

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 22 NOVEMBER 2017

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

Apologies for absence: Councillor M Creaghan, D Hill, S Rydzkowski

EA51 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

EA52 Minutes

Resolved,
That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2017 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

EA53 Battery Lane Allotment Site
– request for financial assistance

The Clerk reported further a request for financial assistance from the Battery Lane Allotment Association for urgent repairs carried out to protect the southern boundary of the site:

Recommended,

That further details be requested before determining the request.

– report on site meeting with the Borough Council

The Clerk reported on the site meeting with an officer from the Borough Council attended by a representative of the Battery Lane Allotment Association. The matters raised included:

- Responsibility for maintenance of the track leading to the site from Battery Lane
- Churning of entrance point next to the allotment site entrance and the entrance to the horse field by tractors/heavy vehicles making deliveries to the horse field
- Recent incidents of horses entering the allotment site through points in southern boundary
- Height of Borough Council trees on southern boundary to the allotment site putting large areas of plots into shade

The Borough Council had agreed to investigate the matters raised by liaising with relevant officers and then provide a response. It had been agreed with the Association to postpone the liaison meeting until the response had been provided to allow both the Council and the Association to consider any issues:

Recommended,

That the report be accepted.

EA54 Development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct

The Committee noted that information was being sought on the current position regarding the licence to develop the site.

EA55 Parish Path Warden scheme

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

1. (FP25) Sections of fencing with barbed wire erected alongside path 25, Battery Lane green space towards the Thelwall viaduct by the paddock area. Borough Council will inspect. Action unlikely.
2. (FP's 25/26/27) Path 27 closure sign removed from Statham Lane track fingerpost, intersection of paths 25 and 26. To be replaced (pending path reinstatement).
3. (FP16) Boardwalk alongside ditch on path 26 between Brook Lane and Juniper Lane. The Borough Council has received quotes and work was ordered on 17 November 2017.
4. (FP27) Path closure order ends 31 December 2017. Ditch at A frame intersection of land owned by Peel Holdings and local farmer over a culvert needs to be filled in and steps fitted to the eastern slope of the raised earthwork at the end of the Statham Lane track (at the fingerpost). No timetable schedule for this work has been communicated as yet.

EA56 Hillock Lane Amenity Area – development of improvement scheme

Further to minute EA42 18 October 2017 the Committee gave consideration to options for the development of the area. The option to develop an informal route around the site with planting in the area was put forward:

Recommended,

That further consideration be given to the suggested option together with other options at the next meeting.

EA57 Hillock Lane Amenity Area – security of car park entrance

Further to minute EA43 18 October 2017 the Clerk reported estimated cost of approximately £2500 for the Borough Council to install a height barrier to improve the security of the car park entrance:

Recommended,

That

1. approval be given to proceed with the height barrier and a quotation be obtained from the Borough Council;
2. the Clerk in consultation with the chairs of the Council and the Environment and Amenities Committee and the Finance and General Committee be authorised to proceed with the scheme.

EA58 Somerset Way at entrance to Woolston Park – introduction of waiting restrictions and consideration of measures to protect the highway verge

Further to minute EA44 18 October 2107 the Committee noted that the no waiting restrictions had been introduced. Councillor McCarthy reported that the Borough Council officers would give consideration to any measures required to protect the highway verge eg stumps:

Recommended,
That the report be noted.

EA59 Kings Leadership Academy – shared use of car park

There were no matters to report.

EA60 “Old Billy” scheme – draft design

The Committee considered the draft design for the sign to be placed in the highway relating to “Old Billy”:

Recommended,
That a revised draft design be produced based on the comments now made.

EA61 Martinscroft Village Green – storm damage to tree

The Clerk reported that following storm damage to a tree at the Green the Borough Council had taken action to make the area safe and had arranged for the tree to be felled on 20 October 2017. The incident and the related work was thought to have led to damage to the boundary fence:

Recommended,
That the report be noted and consideration be given to the financing of this work.

EA62 New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group – issues relating to Woolston

Councillor J Greenslade reported on matters relating to the Group. It was noted that the Annual General Meeting was to be held on 27 November 2017 at the Woolston Neighbourhood Hub. It was understood that the Paddington House Hotel was no longer available for meetings because of the redevelopment of those premises.

The Clerk reported further to minute EA24 26 July 2017 that the Group had informed the Council that the grant made for assistance with the cost of insurance for volunteers was no longer required. The Council had previously agreed to consider reallocation of the amount to other activities in the parish by the group. The group had requested that the grant be allocated towards the cost of fleece jackets for use by the working party volunteers on such work as litter picks:

Recommended,
That approval be given to the reallocation of the grant as requested.

EA63 Business raised by members

There were no matters to report.

Chairman.....