

Frodsham Town Council
Minutes of a meeting of the
Environment Committee
held in Town Council Office, Castle Park
On **Monday 3 October 2016**, at 7pm



Present: Cllrs A Oulton (Chair), C Ashton, L Brown, J Critchley, Ginny Kirk, P Martin and F Sutton.
Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk), Mr P Morris (Facilities Manager) and Mr T Blundell.

In Attendance: Cllr V Kirk

Meeting 5

No	Item	
73	Apologies for Absence	Cllr L Jones and J Beswick
74	Declarations of Interest	Cllr F Sutton – Crowmere Lake, Footpath 17 and Marl Pitts. Cllr G Kirk - UEOG
75	Minutes of Meeting 4 held on 5 September 2016	The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.
76	Matters Arising	53.1 Ship Street – It was agreed that TC would ask Contractor to liaise with Mr Blundell about the replacement trees, post and ties.
77	Opportunity for the Public to Speak	None
78	Marshlands	
78.1	To note update on recent inspection of the pools of water within Marshlands	The survey was only to check whether the area was suitable habitat for newts. It didn't look for newts.
79	Tree Matters	
79.1	<i>Condition Survey:</i> to consider quotes received for the 2 phases of tree removal work at Manley Road Copse.	Cllr Oulton explained that he knew all the contractors so wouldn't take part in the vote. It was agreed unanimously to go with Contractor D, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Brown and Sutton. R1. To agree to pay £3,800+VAT for the removal of trees from Manley Road Copse.
79.2	<i>Top Road Play area:</i> to note update on the land survey work to be carried out on this area and also Manley Road Copse.	The land survey has been completed. FC has replaced the small pegs with larger stakes marking the boundary. There is a large clump of gorse that is preventing a boundary stake being placed and Cllr Sutton agreed to ask a volunteer to look at it and liaise with Paul. The survey at Manley Road Copse showed that there is no Copse land incorporated into the neighbour's garden – this was referred to Community Committee.
80	Rights of Way Maintenance	
80.1	To consider matters which may have arisen on allocated paths.	The fallen tree at Broad Lane has been reported to CWAC many times but no action has taken place. Cllr Ashton has also reported it using the SMYLE App. Footpaths meeting – Cllr Sutton has arranged a meeting with a representative from CWAC to discuss footpath maintenance on 27 October 2pm at CPH – Cllr Oulton will also attend.
80.2	<i>Upgrade of footpath 8 to a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT):</i> to note that there is an indication that the recommendation from CWC will be to turn down the requests, but that the final report is still awaited and no decision can yet be made.	It was noted that CWAC report recommends turning down the BOAT request.
80.3	To consider update re the Saltscape Project (Cllr Jones)	This was deferred as Cllr Jones wasn't there to report back.

No	Item	
80.4	To note progress with the funding for improvements at Hob Hey Wood and Marshlands (Cllr Jones)	This was deferred as Cllr Jones wasn't there to report back.
81	Hob Hey Wood	
81.1	Boardwalks - to note update on repairs.	FM reported that he had repaired 4 boards. There is a fallen tree across one of the footpaths and he will remove that in the coming week. It was noted that many of the walkways are showing the need for repair as they are rotting due to the damp conditions.
81.2	5 Year Development Plan - to note update	A short 5 year maintenance plan needs to be developed so a budget for long-term repairs can be included in future budgets. FM will seek quotes for the repair work. One of the main problems getting work done is access - this needs to be considered in the plan. Mr Blundell offered to survey the path from Townfield Lane.
82	Memorial Field	
82.1	To note CWC policy on dealing with ragwort.	CWAC doesn't have a formal policy but they only remove in areas near horses, do it by hand (no gloves) and collect it in bin bags to dispose of it.
82.2	To note that Forest Hills have given permission to cut the 2 oaks that were blocking the view.	FM reported that he has taken out the 2 oak trees to improve the views.
82.3	Wildflower Meadow	The grass has been cut but 2 areas have been left and the cuttings were not removed. FM will contact the contractor for remedial work. TC to amend the SLA to ensure the Meadow is cut in August in future.
83	Marl Pits	
83.1	To receive update on tree to be felled.	No progress.
84	Unconventional Extraction of Gas & Oil (UEOG) Working Group	
84.1	To note any updates	The group hasn't met again. It was agreed to hold the next meeting the week after the survey count (22 October).
85	Scouts request to plant bulbs (Cllr L Jones)	It was agreed that TC would be delegated to liaise with the Scouts and to agree to purchase bulbs up to a maximum of £50.
86	Pond Trail	There are ponds still visible from the footpaths mainly in the Bradley area. FM will check the storage unit for more leaflets. TC to check what information is available for the website. Information could also be kept in the Town Guide.
87	Festival of Walks	The first meeting is being organised at the moment. Cllr Ashton will provide liaison between the Working Group and FTC.
88	Mayor's Oscars - to note any update further to the Mayor's request	Funding for an Award has been agreed.
89	Any other matters considered to be urgent for discussion, or item for next agenda	Community Centre Hedge - work was completed with the help of many volunteers.
90	Dates of next meetings: 7 Nov, 5 Dec, 3 Jan (Tuesday), 6 Feb, 6 Mar & 3 April.	It was agreed to continue to meet monthly throughout the winter. Cllr V Kirk would like to join the committee - review Terms of Reference at the next meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

R1. To agree to pay £3,800+VAT for the removal of trees from Manley Copse.

Committee: Cllr C Ashton, Cllr L Brown, Cllr J Critchley, Cllr L Jones, Cllr A Oulton, Cllr P Martin & Cllr F Sutton
Town Clerk: Mrs H Catt
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