

# Frodsham Town Council

## Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee

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



**Present:** Cllrs A Oulton (Chair), P Martin, C Ashton, Fran Sutton and G Kirk

**In Attendance:** Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk), P Morris (Facilities Manager), T Blundell, J Beswick, Cllr J Critchley and 9 members of the public.

### Meeting 9

No	Item	Action
151	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	Cllr L Brown had sent her apologies.
152	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	Cllr F Sutton – Crowmere Cllr G Kirk – UOEG
153	<b>Minutes of Meeting 8 held on 3 January 2017</b>	The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.
154	<b>Opportunity for the Public to Speak</b>	Mr M Maris explained that he wanted to organise litter picking on car park behind W H Smiths. CWAC have recently cleared the area of the worst of the littering. He is happy to organise a group of volunteers but needed equipment and bags. TC and FM will ensure he has these, and will contact CWAC about collecting the bags of rubbish too.  Mrs F Barry asked if the Historic boards around town could be renovated as they are looking tatty. This was referred to Community Committee and TC will speak to CWAC Locality Manager about it.
155	<b>Litter Picking</b>	It was agreed to set up a small working group to help to support Frodsham WI 'Clean for the Queen' event on 5 March and to potentially broaden it out to other grot spots on 4 March as well. The potential of getting local companies such as Costa, Subway and Morrisons was discussed.
156	<b>Unconventional Extraction of Gas &amp; Oil (UEOG) Working Group</b>	The survey showed there was strong depth of feeling against fracking. Older people were less sure and didn't know enough to decide. CWAC have issued draft Supplementary Guidance. The need for another public meeting, giving a balance view, was discussed. It was agreed that TC would organise another meeting of the Working Group involving representatives from neighbouring parishes. TC will work with Mr M Garvey to develop terms of reference along the lines of the Wind Farm Forum, making it more independent of FTC. FTC would offer support in terms of providing rooms for meetings and circulating information and invitations. Frodsham Transition Initiative have been asked to host the group going forward and they are meeting tomorrow night.  Cllr Oulton will raise Frackfree Frodsham's request that FTC make a statement that they wouldn't support any application for fracking in Frodsham following the survey results at full council.
Cllr P Martin left the meeting – 8pm.		

No	Item	Action
157	<b>Tree Matters</b>	<p>Commemorative Trees – TC had received a letter from Mr Wallwork asking for details of how to request a tree and where it might be placed. It had been agreed many years ago not to continue with the planting of commemorative trees in general. TC will write to him and suggest he contacts the Land Trust as they have launched a Memorial Forest at the Countess of Chester Hospital.</p> <p>Mr Blundell requested that FTC support a proposal to add a tree (Korean Fir) to the tree trail in Castle Park to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Edward Kemp on 25 September. TC will contact CWAC to ask for permission and to chase up missing plaques.</p>
158	<b>Rights of Way Maintenance</b>	
158.1	Footpaths	<p>CWAC has responded to the request for them to look at issues on the Sandstone Trail and the Golf Course and work has been added to the work schedule.</p> <p>A fallen tree at Snidley Moor had been cleared away very quickly.</p> <p>An area in Hob Hey Wood near the Community Orchard is covered in litter – FM to investigate.</p>
158.2	<i>Upgrade of footpath 8 to a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT)</i>	We have finally heard that the request to upgrade the footpath has been refused. The applicant has 28 days to appeal.
159	<b>Hob Hey Wood</b>	
159.1	Boardwalks	<p>TC had contacted 6 companies and received 2 quotations. She has also been approached by Mersey Forest who have offered to fund the labour costs of the repairs if FTC contributes the costs of the materials and equipment hire. It was agreed to take up this offer and FTC would contribute £998.43+VAT (material costs) and £924.00+VAT (plant costs) – <b>EP1</b></p> <p>An additional quotation for the improvement of a stretch of 110m of footpath between the South Bridge and the High Bridge (7) will be discussed at a future meeting.</p>
159.2	5 Year Development Plan	Mersey Forest Trust are developing a 5-year development and maintenance plan for the Wood, funded through Salt Scape. The Plan will identify further repair work to the landscape infrastructure and woodland works that need to be completed and Mersey Forest will be able to help identify other grant support.
160	<b>Ship Street Community Orchard</b>	It was agreed to defer decisions about the area until other enquiries are made. Cllr Critchley has approached the Donkey Sanctuary who may be able to reuse the fencing. Cllr Sutton will also contact the Guides who might be able to use the area.
161	<b>Marshlands</b>	TC reported that CWAC had been in touch to report that the Highways Agency will be carrying out works to clear the gullies and soak away near the motorway that cause the flooding problems in that area.
162	<b>Pond Trail</b>	A heading has been added to the categories section to take people to the information on the website.
163	<b>Festival of Walks</b>	The meetings held on 19 January and 2 February 2017 were noted. There will be 24 walks during the last week of April. Three new banners are to be purchased. The pamphlet should be ready for proofing at the end of this week with the final printed copies being widely available through local shops, library, GPs etc nearer the time.
164	<b>Manley Road Copse</b>	The license to allow the trees to be felled has still not arrived but the contractor has been on site and removed the side branches. Once the trees are removed there will be a site visit to think about replanting. The potential to layer the hedge will also be considered.

No	Item	Action
165	Crowmere	The need to net the fish in Crowmere was discussed and it was agreed to ask the Environment Agency to carry out a survey before any decisions were made.
166	Hedgecutter	It was noted that the hedgecutter has been in for service and had had a new blade fitted.
167	Urgent Matters	None.
168	Item for next agenda	Poppies on the Memorial Field.
169	Dates of next meetings:	7 Mar & 4 April.

**EP1** - To carry out repairs to the boardwalks in Hob Hey Wood £998.43+VAT (material costs) and £924.00+VAT (plant costs).

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