



**Attended by:** Cllr Hayes, Cllr Wade, Cllr Eakin, Cllr Lofts, Cllr Lowrie, Cllr Sumner, Cllr Stockton & Jo O'Donoghue (Town Clerk)

*Cllr Griffiths (Chair) was unable to attend the meeting and Cllr Sumner (Vice Chair) chaired the meeting in his absence.*

## Meeting 10

### 81. Apologies and reasons for absence

To receive apologies and note reasons for absence from members.

**RESOLVED:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Griffiths (ill-health).

### 82. Declarations of interest

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

**NOTED:** Cllrs Wade and Sumner declared an interest in item 88 as they are members of the Greengates Community Project.

### 83. Public participation

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 attended the meeting.

### 84. Approval of minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed.

### 85. Grounds inspections

To note the recent inspections which have taken place under the service level agreement.

**NOTED:** The inspections were noted together with the request for quotations to carry out the works. It was further noted that the committee has already resolved to remove the swings on Churchfields play area and replace with another piece of equipment. The recent spate of vandalism to the London Road allotment site and Churchfields play area were noted. It was further noted that a fire pit had been dug in Hob Hey wood resulting in damage to wildlife and vegetation and that a quote had been received to rectify the damage caused and that FTC will make members of the public aware of the vandalism and cost to the ratepayers.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed to: accept the quotation for rectifying the damage in Hob Hey Wood at a cost of £400; clean the wet pour at Top Road Play Area using a steam pressure brush at a cost of £800; publicise the cost of recent vandalism to the residents of Frodsham; delegate power to the Town Clerk to spend up to £500 on items identified in the recent grounds inspections in conjunction with Cllr Sumner (Acting Chair)

**ACTION: JO**

### 86. Terms of reference

(a) To note terms of reference common to all committees

**NOTED:** The terms of reference were noted.

(b) To consider and approve the terms of reference for the Amenities Committee

**RESOLVED:** The terms of reference were approved.

**87. Marshlands**

(a) To receive the Japanese Knotweed survey as instructed following the meeting held on 13th February 2023 (minute ref: 13/02/2023/63b)

**NOTED:** The survey was received and noted.

(b) To consider and accept the quotation received to treat the Japanese Knotweed.

**RESOLVED:** The quotation in the sum of £5,675.88 was accepted and it was noted that this includes 9 visits between August 2023 and October 2025 and carries a 10 year guarantee. It was unanimously agreed to fund the cost through the climate action budget code 5060.

**ACTION: JO**

**88. Ship Street play area**

(a) To receive a verbal report from the Clerk prior to the opening of the play area

**NOTED:** The following points were noted:

- The site looks as though it has been abandoned
- Have the contractors started another job leaving this one unfinished?
- No work has taken place since we had the site meeting in February
- The seed bags by the tunnels have not grown anything
- The site looks awful and reflects badly on Frodsham Town Council
- The play area is due to open on 27<sup>th</sup> May and it is looking unlikely that any grass will have grown or turf taken root
- Areas where the grass has grown are unkept and the grass needs cutting and edging
- The Heras fencing is bent and the kids are getting in
- There is still rubbish in one area of the site which was supposed to have been removed in February
- The council wishes to invoke the penalty change for the huge delay in completion
- There is a feeling that the project managers have not kept on top of the contractors and this has contributed to the delay in completion
- There are penalty charges agreed which have not been invoked however it is now agreed that these should be applied due to the length of delay and lack of progress.
- The site was supposed to open in August 2022, whilst some delay was accepted the delay of some 9 months is unacceptable

(b) To note a report from Cllr Wade following a meeting with members of the Green Gates Community Project in relation to the official opening of the play area.

**NOTED:** It was noted that: a meeting has been held and it was agreed that the park will be called Green Gates Community Park; the opening ceremony will involve 4 children chosen by Weaver Vale Primary School and a member of the public who lives behind the park; a singer has been booked to perform at the event; juice cartons, apples and oranges will be provided for those attending.

(c) To agree action to be taken.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed that the Town Clerk will request a meeting with Stephenson Halliday to consider the issues relating to the delay in any further development of the site and clarify the opening date. Meeting to include Cllrs Wade, Hayes and Sumner. Cllr Wade to contact the school to confirm attendees. Town Clerk to purchase drinks and fruit for the opening day and agree signage for the park.

**ACTION: JO/BW**

**89. Cemetery**

To consider and approve the quotation to carry out a tree survey in Tarvin Road cemetery.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed to accept the quotation in the sum of £250 and instruct the survey.

**ACTION: JO**

**90. Fields in Trust**

To resolve to register the Ship Street play area with the Fields in Trust.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed to register the play area with the Fields in Trust.

ACTION: JO

**91. Clerk's report**

To receive any further report from the Clerk.

**NOTED:** There was no further report.

**92. Date of next meeting**

To be confirmed

**93. Close of meeting**

The meeting closed at 7.45pm