

Frodsham Town Council
Environment Committee
held in Town Council Office, Castle Park
On **Wednesday 10 July 2019**, at 7pm



Attended by: Cllrs Ashton, Jones, Mostyn-Jones, Wade, Oulton, J O'Donoghue (Clerk) & L Rimmer (Estates Manager)

Also attended by: 5 members of the public including representatives from Friends of Hob Hey Wood

MINUTES

Meeting 1

No	Item
1	To elect the Chair to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2020 Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr Ashton, seconded by Cllr Mostyn-Jones and unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr Oulton as Chair.
2	To elect the Vice Chair to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2020 Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Mostyn-Jones and unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr Ashton as Vice Chair.
3	Apologies for absence Noted: There were no apologies
4	Declarations of interest Noted: There were no declarations of interest
5	To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 5th March 2019 Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr Aston, seconded by Cllr Jones and unanimously agreed to approve and sign the minutes
6	Opportunity for the public to speak
7	Hob Hey Wood To receive a report from Hob Hey Wood Friends Noted: A verbal report was provided and it was noted that: 15 volunteer days have been, 300 trees have been planted together with hedging and the mesh on the boardwalk has been replaced; the group hosted a walk during the Festival of Walks which was attended by over 50 people; the group continue to promote the wood as a community facility and visitor numbers have increased; the group are working on a 5-year management plan and are involved with biological recording to note trees, plants, birds species etc; the northern boardwalk needs replacing which would cost in excess of £10K for which grant funding will be sought; a tonne of stone is required to fill in some of the potholes on the eastern path and FTC were asked if they could provide this at a cost of £150; Some mesh and timber is required to make path improvements to the south western path at a cost of £223 and FTC were asked if this could be provided; public liability insurance for the wood runs out in August and FTC were asked if they could add this to their insurance schedule (currently £98) and the Clerk agreed to investigate this possibility with Zurich; Mersey Forest are supporting a grant application to fund the replacement of the northern boardwalk. Resolved: It was proposed by Cllr Wade, seconded by Cllr Jones and unanimously agreed to provide £150 from budget for repairs to potholes on the eastern path; it was proposed by Cllr Wade and seconded by Cllr Oulton to provide £223 from budget for path improvements to the south western path; Clerk to investigate cost of adding public liability insurance to TC schedule. <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: JO</p>

No	Item
8	<p>To receive a report from L Rimmer (Estates Manager) To agree actions to be taken Noted: It was noted that: there is an issue with the mower in that the tilt box is broken and requires manual handling to empty which is an H&S issue; the mower is coming to the end of its life as it is over 11 years old and replacement parts are expensive; a new mower would cost in the region of £3,000 with a trade-in for the old mower and this cost could be shared with the Cemetery Committee; purchase of a new mower would considerably reduce the amount of time spent emptying the grass box which would allow for further time to be spent in other areas of the Town. L Rimmer agreed to seek further quotes for replacement equipment for discussion at a future meeting. ACTION: LR</p>
9	<p>Mersey Forest Environmental Strategy To receive an update Noted: It was noted that an updated report was received however Cllrs only received the document immediately prior to the meeting as it arrived late in the day and it was agreed to consider this as an agenda item at the next Environment Committee Meeting.</p>
10	<p>Tree Matters To discuss any issues and agree actions Noted: It was noted that Frodsham WI has secured 2 x tree packs from the Woodland Trust to plant at Manley Road Copse (120 trees). Cllr Oulton asked to be involved in a site meeting prior to planting to establish suitability. Tom Blundell, supporter of the Environment Committee, provided a written report which was noted. It was also noted that some of the trees in Churchfield have not produced any fruit and need replacing and that there are 3 dead trees on Ship Street.</p>
11	<p>Rights of Way To discuss any issues and agree action Noted: Cllr Ashton provided a report and it was noted that the Clerk has dealt with issues relating to footpaths 8 & 11.</p>
12	<p>Clerk's Items Any other matters considered to be urgent for discussion, or item for next agenda Noted: The Clerk reported that there is a 6-week public consultation on proposals relating to changes in the Dog Warden Service across the Borough which end on 11th August 2019</p>
13	<p>Date of the next meeting: 3rd September 2019 at 7pm</p>
14	<p>Close of meeting: the meeting closed at 8:09pm</p>