

Frodsham Town Council
Environment Committee
held in Town Council Office, Castle Park
On **Monday 6 June 2016**, at 7pm



Present: Cllr A Oulton (Chair from item 1), Cllr P Martin (Vice Chair from item 2), Cllr C Ashton, Cllr J Critchley, Cllr L Jones, Cllr M Poulton (member until item 3), Cllr F Sutton, Mr T Blundell, Mr G M Bondi, Mr P Morris (Facilities Manager) & Mrs A Scriven (Office Manager)

Meeting 1

| No | Item | Action |
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| 1 | Cllr A Oulton was elected as Chair to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2017. This was initially proposed by Cllr Poulton, but as he rescinded his membership of the committee at item 3, it was agreed to redo the election, for clarity. The election of Cllr Oulton was agreed . | |
| 2 | Cllr P Martin was elected as Vice Chair to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2017. This was initially proposed by Cllr Poulton, but as he rescinded his membership of the committee at item 3, it was agreed to redo the election, for clarity. The election of Cllr Martin was agreed . | |
| 3 | Terms of Reference for 2016-17: The membership was increased from 5 to 7 and the Terms of Reference were approved for submission to FTC (see attached). Cllr Poulton rescinded his membership of the committee. | |
| 4 | Apologies for Absence were received and accepted from Cllr L Brown. | |
| 5 | Declarations of Interest: Cllr Sutton declared an interest in matters relating to Crowmere, Footpath 17 and Marl Pits. | |
| 6 | Minutes of Meeting 9 held on 3 May 2016 were agreed by the Committee and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record. | |
| 7 | Matters Arising: none | |
| 8 | Opportunity for the Public to Speak: no requests received. | |
| 9 | Marshlands | |
| 9.1 | <i>Pools of water within Marshlands:</i> it was noted that there is no water present at the moment. | |
| 10 | Tree Matters | |
| 10.1 | <i>Purchase of a wheeled brush cutter:</i> this matter was discussed in great detail and various options were considered. It was agreed that it was not an appropriate purchase at this time. | |
| 10.2 | <i>Condition Survey: to agree the scope of a tree survey, further to a request from the Community Committee:</i> it was noted that a verbal report on the beech tree at Manley Road Copse had stated that there were various concerns regarding trees in this area, but a full report is still awaited. | |
| 10.3 | <i>Top Road Play area:</i> quotes received for the land survey work to be carried out on this area and also Manley Road Copse were considered and quote A was accepted at a cost of no more than £430 + VAT. | |
| 10.4 | <i>Manor House School:</i> Mr Blundell was thanked for producing his report on the trees in the school's grounds. The main issue was that the trees have grown rapidly and are very close together, causing loss of amenity to neighbouring properties. Mr Blundell agreed to share his report advising thinning and reduction work required with the school and the relevant neighbours. | |
| 11 | Rights of Way Maintenance | |
| 11.1 | It was noted that CWC have been carrying out an Asset Data Collection around the paved areas of Frodsham and will soon be completing the assessment of the Public Rights of Way across the fields. It is hoped that this will show any outstanding issues, which can then be dealt with. In the meantime, any issues are to be reported on the CWC website. | |
| 11.2 | <i>Upgrade of footpath 8 to a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT):</i> no update at this time. | |
| 11.3 | <i>Grant applications for improvements at Hob Hey Wood and Marshlands:</i> Mr Bondi reported on a meeting to take place with a possible grant provider, along with Cllr Ashton, to discuss the Saltscape Project . A report from this meeting is to be forwarded to Cllr Jones to assist with his efforts for additional funding for these areas. | |
| 11.4 | The CWC Rights of Way Improvement Plan Consultation was noted. | |

| No | Item | Action |
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| 12 | Hob Hey Wood | |
| 12.1 | Boardwalks – Mr Morris reported that he is in the process of making the necessary repairs and Mr Blundell is happy to help if required. It was also discussed that it would be helpful to create a 'Friends of Hob Hey Wood' group. Cllr Oulton agreed to prepare an article for inclusion on the website and social media, requesting volunteers. | AO |
| 12.2 | It was noted that the grass at the Community Orchard in Hob Hey Wood has not been cut. It was agreed to request that this is removed from the SLA as it was felt that it is not necessary. | |
| 13 | Memorial Field | |
| 13.1 | It was noted that the poppy seeds in the newly planted area are starting to grow. | |
| 13.2 | Concerns have been raised regarding overgrown trees on the cliff blocking the view of the monument from Frodsham. Mr Bondi suggested that discussions are undertaken with the Woodland Trust after a full study of the deeds held in the office has taken place. | |
| 14 | Marl Pits | |
| 14.1 | No update on tree to be felled. | |
| 15 | Parish Paths - Parish Paths Monitor List is to be updated when more committee members are present. | |
| 16 | Pond Trail: no update at this time. | |
| 17 | Festival of Walks | |
| 17.1 | Mr Bondi reported on another very good year for the Festival of Walks. A good variety of walks and good numbers of participants despite unpleasant weather. | |
| 17.2 | Following a request from the members of the Festival of Walks Working Group, Cllr Ashton was elected by the Committee as the Group's Chair. | |
| 18 | Any other matters considered to be urgent for discussion, or item for next agenda | |
| 18.1 | Mr Blundell confirmed that he can provide the office with a copy of the Commemorative Tree Book on a CD, as discussed by the Community Committee. | |
| 18.2 | CWC are to be chased regarding the purchase of the second tulip tree. | |
| 19 | Suggested dates of next meetings: 4 July, 1 August, 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 7 Nov, 5 Dec, 3 Jan (Tuesday due to Bank Holiday), 6 Feb, 6 Mar & 3 April. | |

Meeting closed 8.50pm

Recommendation

R1 That FTC approve the attached Terms of Reference for 2016- 17

Executive Powers Request

EP1 That FTC approve the quote for no more than £430 + VAT for land survey work to be carried out at Top Road and Manley Road Copse.

Signed _____

Dated _____

Committee: Cllr C Ashton, Cllr L Brown, Cllr J Critchley, Cllr L Jones, Cllr P Martin, Cllr A Oulton & Cllr F Sutton

Town Clerk: Mrs H Catt
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