

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 11 JULY 2018**

**Present:** Councillor MH Greenslade (Chairman)  
Councillors: M Banner, D Hill, J Greenslade, A McCarthy, D Nowell.  
M Pearce, P Wright

**Apologies for absence:** Councillors M Creaghan, AJ Hill, B Maher, S Rydzkowski

**EA13 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest**  
**Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

**EA14 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were noted from Councillors M Creaghan, AJ Hill, B Maher and S Rydzkowski.

**EA15 Minutes**

Resolved,  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2018 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

**EA16 Matters of report from previous minutes**

There were no matters to report.

**EA17 Woolston Weir – proposed hydroelectric scheme**

The Committee received a presentation from the Renewable Energy Engineer, Renewables First Ltd, on the proposed Woolston Weir hydropower scheme. The purpose of the presentation was to provide information on the scheme relating to planning application 2018/32951 and not to comment on the scheme. Details were provided on a slide presentation of the main elements of the project. Subject to planning consent, detailed design and procurement would take place between October 2018 and January 2019 with main construction taking place between March and September 2019.

The present scheme was smaller in scale than that previously proposed for Woolston Weir. It would provide an upgraded fish pass, reduced reserve flow and “in line” screw turbines. A Contractors Method Statement was to be agreed with the Borough Council before work commenced on site relating eg to hours of work, noise and access for construction vehicles. Members expressed concern at the level of consultation with residents before the submission of the planning application and asked that the company review this matter. Reference was made to the recent Flood Defence scheme carried out by the Environment Agency where extensive consultation had taken place:

Recommended,  
That

1. thanks be recorded for the presentation to the Council and the offer to provide a copy of the slide presentation be accepted;

2. details be provided to the company of the relevant officers at the Environment Agency to allow the company to consider implementing consultation with residents, the parish council and others;
3. it be noted that discussions with the Borough Council will be held on matters relating to public footpaths.

**EA18 Development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct**

The Committee that volunteers had cleared the former protesters site adjacent to the entrance. Information was continuing to be sought on the actual development works.

**EA19 Parish Path Warden Scheme**

Councillor Nowell reported and the Committee noted the items reported to Borough Council Rights of Way officer and responses received.

**EA20 Hillock Lane Amenity Area – development of improvement scheme**

The Committee noted that information was to be requested from the Borough Council on any proposals for the playing fields that may impact on the amenity area.

**EA21 Somerset Way at entrance to Woolston Park - parking**

No matters to report.

**EA22 Kings Leadership Academy – shared use of car park**

The Committee noted that the shared use of the car park continued successfully.

**EA23 Old Billy” scheme – draft design**

The Committee noted that there was no further information to report.

**EA24 Woolston Playing Fields – management arrangements 2018-19**

The Committee considered the continuation of the management arrangements for public use of the playing fields:

Recommended,

That approval be given to the continuation of the current arrangements with Warrington BC for the management of public use of Woolston Playing Fields for 2018-19.

**EA25 New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group – issues relating to Woolston**

No matters to report.

**EA26 Business raised by members**

No matters to report.

Chairman.....