

**Frodsham Town Council**  
Minutes of a meeting of the  
**Environment Committee**  
held in Town Council Office, Castle Park  
On **Tuesday 2 January 2018**, at **7pm**



**Present:** Cllrs A Oulton (Chair), C Ashton and P Martin.

**In Attendance:** Cllr J Critchley, Ms L Kenny (Administrative Officer) and Mr P Morris (Facilities Manager)

**Meeting 6** Started at 7.45pm.

No	Item
90	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr L Brown.
91	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Cllr A Oulton is a self-employed trainer and assessor for land-based topics and health and safety.
92	<b>Minutes of Meeting 5 held on 7 November 2017</b> The minutes were <b>agreed</b> as a true record and signed by the chair – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin.
93	<b>Opportunity for the Public to Speak</b> No members of the public were present.
94	<b>Manley Copse</b>
94.1	It was <b>noted</b> that the Woodland Trust has approved the Council's application for free copse and hedge packs to plant at Manley Copse.
94.2	It was <b>agreed</b> to arrange a community planting event on 18 February, subject to the Woodland Trust being able to deliver the tree packs in time – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin. The Administrative Officer (AO) was asked to liaise with the Trust and arrange the hire of a chipper and to invite local residents. Cllr A Oulton will supervise residents using the chipper.
94.3	After reviewing information on the Fields in Trust (formerly National Playing Fields Association)'s Centenary Field scheme and considering its applicability to Manley Copse, it was <b>agreed</b> to take no action – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin.
95	<b>Hob Hey Wood</b> It was <b>agreed</b> to use FTC's website, social media and laminated posters in the wood to gauge interest from local people in volunteering to get involved in delivery of the 5-year management plan. The design of a poster circulated by the AO was approved. It was also <b>agreed</b> to hold a special meeting of the Environment Committee on 6 February in Castle Park at 7pm to discuss the management plan in detail, and to invite Mersey Forest to attend – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin.
96	<b>Tree Matters</b>
96.1	It was <b>noted</b> that the Facilities Manager (FM) had met an arboricultural contractor on site to discuss the work required to cut back the FTC trees overhanging the top of Howey Lane and the sweet chestnut in the corner of St Laurence Church car park. The contractor felt that the work might be managed without need for a road closure, utilising traffic management. Two local residents had expressed interest in contracting privately with FTC's chosen contractor to have trees on their land cut back at the same time. A written quotation from the contractor was awaited. It was <b>agreed</b> to aim to have the work completed by the end of March, and to seek additional quotations for the work and to seek method statements, especially with respect to traffic management and working methods – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin.
96.2	Cllr A Oulton reported that he could provide volunteers to carry out pole pruning free of charge on FTC land or footpaths on 15/16 January, as he is running a training course for the Canal and Rivers Trust. It was <b>agreed</b> that Cllr A Oulton liaise with the FM to identify a suitable site.

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

No	Item
97	<b>Community Orchards</b>
97.1	The FM reported that, although the contractor had placed some soil on the land, the levelling and turfing ordered last year has not yet been completed. It situation was <b>noted</b> and the AO was asked to chase up this work, which needs to be done before the replacement trees are planted. Cllr J Critchley reported that, subject to a decision at the next Council meeting, CWaC may be reducing the number of large planters in the town centre, and had offered those removed to FTC. It was <b>agreed</b> to that any surplus planters that become available from the town centre be used at Ship Street for raised beds for community use – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin.
97.2	It was <b>agreed</b> to apply for free sunflower seeds from The Big Sunflower Project and distribute them to local schools, organisations and community groups to encourage them to apply for seeds – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and A Oulton.
98	<b>Rights of Way</b> No actions required.
99	<b>Cheshire's Sandstone Ridge</b> A decision on whether to add a strapline to the town boundary signs saying "Gateway to the Sandstone Ridge" was <b>deferred</b> until after Cllrs C Ashton and A Oulton had met with Ian Marshall from the Sandstone Ridge Trust.
100	<b>River Weaver Navigation Society</b> It was noted that FTC did not receive prior notification of the last meeting. Cllr P Martin will circulate the update he recently received from RWNS to Committee members and will liaise with Cllr A Oulton regarding attendance at the next meeting.
101	<b>Action Plan &amp; Budget 2018-19</b> The action plan and budget was <b>agreed</b> but it was noted that there may be scope for virement between budget heads during the year – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin. It was <b>agreed</b> to collate information about the pieces of land owned by FTC such as Marshlands Tree Garden and the Marl Pits on the Council's website. The AO was asked to compile a list and potential sources of information/authors for the next meeting – proposed and seconded by Cllrs C Ashton and P Martin.
102	<b>Clerk's Items</b> None.
103	<b>Date of the next meeting:</b> Tuesday 9 March at 7pm at Castle Park House.  There will be a special meeting to discuss Hob Hey Wood Management Plan on Tuesday 9 March at 7pm at Castle Park House.

Meeting ended 8.20pm.