



AMENITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting 7

Attended by: Cllr Griffiths (Chair), Cllr Wade (Vice Chair), Cllr Hayes, Cllr Lowrie, Cllr Stockton, Cllr Ashton, Cllr Sumner (items 87 to 97) & J O'Donoghue (Town Clerk)
 Also attended by: 2 members of the public and a representative from Cycle North West (Steve Pendleton)

87. Apologies for absence

To receive apologies.

RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr McKeown and Cllr Davies.

88. Declarations of interest

To note any declarations of interest on items which are on the agenda.

NOTED:

89. Requests from the public to speak

Members of the public are invited to speak on items which are on the agenda in accordance with FTC policy on public speaking at meetings: <https://frodsham.gov.uk/policies-procedures/>

NOTED: 1 member of the public addressed the council on item 97(d) to raise concerns relating to councillors undergoing RoSPA training as the play area inspections were being carried out as part of the SLA.

90. Approval of minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held 17th January 2022

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved and signed with the following amendment reference 17/01/2022/79c:

It was resolved to approve (3:1) the quotations and the following works were approved as follows:
~~Cllr Sumner objected to the proposal to accept the quotations and instruct the works as follows:~~

91. Actions from the meeting held 17th January 2022

(a) To note actions taken as follows:

Ref	Subject	Outcome		Actions
77b	Memorial path	It was agreed to approve the design and timescale.		
77c	Memorial path	It was unanimously agreed to recommend to full council that the additional area around the monument is included in the scheme and noted that grant funding could be secured to cover the shortfall in budget. Est costs £40,000.	JO	

78b	Manley Road Copse	It was unanimously resolved, following representation from Frodsham WI, to remove the 6 strims from the SLA (£75/year), continue with the monthly inspection reports as landowner (£150/year) and the annual road side hedge cutting to include top, both sides and clear the footpath (£100/year). This represents a cost saving of £75/year. Clerk to discuss with contractor.	JO	Agreed with NTC 18/02/2022
79a	Play area repairs	It was resolved to approve (3:1) the quotations and works were approved as per minutes.	JO	Works instructed 18/02/2022. Not possible to repair Ranger Tri Table and quote received for replacement to be considered 7/03/2022
81	Marshland	It was agreed to ask the Woodland Trust for their advice.	JO	Awaiting response, TC to follow up
82	Tree lights	It was agreed to obtain 3 quotes to replace the existing lighting	JO	To be actioned

NOTED: The actions were noted.
(b) To agree any further actions to be taken

NOTED: Clerk to follow-up Woodland Trust and quotes for replacement of the existing tree lights.

92.To suspend Standing Orders for discussion and consideration of the following item as presented by Cycle North Cheshire

RESOLVED: It was agreed to suspend Standing Orders for the following item number 93.

93.Cycle North Cheshire

(a) To receive a report

NOTED: Steve Pemberton attended on behalf of Cycle North Cheshire and provided a report which is appended to the minutes (Appendix 1).

(b) To agree action to be taken

RESOLVED: It was agreed to set up a Zoom working group to look at collaborative ways of working and to include an invite for interested members of the public to attend. It was noted that Cllr Sumner, Cllr Lowrie and Cllr Eakin would like to be involved with the group. Meeting to be advertised on social media.

ACTION: LS/PL/PE

94.To reinstate Standing Orders

RESOLVED: Standing Orders were reinstated.

95.Benches

To receive an update

NOTED: It was noted that Cheshire West and Chester has not yet approved the locations and in particular has queried the application for the proposed bench opposite the entrance to the field where llamas are kept. Clerk to follow-up.

ACTION: JO

96.Memorial path

To note that works are progressing with the path and documents are being prepared for tender. It is recommended by HDD that 3 companies are approached to include AJK Ltd who undertook the extension to the cemetery. Clerk to identify owners of benches where possible to advise as to the works to be carried out.

NOTED: The report was noted together with a further update and it was further noted that:

- FTC need to confirm fee for the extra works around the memorial.
- HDD will then add the works to the tender package.
- HDD to develop a list of tenderers with FTC.
- FTC will do all the communications with the community about the works-website posters etc. This will be particularly important for the benches and silent soldiers etc around the memorial.
- Communications on the trees are important to , some info on FTC web site and maybe some posters explaining that tree felling as part of improvement works. Do you want to commit to planting new trees (add to the project)
- FTC to commit to new planting
- FTC to do comms on the removal/relocation of the furniture around the memorial.
- Not allowed for Planning/LB application.
- Awaiting update from CWAC/Memorial Trust as to whether this is required
- HDD would need some time to organise tree removal as a separate contract

(a) To agree action to be taken to include putting the contract out to tender

RESOLVED: It was agreed (5:1) to: approve the fee for the extra works around the memorial; commit to new planting; approve the quote for tree removal. It was further resolved to put the contract out to tender inviting AJK Plant Hire, WE Parsons, Ground Control and Horticon to submit tenders for the works. **ACTION: JO**

97.Play areas

(a) To note the quote received for works at Churchfields (works approved 17th January 2022) in the sum of £1,704.20 to supply and install Ranger Tri Table to replace damaged one and secure 1 x goal post.

NOTED: The quotation was noted.

(b) To note the recent play area inspection reports (circulated)

NOTED: The play area inspection reports were noted.

(c) To agree action to be taken

RESOLVED: It was resolved (5:2) to accept the quotation above in the sum of £1,704.20 and instruct the works to be carried out. **ACTION: JO**

(d) To consider a request from both Cllr Sumner and Ashton to undergo RoSPA training at an estimated cost of £300 plus £105 examination fee plus VAT per person for basic 1-day Routine Inspection Training and £550 plus examination fee of £210 plus VAT per person for 2-day Operational Inspection Training.

NOTED: Cllr Ashton withdrew her request to undergo RoSPA training.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to refuse the request by Cllr Sumner to undergo RoSPA training. Neither Cllr Ashton nor Cllr Sumner took part in the vote.

(e) To note the report provided by Cllr Sumner, following the meeting with Northwich Town Council, and agree action to be taken.

NOTED: The report was noted.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that the Clerk will obtain quotes from NTC for items identified in the report. **ACTION: JO**

NOTED: Cllr Sumner left the meeting.

98.Ship Street play area

(a) To note the update from the Clerk as follows:

Date	Actions	Notes
13/07/2021	Amenities Committee recommend returned to former play area	
20/09/2021	Quote accepted from Warbreck to refurbish railings £16,787	
15/11/2021	Quote accepted from RSK to manage project £21,000. 2 quotes received.	
29/11/2021	Noted that Green Gates Community Project have received £39,455 from Marches Community Benefit Fund to provide an inclusive swing, a slide and inclusive roundabout.	

29/11/2021	Outline budget of £150,000 approved by FTC	
26/01/2022	Initial meeting with RSK attended by BW, HH, LS and JO (Zoom). RSK asked to revise initial design to include traditional play equipment	
01/02/2022	RSK meeting with Green Gates Community Project attended by BW, LS, HH.	
02/02/2022	Quote for topographical survey received and accepted from Powers Tiltman in the sum of £525. RSK quote £880. BW approved quote and survey instructed.	Instructed 2/02/2022
02/02/2022	Agreed to hold consultation with the school (RSK and Green Gates Community Project), dates to be confirmed. Approved purchase of aerial image £12.50.	RSK requested consultancy fee of £500 to attend 1 hour meeting. FTC & Greengates Community Project decided not to go ahead with the consultation
02/02/2022	Painting began on the railings	Update requested 25/02/2021
15/02/2022	Topographical survey received and sent to RSK, invoice received	
18/02/2022	Background paper provided to RSK. Contaminated land report requested from CWAC. RSK quote £800 for ecology survey.	
21/02/2022	Quote for ecology survey requested from Marshes Ecology (rec from HDD)	Marshes Ecology requested further info which was supplied 21/02
21/02/2022	Quote for ecology survey requested from Atmos Consulting (rec from HDD)	
22/02/2022	Quote received from Marshes Ecology, £363.00 plus travel exp £32.40. Quote sent to Phil and Bernie asking for approval to go ahead and instruct. Authorisation received, works instructed. Survey to be carried out 23rd or 24th February.	PO: ShipStreet003
28/02/2022	Ecology report received and sent to RSK	
28/02/2022	Contaminated land statement received from CWAC and sent to RSK	
03/03/2022	Meeting arranged with RSK to be attended by HH, JO & RSK	

NOTED: The report was noted. It was further noted that, although works on the railings began on 2nd February 2022, there has been very little progress to date and repairs do not appear to have been carried out as expected. Clerk to contact contractor to request an update. **ACTION: JO**

(b) To note the meeting which took place with RSK on Thursday 3rd March (Cllr Hayes)

NOTED: The meeting was attended by Cllr Hayes, Cllr Griffiths, Jo O'Donoghue (Town Clerk), Sona Maresova (RSK) and Lynne Houlbrooke (RSK). It was noted that the Clerk has provided all the surveys and reports requested and the design is underway and should be available for circulation later this week. The lead time is approximately 12 weeks for the play equipment which is in line with the timeframe for the groundworks. RSK will be providing a detailed costing plan and the project is expected to come in below budget. Cllr Wade stated that Greengates Community Project has applied for a grant from Protos

(c) To agree action to be taken

RESOLVED: Clerk to circulate all documents once received. **ACTION: JO**

99.Hob Hey Wood

(a) To note the report provided by Hob Hey Wood Friends

NOTED: The report was noted.

(b) To note that a large turkey oak in Hob Hey Wood is rotting and requires felling together with a silver birch that has partially toppled and also needs to be felled.

NOTED: The information provided by Mark O'Sullivan (Hob Hey Wood Friends) was noted.
(c) To consider the quotation provided.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to accept the quote, provided to Hob Hey Wood Friends, in the sum of £500, from Hilldale Ltd and make the payment to Hob Hey Wood Friends. **ACTION: JO**

100. Date of next meeting – 9th May 2022

101. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 7.49pm

Cycle North Cheshire and Frodsham Town Council – a partnership?

Background

- Was formed about 10 years ago to promote cycling as a preferred transport method for commuting and leisure, we have moved to incorporate walking and wheeling aspects within our areas of activity as there are key common issues.
- Centred on Frodsham, Helsby and the surrounding villages
- We were active members of the CWaC Active Travel Forum and on the drafting of the LCWIP. (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.)

Achievements

- Elevation of Frodsham and Helsby as an area of low priority within CWaC , (on these issues) to one of medium priority. (Only areas with high deprivation scores can reach high priority.)
- Inclusion of the principal of linking from the Halton border to Helsby as one of the boroughs key projects for further development within the LCWIP, with the added objective of exploring how this could be linked up to the Greenway at Mickle Trafford leading to a 19 mile safe segregated path from Frodsham to the N Wales coast.
- Our active lobbying led to the first phase of this path (Helsby High to Netherton Hall) being constructed.
- We have developed strong relationships with Sustrans and CWaC senior officers and ensured all plans overlap, this opens up routes to potential funding.
- We successfully led the crowdfunding campaign to raise money to get a full route alignment/budget exercise from Helsby High to Hornsmill. This will position CWaC/Sustrans to make funding applications as relevant pots of money are released.
- We facilitated the funding of cycle stands at Helsby High.
- Developed and published cycling maps for Frodsham and Helsby to promote cycling for families.
- Ran cycling promotion events in Frodsham last summer, with free bike safety checks/minor repairs & adjustments in order to engage potential cyclists.
- Are central to the evaluation of the re-purposing of the defunct Helsby to Mouldsworth railway line as a safe segregated cycling/walking route, with the links into Delamere and onwards to the Chester Greenway from Manley. Working with Network rail, Sustrans and CWaC.

What do we want to achieve?

- Making progress in Frodsham can be achieved faster and more effectively by working with others. Frodsham Town Council is the key “other” with whom we feel we need to find ways to work more collaboratively.
- We need to establish mechanisms whereby we can communicate directly and work on joint projects that lead to more residents electing to walk/ride with the attendant health and environmental benefits.
- We would like to see FTC more visible in their support of a physically active lifestyle and find ways of supporting such initiatives. E.g.
 - Safe passing distance reminder signs at key pinch points , A56 Ellis Lane to Howey La, passing Castle Park etc A good example seen in Congleton recently of simple signs on lampposts.
 - CNC Promotional presence at key FTC events
 - Joint family safe ride events
 - FTC using active travel guidance within its review of planning applications.
 - Evaluating how FTC resources/assets can be mustered and focussed upon supporting physically active lifestyle.
 - Ideas and initiatives from FTC that we can use our knowledge and skills to help make more effective.