

Frodsham Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee

held in Town Council Office, Castle Park
On **Tuesday 4 September 2018**, at 7pm



Present: Cllrs A Oulton (Chair), C Ashton and L Jones.
Mrs H Catt (Town Clerk) and Mrs L Rimmer (Estates Manager)

In Attendance: Mr T Blundell and 1 member of the public.

Meeting 2

| No | Item |
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| 18 | Apologies for Absence Cllrs L Brown and P Martin, and Mr J Beswick. Cllr F Sutton was not present and had not sent apologies. |
| 19 | Declarations of Interest – None. |
| 20 | Minutes of Meeting 1 held on 3 July 2018 The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record – proposed and seconded by Cllrs L Jones and C Ashton. |
| 21 | Opportunity for the Public to Speak - None |
| 22 | Wild Flower Areas Unfortunately Neil Bowdler, CWAC Rural Area Service Coordinator was unable to attend. Cllr Oulton suggested that developing wild flower areas wasn't easy and was very labour intensive. It was agreed to defer this matter until a representative from CWACV was available to attend. |
| 23 | Action Plan 2018-19 Progress against the Action Plan was noted . It was noted that Mr B Greenway, Mersey Forest, attends the Hob Hey Wood Friends Group meetings and is supporting its development. Marshlands – it was agreed that the work on the footpath edges is not a priority this year as the paths are clearly defined. |
| 24 | Budget 2018-19 The actual and planned expenditure against the agreed budget was noted . Just over 50% of the budget has been allocated, as expected at this time of year. |
| 25 | Manley Road Copse Mr Beswick had sent a written report that he had cut the hedges alongside the pavement, but the tops still need to be done. Mr Blundell suggested that if the hedge was left high it would be possible to layer it in a few years' time. Mr Beswick also reported that there was a large patch of very invasive weeds developing which would need dealing with. EM will visit and investigate the weed. It was agreed to hold a site visit to start and plan where to replant trees and shrubs and which species to use. A Saturday morning at 10am was agreed as a good time – TC will email round to with suggested dates and to see who was available to attend. It was also agreed that local neighbours should be invited to attend. |
| 26 | Howey Lane Mid Cheshire Ground Maintenance have been appointed to carry out the work. The formal permission applications have been made to CWAC for the planned traffic management approach (Stop & GO) and to the Tree Officer as it is on the edge of the conservation area. These will take approximately 6 weeks. The work is likely to be undertaken in November or December after the leaves have fallen. Cllr Ashton asked that the contractor revisit as a large branch came down in the recent strong winds and it may be possible to reduce the cost of the contract. |

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

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| No | Item |
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| 27 | <p>Litter Picking Events Impact Day on Salt Work jointly with CWAC - unfortunately Cllr Martin was unavailable to report back on any progress with this event. TC will ask him for an update. Litter Picking by local unsung heroes – it was agreed that an article should be put on our website thanking those residents who regularly clear up litter of their own accord. The organisers of the recent Indian Summer Festival had made an excellent job of clearing up after the event.</p> |
| 28 | <p>Hob Hey Wood The minutes of the Hob Hey Wood Friends Group meeting held on 2 July were noted. Cllr Ashton reported back on the meeting held on 28 August - the group are finding it difficult to get a bank account as many banks won't offer community groups' accounts any more. Reed Wood hedging is being erected to discourage horse riders from using unsuitable paths. There are to be further working parties on Sunday 16 September, October 14, November 18 and December 16 – between 10am & 4pm. It was agreed that the Friends Group should be asked to send a representative to attend Environment Committee meetings. Will to Work are making repairs to one of the benches and the picnic table. The Friends Group will be applying for funds for tools but it is unclear where they will be kept.</p> |
| 29 | <p>Tree Matters Community Orchards – Mr Blundell reported that he had completed summer pruning of all the orchards. Four small trees have died at Ship Street due to the very dry weather. The area needs cutting but the contractor needs to avoid the Californian Poppies – EM will liaise with them. There is a length of fencing which needs to be removed to aid grass cutting. Also it had been suggested previously that the area could include fruit bushes and herbs. It was suggested that this area could be visited after the Manley Road Copse site visit and be a speared item on the agenda next time. Churchfield Community Orchard – Mr Blundell has replaced a broken tree post. It was agreed that EM should undertake a basic Tree Inspection training course. In the meantime he and Mr Blundell will carry out a tree inspection in Hob Hey Wood.</p> |
| 30 | <p>Rights of Way Mr Beswick has offered to re-install the missing marker post on Straight Mile – TC will seek permission from CWAC.</p> |
| 31 | <p>River Weaver Navigation Society The last meeting was cancelled at the last minute. Cllr Oulton asked that future contact should be via the office.</p> |
| 32 | <p>Sandstone Ridge Signage The 3 new boundary signs are in progress. The sign company are liaising with the Sandstone Ridge Trust about their specific requirements. TC will ask for the cost of 2 additional signs as the Rail Users Group are interested in adding them to the railings at the station.</p> |
| 33 | <p>Clerk's Items The Tree Charter – the 10 principles have been recirculated to keep it high on everyone's agenda.</p> |
| 34 | <p>Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 6 November at 7pm at Castle Park House.</p> |

Meeting ended at 7.55pm