

Councillors named below are summoned to attend the **Amenities Committee Meeting to be held** in Gallery 1, Castle Park Arts Centre, Castle Park, Frodsham, WA6 6SE on **Monday 10th June 2024 at 7pm**

Members of the press and public are welcome to attend

Attended by: Cllr R Lofts (Chair), Cllr B Wade (Vice Chair), Cllr D Critchley, Cllr J Critchley, Cllr H Hayes, Cllr A Holman, Cllr P Lowrie & Cllr M Nield

Also attended by: Cllr L Sumner, Cllr F Pennington (non committee members) & Cllr M Garvey (Cheshire West and Chester Council)

Meeting 1

1. To appoint a Chair

RESOLVED: Cllr Lofts was unanimously appointed as Chair.

2. To appoint a Vice Chair

3. Apologies and reasons for absence

To receive apologies and note reasons for absence from members.

NOTED: There were no apologies.

4. Declarations of interest

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

NOTED: Cllr B Wade declared an interest in item 8 on the agenda as a member of Green Gates Community Group.

5. Public Rights of Way

(a) To welcome Liz Holmes, Public Rights of Way Officer, Cheshire West and Chester Council

NOTED: Liz Holmes was welcomed to the meeting and gave a brief overview of her role within the council. It was noted that CWAC has an obligation to maintain a public right of way however the land owner is under an obligation to control vegetation growing from the sides of a path. Councillors were encouraged to report any concerns regarding public rights of way via the CWAC app.

(b) To note the outcome of discussions with the tenant of Top Road field and Footpath 20

NOTED: It was reported that: some works have been carried out on site with regard to levelling and the removal of obstacles on the public right of way however the works have not yet been completed; animal welfare officers have attended the site and there are no concerns regarding the cattle; the public right of way passes through the sides of the field however there is no footpath directly onto the play area and no obligation for the landowner, or CWAC to provide one.

6. 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.

NOTED: It was noted that Cllr M Garvey (CWAC) attended the meeting to listen to the discussion on item 11 on the agenda, having received a request from members of the public to install an additional seat on the memorial field.

7. Approval of minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 13th May 2024.

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved and signed.

8. Green Gates Community Park

- (a) To receive an update from the Clerk

NOTED: The Clerk provided a report from Stephenson-Halliday which is appended to the minutes (Appendix A)

- (b) To agree any further actions to be taken

RESOLVED:

- (i) The committee agreed that the sand bags were a design fault which has failed and request an alternative at no additional cost to the Council

ACTION: JO

- (ii) The committee agreed that the safety concerns, highlighted by RoSPA Play Safety, in relation to the tunnel barrier are a design fault which should be rectified at no cost to the Council

ACTION: JO

- (iii) The committee agreed that these issues should be addressed as a matter of urgency and before the conclusion of the contract with Horticon

ACTION: JO

- (iv) Cllr G Wood agreed to obtain full costings for purchase and installation of chain-link fencing to replace the trellis for consideration at the next Amenities Committee Meeting to be held on 8th July 2024

ACTION: GW

9. Christmas lights

To approve the quotation for a full survey to be carried out on all Christmas lights, both catenary and tree lights.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to accept the quotation from KDE in the sum of £2,684.

10. Hob Hey Wood Orchard

- (a) To receive a report from Cllr Hayes regarding renaming the orchard and improving the signage.

NOTED: Cllr Hayes provided a report and it was noted that: following the tree dedication a request was received requesting Hob Hey Orchard to be renamed Tom's Orchard in honour of Tom Blundell who had been instrumental in establishing the orchard; Hob Hey Wood Friends Group are in support of this and requested that the opportunity was taken to renew the signpost, possibly involving Manor House Primary School in the design.

- (b) To agree action to be taken.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to obtain estimated costs of signage for the next Amenities Committee Meeting. Signage to include a photo of Tom Blundell and an explanation of his role in the establishment of the orchard.

ACTION: JO

11. Seats & commemorative benches policy 2021-2031

- (a) To note the existing policy

NOTED: The policy was noted.

- (b) To agree action to be taken

RESOLVED: It was agreed to set up a working group (Cllrs J Critchley, M Neild and L Sumner) to look at identifying an area for a Remembrance Garden).

ACTION: JC/MN/LS

12. Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council (Frodsham) Air Quality Management Order 2015 (No 1)

(a) To note that Cheshire West and Chester Council propose to revoke the Air Quality Management Area in Frodsham following significant and continued improvements in air quality and are carrying out a consultation with a closure date of 16th June 2024.

NOTED

(b) To agree any action to be taken.

RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to send comments to the Town Clerk by 5pm on Tuesday 11th June 2024.

13. Request for tree pruning

To consider a request from a resident on Blue Hatch for tree pruning to be carried out.

RESOLVED: The request was considered and it was agreed not to carry out any works as the tree was not dangerous, was not causing any structural damage to property and was not invasive.

ACTION: JO

14. Date of next meeting – 8th July 2024


15. Close of meeting



The meeting closed at 20:06

Project: Green Gates Cost Options

Costs: Summary of costs provided by Horticon 05/06/24

Circulation: Jo O'Donoghue, Kate Taylor, James Smith

	Item	Action	Cost (excluding VAT)
1	Grow Bags	For the grow bags to be replaced with a wooden edging and the space filled with the self binding gravel at the top of the tunnel.	£300
2	Tunnels response to Rospa comments	There have been two reports one identified the tunnel barrier as an issue and the other did not. To fence over the bridge and provide a more solid barrier as discussed on site with a picket pale.	£674
3	Options	To replace trellis and horizontal steel wires both vandalised	
	Option 1 To fill the space and provide shelter at the lower level and train climbers through the hedge	 <p>Supply and planting of Carpinus Ready Hedge - Carpinus betulus 130-150cm tall, 100cm long, 40cm wide (see photo above) Fitting between frame, 2 units per section required.</p>	£2600.00
	Option 2 To fill the space and provide shelter at the lower level and train climbers through the hedge	<p>Another slightly cheaper option would be to supply and plant 28no Hornbeam 200/225cm Root ball (instead of a ready hedge) As it is approaching Spring/Summer we may need to allow for watering visits. Our cost for this would be £225/visit as guidance.</p>	£1700.00

<p>Option 3 Mesh Panels</p>	 <p>For the 7 panels being made with drilled flat edges using 1inch mesh as in the photo , supplied and fitted in a black powder coated finish.</p> <p>We would have to attach a bar/frame around the frames for this to work.</p>	<p>£3800</p>
<p>Option 4 Vertical steel ropes</p>	<p>MMA have suggested installing 4mm dia stainless steel ropes at 300mm centres (6 per sectional).</p> <p>We would have to attach a bar to the bottom of the frames for this to work.</p> <p>Our quote for the supply and installation of 6no 4mm dia steel ropes</p> <p>The idea of installing it vertically is to prevent people climbing on it. It could still be subject to vandalism though.</p>	<p>per section this is £2,250.00 there are 7 sections therefore not a viable option</p>
<p>Option 5 Laser Cut panels</p>	 <p>Option that FTC were looking at we have not costed for this option. We would have to attach a bar/frame around the frames for this to work as with the mesh panels. So I imagine it would be a higher price than the mesh option.</p>	