

Frodsham Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee

held in Town Council Office, Castle Park
On **Monday 5 September 2016**, at **7pm**



Present: Cllr A Oulton (Chair), Cllr P Martin (Vice Chair), Cllr C Ashton, Cllr F Sutton, Mr T Blundell, Mr P Morris (Facilities Manager) & Mrs A Scriven (Office Manager)

In Attendance: Mr M Garvey, Pauline Lowry, Carol Roberts & Liz Sandiford – all from Frack Free Frodsham & Helsby

Meeting 4

No	Item	Action
55	Apologies for Absence: Cllr L Brown, Cllr J Critchley & Cllr V Kirk	
56	Declarations of Interest: Cllr Sutton declared an interest in matters relating to Crowmere, Footpath 17 and Marl Pits. Cllr Oulton declared knowledge of 2 of the proprietors of companies that have provided quotes under item 61.1.	
57	Minutes of Meeting 3 held on 1 August 2016: Mr Blundell requested the following amendment to item 40,10.4: 'After visiting the school, Mr Blundell advised some residents of Penrith Close & Thirlmere Close to organize a working party to offer to remove some of the trees in the school grounds. They have chosen not to act'. This amendment was agreed and the minutes were signed as a true and correct record.	
58	Matters Arising	
120.1	<i>Blue Hatch Hedge:</i> the undamaged yews are now growing very well.	
53.1	<i>Ship Street Orchard:</i> an additional 5 trees have now died following strimmer damage and it was agreed to write again to the contractor stressing that it is not acceptable to keep replacing damaged trees. It was also agreed that the replacements must be 'like for like' and to request that they are purchased from our regular supplier.	
46.1	<i>Oak Trees at Memorial Field:</i> 2 oak trees growing in Forest Hill's hedge are currently blocking the view of Wales from the indicator stone and it was agreed to request permission to cut them down now, before they grow too large.	
59	Opportunity for the Public to Speak	
	Mr Garvey from the Frack Free Frodsham and Helsby Group thanked the Environment Committee for their support and reported on the progress of the group on the distribution of their survey & information leaflets, which are to be delivered and collected by their volunteers. Mr Garvey confirmed that the volunteers will not engage with residents while collecting the survey forms and will attempt collections on 3 occasions in order to achieve the best response. The surveys will be opened in the presence of independent observers and the group will be requesting assistance with this from the Council.	
60	Marshlands	
60.1	<i>Inspection of the pools of water within Marshlands:</i> no update	
60.2	<i>Manhole cover in Greenfield Lane:</i> is currently in place.	
61	Tree Matters	
61.1	<i>Condition Survey:</i> the quotes received for the 2 phases of tree removal work at Manley Road Copse were discussed, but it was noted that not all the contractors had quoted for both phases of work required. It was agreed to request additional quotes from 2 of the contractors and to consider these at the next meeting. It was noted that Mr Beswick has repainted the bench, but concerns were raised for the safety of the bench whilst tree removal takes place.	
61.2	<i>Top Road Play area:</i> it was noted that the Facilities Manager has met with the surveyor to show the correct areas of land at Top Road and Manley Road Copse. The surveyor has reported that he has pegged out the land at Manley Road Copse and will be completing the work at Top Road this week. It was noted that some areas of gorse were in the way for the pegging out at Top Road and so our contractor is to be asked to quote to remove these prior to the work taking place.	

No	Item	Action
62	Rights of Way Maintenance	
62.1	Further to the suggestion from CWaC that FTC take over responsibility of the footpaths in Frodsham, it was agreed that Cllr Sutton and Cllr Oulton would work together to create a proposal to present to FTC.	
62.2	<i>Upgrade of footpath 8 to a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT):</i> no update	
62.3	<i>Saltscape Project:</i> no update	
62.4	<i>Funding for improvements at Hob Hey Wood and Marshlands:</i> no update	
63	Hob Hey Wood	
63.1	Boardwalks – no update	
63.2	5 Year Development Plan – no update	
64	Memorial Field	
64.1	<i>Ragwort:</i> there has been no response to a request to CWaC for details of their policy on dealing with Ragwort. This is to be chased for the next meeting.	
64.2	<i>Memorial Field:</i> the annual cut is to take place, to include the wildflower meadow and the poppy bay.	
65	Marl Pits	
65.1	<i>Tree to be felled:</i> no update	
66	Unconventional Extraction of Gas & Oil (UEOG) Working Group	
66.1	It was noted that the group felt that they should be independent of FTC and this was to be discussed further at the next Frodsham Transition Initiative meeting, with a view to obtaining support from them.	
67	Parish Paths – update of the Parish Paths Monitor List is deferred.	
68	Pond Trail	
68.1	Cllr Ashton agreed to walk the trail and report back to the next meeting.	
69	Festival of Walks: no update	
70	Mayor's Oscars – further to the Mayor's request, the committee agreed in principle to this initiative and local businesses are to be contacted for sponsorship.	
71	Any other matters considered to be urgent for discussion, or item for next agenda	
71.1	<i>Churchfield Orchard:</i> it was reported that the red apples had been extremely popular and that the current crop is now ready.	
71.2	<i>Deaths Head Hawk Moth:</i> this has been spotted in Frodsham and is a very rare visitor to Britain, usually found on the continent.	
72	Dates of next meetings: 3 Oct, 7 Nov, 5 Dec, 3 Jan (Tuesday due to Bank Holiday), 6 Feb, 6 Mar & 3 April.	

Meeting closed 8.35pm

Signed _____

Dated _____

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