

## Frodsham Town Council

### Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee

held in Town Council Office, Castle Park  
On **Tuesday 4 April 2017**, at **7pm**



**Present:** Cllrs A Oulton (Chair), C Ashton, L Brown, V Kirk and F Sutton

**In Attendance:** Cllr J Critchley, Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk), Mr J Beswick, Clare Olver and 3 members of the public.

### Meeting 11

No	Item	Action
188	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr P Martin.
189	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	Crowmere – Cllr F Sutton. Fracking – Cllr V Kirk
190	<b>Minutes of Meeting 9 held on 7 March 2017</b>	The minutes approved and signed as a true record.
191	<b>Opportunity for the Public to Speak</b>	None.
192	<b>Mersey Forest</b>	Clare Olver, Mersey Forest, gave a short presentation about developing a co-ordinated Plan for Frodsham to improve access, to make a bigger impact and to aid an application for funding from the Wind Farm Community Fund. She is working with many local organisations including CWAC Localities Team, Cycling Forum, Transition Initiative, Canal & Rivers Trust, Wildlife Trust and Woodland Trust. She is also contacting the uniform organisations. She has a mid-May deadline to bring the plan together, which involves mapping the area. She is planning a coffee morning to discuss the ideas with those involved and to discuss the plan
193	<b>Unconventional Extraction of Gas &amp; Oil (UEOG) Working Group</b>	There hasn't been a meeting. The next one is planned for 3 May. It was disappointing that so few councillors showed interest in the presentation at full council. There is link on our website to the video of the presentation. The Working Group could consider organising an open meeting and inviting representation from both sides and the Environment Agency.
		7.40pm Cllr L Brown left the meeting.
		It would be important to have an independent chair at the open meeting. There will be a report to the next meeting.
194	<b>Tree Matters</b>	
194.1	<b>Castle Park Tree Trail</b>	It was agreed that two plaques found in the office should be given to CWAC Ranger. It was agreed that FTC shouldn't get involved with things in Castle Park as it is owned by CWAC.
194.2	<b>Other tree issues</b>	Trees overhanging Howey Lane – It felt that it would be noisier without the trees. It was agreed to get a tree survey carried out on these trees.
195	<b>Rights of Way Maintenance</b>	
195.1	<b>CWAC Liaison</b>	The meeting with CWAC PRoW Officers to discuss footpath maintenance and maps had been very useful. Cllr Ashton is working with one of the PRoW Officers to refine the list by visiting the footpath together. Many of the footpaths on the list do not need

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		strimming so it should be possible to include other paths that do. Footpath Maps – Although the need for a new map was discussed the urgent need has been reduced as a couple of boxes of maps has been discovered at the lock-up. As these are out of date it was agreed that we could give them away or ask for a donation to the Mayor's Fund.
195.2	Footpaths	Mr Beswick had drawn the Clerks attention to problems with finger posts and missing styles on Straight length and Grassy Lane. CWAC had been contacted and had been down to sort out the finger post and have suggested adding additional finger blades. Unfortunately, the style belongs to the landowner and he is free to remove it but CWAC will be contacting him to advise him that CWAC will be installing a waymark post at the point where the Footpath turns to make it clearer where the public should be walking. Mt Beswick has also Added addition footpath arrows on to the sides of the finger post. TC will contact CWAC to clarify a problem with 4x4 vehicles driving through ponds at Salt Works Farm and to report a pothole in Manley Road.
<b>196</b>	<b>Hob Hey Wood</b>	
196.1	Boardwalks	The improvement & repairs are almost completed and the bridge has been repaired.
196.2	5 Year Development Plan	The draft plan isn't available yet.
<b>197</b>	<b>Community Orchards</b>	
197.1	Ship Street	Community Committee have still to finalise the clearance of the area.
197.2	Bowden Lock	This was the first Community Orchard but it isn't clear who owns it – TC to contact the Canal & River Trust.
<b>198</b>	<b>Festival of Walks</b>	
		Copies of the leaflet were distributed. There are also posters for specific walks available.
<b>199</b>	<b>Manley Road Copse</b>	
		The trees have all been removed. Mr Beswick and FM will look to repair the bench. It was agreed to hold a site visit at 6.30pm on Tuesday 2 May before the next meeting. The insurance company may not cover the damage to the neighbours as it was due to the high winds. TC has sent them a copy of the tree survey to show that the trees were diseased and rotten and this contributed to the tree falling.
<b>200</b>	<b>Crowmere</b>	
		Cllr Sutton abstained from item. It was agreed to pay £650+VAT to net the fish – <b>EP1</b> .
<b>201</b>	<b>Litter Picking</b>	
		It was agreed to hold litter picking sessions every other month starting on Saturday 13 May at 10am. Salt Walks was suggested as the focus for this one. An article about this will be put out on our website, facebook etc.
<b>202</b>	<b>Urgent Matters</b>	
		No urgent action.
<b>203</b>	<b>Item for next agenda</b>	
		There were no suggestions for future agenda items but TC will ask CWAC Cllr Dawson to give an update to fill council on Air Quality.
<b>204</b>	<b>Dates of next meetings:</b>	
		2 May 7pm at Castle Park House. There will be a site visit to Manley Road Copse at 6.30pm.

Meeting ended: 9.15pm.

**EP1** - It was agreed to pay £650+VAT to net the fish at Crowmere.

Committee: Cllr A Oulton (Chair), Cllr C Ashton, Cllr L Brown, Cllr V Kirk, Cllr P Martin & Cllr F Sutton  
Town Clerk: Mrs H Catt

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