

Frodsham Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of

The Community Committee

To be held on Tuesday 16 May 2017 at 7pm

In the Town Council Office, Castle Park, Frodsham



Present: Cllrs L Brown (Chair), C Ashton, J Critchley, G Kirk, M Nield, A Oulton, F Pennington & P Williamson
Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk)

In Attendance: Five members of the public.

Meeting 12

| No | Item |
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| 228 | Apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllrs D Critchley, M Poulton and F Sutton |
| 229 | Declarations of Interest The following Declaration of Interest were noted: Cllr F Pennington – London Road Allotments Cllr M Nield – Park Lane & Red Lion Bowling Club Cllrs P Williamson & A Oulton – Park Lane Cllr V Kirk – Godscroft Lane |
| 230 | Minutes of Meeting 11 – 11 April 2017 The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed as a true record. |
| 231 | Opportunity for Public to Speak <u>Clare Collins Doyle</u> has asked for permission to use Townfield Lane playing field to run Zumba classes for local mums and dads. She is a newly qualified instructor and is setting up in business. Cllr Brown explained that we are currently negotiating the new lease on the play area and the issue of allowing commercial use, and charging for it, was discussed with the Feofees representative as the draft lease states it can only be used as a playing field and doesn't allow sub-letting. His main concern was about neighbour nuisance. Cllr Critchley also mentioned the need for music licenses. Clare didn't want to upset the negotiations so agreed to wait. It was suggested she could use other play areas owned by FTC and TC would be able to give permission if she applied. |
| 232 | Allotment Peter Vickery, Chairman of the Allotment Association, thanked the council for popping round the allotments. Cllr Oulton has agreed to try and improve the lighting of the path by trimming the bush that is obscuring the streetlight. The Allotment Association are preparing grant applications for pathway improvements at Kingsway and possibly getting water to London Road and Kingsway. TC raised the problem with letting vacant plots that are heavily overgrown – it was agreed that Peter would check with the Assoc to see if there would be any objection to the use of weedkiller. The existing plots are smaller than the national regulation size but there would be no issues if FTC wanted to split plots to make them more appealing. There is no objection to small tool sheds & greenhouses on Ashton Drive if permission is sought first. |
| 233 | Townfield Lane Play Area |
| 233.1 | There was a meeting last night with a representative of the FEOFEES and the terms were discussed and generally agreed subject to legal advice. TC has contacted FTC's solicitor with instructions to negotiate with the FEOFEES solicitor. It was agreed to form a Working Group, which would look at what was required on the site. The working group would involve Cllrs D Critchley, J Critchley, L Brown & F Sutton, and 3 representatives of the Action Group. The first meeting was agreed as Thursday 8 June at 7pm at Castle Park House. The Working Group can consider a fund-raising appeal to seek donations as well as applying for grants. Local children would be involved in some way. The annual inspection had only identified low & very low risk issues with the existing equipment. |
| 233.2 | TC had received 2 quotations for additional hedge work to clear and tidy up fallen hawthorn hedging and it was agreed to go with the lowest quotation @ £250+VAT– EP1 . TC will ensure the contractors check there are no nesting birds before starting the clearance. |

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| 234 | <p>Park Lane</p> <p>Cllr Nield thanked FTC for suspending the sale of the land to allow the Park Lane Group chance to raise the funds for the planned new adult gym and children's play area. Unfortunately, even with support from Clare Jones, a professional fund-raiser, and getting to the last stages of several funding opportunities, none of their applications had been successful. Several key issues seem to be the problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications are going in from FTC, as the accountable body, and some funders won't fund councils. • Threat of the land being sold in the future. • No match funding. <p>It was agreed, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Oulton and Pennington, to recommend to council that the threat of the land being sold should be removed permanently – R1. TC pointed out that there was £30k in the Capital budget for play area in 2017-18. Mr A Carter, who has been advising FTC on Townfield Lane has offered to help with Park Lane too. He suggested it might be easier to apply for a grant that covers both areas.</p> |
| 235 | <p>Red Lion Bowling Club</p> <p>Cllr Nield declared an interest as a member of the Club. Following a minor amendment to the numbering it was agreed, proposed & seconded by Cllrs Brown and Pennington, to recommend the draft tenancy agreement to council and to delegate to TC the negotiations with RLBC – R2. TC will ask for a copy of their public liability insurance.</p> |
| 236 | <p>NW Ambulance Service</p> <p>It was agreed, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Pennington & Oulton, that TC would sign the Memorandum of Understanding with Nwas around the defibrillators and their management.</p> |
| 237 | <p>Ship Street</p> <p>TC had contacted 3 Estate Agents to seek quotations. One had declined, one had still to respond and one had quoted saying it would depend on the amount of advertising and negotiating was needed. It was agreed, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Ashton & Pennington, to wait until the Housing Needs Survey work is completed.</p> |
| 238 | <p>Telephone boxes</p> <p>TC reported that the companies, which renovate and sell telephone boxes, had emailed to say they weren't interested. It was agreed, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Pennington & Brown, to delegate to TC to negotiate the best price with the scrap dealer for the two boxes.</p> |
| 239 | <p>London Road Garden Extension Leases</p> <p>Cllr Pennington reported that the resident has been away.</p> |
| 240 | <p>Field Hire</p> <p>It was agreed, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Brown and Oulton, to recommend the revised Terms and Conditions of hire and the form to council – R3. TC been unable to contact the circus. It was agreed, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Ashton & Brown, she should write again and tell them we are taking them to the Small Claims Court. The current list of bookings was noted. The proposed booking of Townfield Lane is withdrawn at the moment. TC will speak to PCSO about the parking issue on these dates and suggest to the applicants that they recommend their attendees to park at the station. It was suggested that this could be added to the booking form.</p> |
| 241 | <p>Godscroft Lane</p> <p>Cllr V Kirk declared an interest as a resident. It was agreed that TC would write to CWAC to say this proposal would be a waste of time, and money, as it would not be enforced. FTC would consider traffic calming measures.</p> |
| 242 | <p>Children's Community Garden</p> <p>The area has been cleared except for an area where a wasp nest was discovered. TC will contact a company to deal with the nest. The Fire Service and other volunteers were thanked for their efforts. The area will need levelling, rotavating and rolling before seeding. It was agreed to formally sign the area over to Environment Committee.</p> |
| 243 | <p>Over 70s Vouchers</p> <p>The committee had decided at the start of the Over 70s process for 2016-17 that it would stick to the deadlines and had previously refused to allow late applications for Vouchers. Given this it was agreed that we would not pay for these late vouchers – TC will write and explain.</p> |

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| 244 | Events in Frodsham A summary of the complaints had been circulated. It was agreed that lessons should be learnt. Ward councilors were events are planned should be kept up to date with event plans. TC had drafted an Events Protocol to try and agree the issues raised. An amendment was made to clarify FTC run events replacing 'including Mayoral events' with 'using public money'. The protocol should be used for the right reasons not just to stop personal attacks on individual councilors. It was agreed , proposed and seconded by Cllrs Oulton and Pennington, to recommend the Events Protocol to council – R4 . |
| 245 | "Make it, Bake it, Grow it and Show it " Show Cllr Oulton declared an interest as a judge at the event. A new grants system was introduced last year with only one round. This year grants are due to be paid out in November so this will be too late for this show but the WI could apply towards the cost of next year's show. |
| 246 | Great Get Together It was felt that there was too short notice for FTC to organise anything but it would be advertised on our website, facebook etc. TC would be able to give permission for group to organize events on FTC's land for such events. |
| 247 | Memorial railings Although the damage didn't look too bad the metal is old and might break during the repair process. It was agreed that TC would get 3 quotes for the repairs. TC will also check whether the railings achieved listed status. |
| 248 | Clerk's updates TC had authorised emergency repairs on H&S ground: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Field – removal of rusted post - £80+VAT • Churchfields – soft flooring repairs - £275+VAT. There was further wear under the swing at Churchfields – initial quote £235+VAT. It was agreed that TC would check the warranty on the flooring before commissioning any further work. |
| 249 | Next meeting Tuesday 20 June 2017 |

Meeting ended at 9pm.

EP1 - Additional hedge work to clear and tidy up fallen hawthorn hedging at Townfield Lane was agreed @ £250+VAT.

R1. To recommend to council that the threat of the Park Lane being sold should be removed permanently.

R2. To recommend the revised Tenancy Agreement to council and to delegate to TC the negotiations with RLBC.

R3. To recommend the revised Hire of FTC Lands Terms and Conditions of hire and the form to council.

R4. To recommend the Events Protocol to council.