

Minutes of the meeting of the  
**Environment Committee**

held in Town Council Office, Castle Park  
On **Monday 7 December 2015**, at **7pm**



**Present:** Cllr A Oulton (Chair), Cllr L Jones, Cllr F Sutton, Mr G M Bondi, Mr P Morris & Mrs A Scriven (Office Manager)

**In Attendance:** Mr J Gascoyne

**Meeting 6**

No	Item	Action
76	<b>Apologies</b> were received and accepted from Cllr Ashton, Cllr Brown, Cllr Knowles, Cllr Poulton, Mr Beswick, Mrs Shaw and Mr Smallman.	
77	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Cllr Sutton declared an interest in matters relating to Crowmere, Marl Pits and footpath 17 and Mr Bondi declared an interest in matters relating to footpath 8.	
78	<b>Minutes of Meeting 3 held on 25 August:</b> It was noted that the Terms of Reference have not yet been agreed and will be discussed further at the next meeting.	
79	<b>Minutes of Meeting 4 held on 22 September:</b> were agreed by the committee and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.	
80	<b>To correct any discrepancies of last minutes:</b> none.	
81	<b>Meeting due to be held 20 October:</b> this meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum	
82	<b>Meeting due to be held 17 November:</b> this meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum and the notes from the discussion that took place were accepted.	
83	<b>Opportunity for the Public to Speak:</b> the member of the public in attendance stated that he wished to listen to the meeting to see if he was able to help in any way. He raised concerns that many of Frodsham's footpaths are extremely overgrown and he tries to maintain paths he regularly walks.	
84	<b>Marshlands:</b> it was noted that the leaning tree has not yet fallen, but the Facilities Manager (FM) agreed to see if he can do some work to prevent further damage. The committee discussed future proposals for the area and it was agreed to come up with further suggestions for the next meeting.	
85	<b>Tree Matters</b>	
85.1	There was no update on the proposal to test the soil to establish the cause of the problem with the hedgerow.	<b>LB</b>
85.2	Cllr Oulton & Mr Bondi had visited the site proposed for the coppicing and thinning work at Hob Hey Wood and established a suitable piece of land to also be used for chainsaw training. The plot located was not owned by FTC and the landowner is not able to commit to giving permission at this time. Mr Bondi agreed to check again with the landowner and also the Mersey Forest in the new year.	<b>GMB</b>
85.3	The replacement tulip tree is to be planted by CWC at the end of the winter.	
86	<b>Rights of Way Maintenance</b>	
86.1	Mr Gascoyne stated that he is a member of a footpath group that has asked him to look into the problem of blocked footpaths in Frodsham. The Committee discussed possible ways to increase volunteers to help with the increased work required due to the decrease in work being carried out by CWC. It was agreed to ask for volunteers on our social media outlets and to add a request to the 2016 Festival of Walks leaflet.	
86.2	The response on the upgrade of footpath 8 to a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) is awaited.	
87	<b>Hob Hey Wood</b>	
87.1	An EP (1) was made that FTC agree to pay the additional costs of £240 incurred due to probate reasons for the purchase of the piece of track leading up to the new land	
87.2	Cllr Jones agreed to pursue the application for a grant from Cheshire Community Action.	<b>LJ</b>
87.3	Boardwalks – the FM is to look into the purchase of suitable mesh to cover the boardwalks and to carry out the repairs needed.	<b>PM</b>
88	<b>Memorial Field:</b> it was agreed to monitor the situation regarding the building of new properties on the site of the Mersey View to ensure no encroachment onto FTC land.	

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89	<b>Marl Pits:</b> the large tree is still to be felled and Cllr Oulton agreed to visit the site with Cllr Sutton to review the situation.																												
90	<b>Facilities Manager – Van:</b> the graphics have now been applied.																												
91	<b>Parish Paths -</b> Parish Paths Monitor List is to be updated at the next meeting.																												
92	<b>Pond Trail:</b> the digital information is to be added to website as soon as possible. The pond group is to be reconvened in spring and it is noted that Crowmere will need to be re-netted in 2016.																												
93	<b>Festival of Walks</b>																												
93.1	An EP (2) was made that FTC accept a quote of £278.70 + VAT for the production of the leaflets & posters and £200 For the delivery of the leaflets to all the houses in Frodsham.																												
94	<b>Business Plan 2016-17 and associated budget:</b> a recommendation (R1) was made that FTC approve the following budget request for £11,500 for the 2016-17 financial year:																												
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95	<b>Any other matters considered to be urgent for discussion, or item for next agenda:</b> none																												
96	<b>Date of next meeting:</b> it was agreed to hold future meetings every 2 months, alternating between Mondays and Tuesdays, until May 2016 and to monitor the situation. Therefore, the next meeting dates are Tuesday 2 February and Monday 4 April 2016																												

**Meeting Closed 9.30pm**

### Recommendations

**R1:** That FTC approve the budget request of £11,500 for the 2016-17 financial year (see item 94 above)

### Executive Powers Requests

EP 1: That FTC agree to pay the additional costs of £240 incurred due to probate reasons for the purchase of the piece of track leading up to the new land (see item 87.1)

EP 2: That FTC accept a quote of £278.70 + VAT for the production of the leaflets & posters and £200 for the delivery of the leaflets to all the houses in Frodsham (see item 93.1)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

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

Town Clerk: Mrs H Catt

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