

Frodsham Town Council
Minutes of a meeting of the
Environment Committee

held in Town Council Office, Castle Park
On **Tuesday 3 July 2018**, at 7pm



Present: Cllrs C Ashton, L Jones, P Martin, A Oulton and F Sutton
Mrs H Catt, Town Clerk
Mr L Rimmer, Estates Manager

In Attendance: Mr T Blundell and J Beswick.

Meeting 1

No	Item
1	To elect the Chair Cllr A Oulton was elected Chair – proposed and seconded by Cllrs P Martin and C Ashton.
2	To elect the Vice Chair Cllr C Ashton was elected as Vice Chair – proposed and seconded by Cllrs F Sutton and P Martin.
3	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr L Brown.
4	Declarations of Interest Hob Hey Wood Friends Group – Cllrs A Oulton and C Ashton have been attending their meetings. Mr T Blundell is a member of the Friends Group.
5	Minutes of Meeting 9 held on 1 May 2018 The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.
6	Opportunity for the Public to Speak – None.
7	Wild Flower Areas This item was deferred to the next meeting as Mr N Bowdler, CWAC Rural Area Service Coordinator, was unavailable.
8	Howey Lane
8.1	The report from the CWAC Tree Officer about the branch work on the Sweet Chestnut stated that there are no identifiable limb defects so suggested minimum branch trimming to improve traffic clearance. It was agreed that TC would contact the church about the work and their responsibility to maintain their boundary and follow up the letter previously sent to National Grid in October 2017.
8.2	It was noted that permission from CWAC will be required to carry out the work, which takes 6 weeks.
8.3	Six companies had been contacted and 4 quotations received ranging from £950 to £1,520. Only one of the companies confirmed that balancing the trees on the field side was included. It was agreed to commission the company with the lowest quotation was agreed @ £950+VAT- proposed and seconded by Cllrs F Sutton and A Oulton – EP1 . It was agreed to timetable the work for October/November TC will liaise with the contractor and contact the residents about the work as they may wish to have their side done at the same time at their own cost.
9	Litter Picking Events Cllr P Martin reported that there had been limited engagement from the public with previous litter picking activities. He has been talking to Cllr K Shaw, who previous got some work done at Salt Works, about organizing an Impact Day. She has put him in touch with a couple of CWAC Officer to plan the event. He will let everyone know once a date has been agreed later in the summer.
10	Hob Hey Wood
10.1	The minutes of the Hob Hey Wood Friends Group held on 25 May and the decisions made were noted . There had been another meeting last night. There were issues raised about the name as they want to be called Friends of HHW but this is the name of the existing Charitable Trust, which holds some of the land packages that make up the wood but not all – TC will research to find out the

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No	Item
	details. The Trustee of the Trust is Frodsham Town Council and it is inactive. Once the new group has agreed its constitution it will be able to get a bank account and can access funds for its activities, including applying for a grant from FTC (deadline 1 st August). The Friends Group could also ask FTC, as the Trustee of the FoHHW Trust, to access the funds that it holds (£1,385.22) for future work.
10.2	The work that has been carried out to improve the boardwalks is excellent and needs to be publicized on FTC's website. TC report there was a slight increase in the costs (£42.75+VAT) as more wood needed replacing than was at first thought.
10.3	It was noted that the Active Spaces application has been submitted to Fields in Trust. If successful FTC would have a legal contract with Fields in Trust not to sell any of the land and might be able to access £5000 for projects that encourage people to be more active.
11	Charter for Trees, Woods and People This was deferred to the next meeting.
12	Tree Matters <u>Community Orchards</u> Mr Blundell gave a verbal report on the Community Orchards – Churchfields is looking superb but one stake needs replacing. Two trees have been lost at Ship Street. The grass has been cut on the old community garden area and the raspberries were cut down too. A lot of apples have dropped at Hob Hey Wood probably due to the dry weather. <u>Manley Road Copse</u> The whips in the hedge are suffering from the dry weather, and late planting, and will probably not survive. A resident had called to complain about the weeds crowding out the whips and the hedge needing trimming back off the pavement – EM has been down to clear the weeds and the hedge off the pavement. <u>Memorial Field</u> Cllr L Jones had noticed a problem with a pine tree during the Down Hill Run. Cllr A Oulton and EM are sorting this out on Friday.
13	Rights of Way
13.1	CWAC are looking at replacing the wooden handrail with a metal one but this may take some time. They have asked for clarification about the stretch of footpath off Townfield Lane that needs attention. EM offered to meet them to show them the problem area.
13.2	Mr J Beswick asked if CWAC had given permission for him to replace the missing signpost. TC will ask CWAC and report back.
13.3	Mr T Blundell asked for clarification about which side of the hedge the footpath should be on FP74. It is on the orchard side according to a report written by Mr J Beswick in 1991 and it was agreed that EM would trim the area. TC will check the SLA and discuss this with the contractors.
14	River Weaver Navigation Society Cllr A Oulton hadn't received information about their meetings. TC will get in touch with them.
15	Sandstone Ridge Signage It was agreed to order the 3 new signs to add to the boundary signs @ £1034+VAT plus delivery @ £40+VAT as it was less than the original quotation agreed by council on 26 March. The Sandstone Trust have agreed to pay half.
16	Clerk's Items – None.
17	Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 4 September at 7pm at CPH.

Meeting ended at 8.30pm.

EP1 - It was **agreed** to commission the company with the lowest quotation @ £950+VAT to reduce the hedge along Howey Lane alongside Churchfields - proposed and seconded by Cllrs F Sutton and A Oulton