>Frodsham Transition Initiative request for permission to plant another Community Orchard, on Fluin Lane fields, behind 61 – 83 The Willows:</i> following some discussion, it was agreed to send letters to the relevant properties on The Willows, informing them of the proposal. Then, dependent on a favourable response from residents and confirmation from the Frodsham Transition Initiative that there will be no FTC expenditure apart from a 5 year maintenance plan, it was agreed to recommend to Council that permission be granted for this orchard. To be confirmed at next meeting.	AS/HC
28.6	It was noted that a Tibetan Cherry tree has died in Castle park, possibly due to being in a waterlogged location. There are no plans to replace it.	
28.7	It was reported that there has been some damage to the labels on the Tree Trail posts and this is to be investigated further.	TB
29	Rights of Way Maintenance	
29.1	It was noted with great disappointment that there has been a significant decrease in the maintenance of all Frodsham paths by CWC, which the Committee assumes is due to lack of funding. It is hoped that the Adopt a Path Scheme may help resolve some of these problems (see item 29.2),	
29.2	<i>Adopt a Path Scheme:</i> it was agreed to start a small scale version of this scheme and to see how it is received by the public. It was hoped that volunteers would come forward for individual care of footpaths and also to help form working groups for certain areas. The scheme will be promoted on social media and noticeboards and a report will be presented to the next meeting.	AS
29.3	<i>Upgrade of footpath 8 to a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT):</i> ongoing	AS
29.4	It was noted that improvements to the footpath surface on path alongside Ship St play area are to commence shortly.	

No	Item	Action
30	Hob Hey Wood	
30.1	The purchase of piece of track leading up to new land is ongoing.	HC
30.2	To note that the Lone Working apps have not proved suitable and so the FTC policy regarding Lone Working is to be followed at all times. One other app is to be investigated and will be reported on at the next meeting.	AS
31	Memorial Field	
31.1	The Wildflower meadow is doing well, with a good variety of flowers present. Mr Blundell agreed to contact Natural England to request a survey of the area.	TB
32	Marshlands	
32.1	It was noted that the whole area is becoming extremely overgrown and is looking rather unkempt. Cllrs Poulton & Sutton and Mr Blundell agreed to visit the area to carry out an overview of the current condition of the area. Investigations are to be made into the possibility of using the Community Payback Scheme.	AS
33	Marl Pits: no update	
34	Facilities Manager – Van: it was agreed to carry out a cost analysis on the options relating to the vehicle of the Facilities Manager and a report is to be brought to the next meeting.	MP/HC
35	Parish Paths: no update	
36	Pond Trail: no update	
37	Festival of Walks: no update	
38	To agree TOR for the year 2015-16: deferred to next meeting	
39	Any other matters considered to be urgent for discussion, or item for next agenda	
39.1	<i>Manley Road Copse:</i> Mr Beswick reported that he has repainted the bench, refurbished the sign and cut the hedge. The Committee thanked Mr Beswick for his hard work.	
39.2	There is a lime tree at the junction of Townfield Lane/Red Lane which has epicornic growth that is blocking the view for drivers and this is to be reported to CWC Highways.	HC
40	Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25 August 2015	

Meeting Closed 8.45pm

Signed _____ Date _____

Committee: Cllr C Ashton, Cllr L Brown, Cllr L Jones, Cllr R Knowles, Cllr A Oulton, Cllr M Poulton & Cllr F Sutton

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