

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 26 OCTOBER 2016

Present: Councillor MH Greenslade (Chairman)
Councillors: M Banner, J Greenslade, A McCarthy,
D Nowell, M Pearce, S Rydzkowski
Apologies for absence: Councillors M Creaghan, D Hill, B Maher, P Wright

EA40 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

EA41 Minutes

Resolved,
That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2016 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

EA42 Development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct

The Chairman reported and the Council noted that the protest group had held a Family Fun Day from 7-9 October 2016.

EA43 Hillock Lane amenity area

The Committee gave further consideration to the future use of the grassed area:

Recommended,
That consideration be given with officers from the Borough Council on options for this area.

EA44 Woolston Playing Fields – management and future use

The Committee noted that there had been no further information from the Borough Council:

Recommended,
That the Clerk write to the Families and Wellbeing Directorate requesting details of the current position.

EA45 Kings Leadership Academy

The Clerk reported that details had been supplied by the Borough Council on the organisations using the playing fields for the 2016-17 season. These organisations would be allowed to use the Kings Leadership Academy car park as an overflow area when the playing fields were used for training or matches.

EA46 Martinscroft Village Green – traffic calming scheme

The Committee noted further to minute EA33 – 14 September 2016 that the Borough Council had reported that there had been a delay with the scheme because of staff absence. The notice of the final scheme following public consultation was to be published after completion of consultation with the legal department.

EA47 Parish Path Warden scheme

Councillor Nowell gave a report on matters relating to the designated public footpaths since the last meeting. Reports had been made, where appropriate, to the Borough Council on the following:

- Metal gate has been removed from footpath 15 Juniper lane.
- Paths 14 and 12, Juniper lane to Nicol Avenue, passable with slight difficulty due to ground vegetation on former, narrowed by trees on latter.
- Ditch, path 16, Brook Lane, only suitable for experienced walkers, would cause difficulty for any with mobility issues.
- Pothole repairs marked out at A57 Manchester Road end of path 17, Brook Lane.
- Flood defence work had started near Woolston lock. Controlled access point at Thelwall viaduct path 25. Gate from Battery Lane direction (West to East) warning signs from Statham Lane track direction (East to West.) No visible banksman but may work from barge that collects aggregate from the site. 'JCB' operator only present when the Parish Path Warden passed. Temporary HGV speed restrictions on Weir Lane to Edward Gardens path diversion well signposted.
- Path 31 above Woolston Guard Weir dry when visited but heavily waterlogged, edge to edge pools, on Navvies trek on 25 September 2016.
- Japanese Knotweed halfway along path 30 and at A57 Manchester Road terminus. Also at Bridge Lane intersection with New Cut path 22/23 and either side of path 21 to New Cut Lane. (The last two items were considered to be the responsibility of Peel Holdings).
- Path 19 (New Cut Lane) potholes recently repaired.
- Path behind Warrington Fencing Ltd at New Cut Lane already reported for repairs to surface.
- Gate at Woolston Guard Weir open following commencement of works by the Environment Agency on the flood defence scheme.

EA48 Bus shelter at old Manchester Road

Further to minute EA35_- 14 September 2016 the Clerk reported that a site meeting had been held with the Specialist Transport Services Manager from the Borough Council on the replacement of the bus shelter. The officer had agreed to assist the Council in the replacement of the shelter and had provided quotations of alternative types of shelter of the style used by the Borough Council. This would be a shelter narrower than that on site at present. The Borough Council would arrange for the installation of the shelter and any associated works to the highway. The parish council was asked to carry out consultation on the scheme:

Recommended,

That

1. approval be given to the replacement of the shelter with the type used by the Borough Council and to the Borough Council arranging for its installation;
2. consultation be carried out in accordance with that usually undertaken by the Borough Council;
3. a further report be made to the Committee at the next meeting.

EA49 Development of “old Billy” scheme

The Committee noted that a meeting was to be arranged with Borough Council officers to progress the scheme. Councillor Banner reported that “old Billy” was to be included in a mural on the side of the Pyramid building in the town centre and a professional artist had been engaged to involve young people.

EA50 Battery Lane allotment site – inspection of plots

The Committee noted that a date was to be agreed for an independent inspection of all plots at the allotment site.

EA51 New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group – issues relating to Woolston

The Committee noted that items relating to the work of the Group had been circulated to members. Councillor Nowell reported on the disposal of waste collected by the volunteers from the litter pick on 29 September 2016. A volunteer had been prevented from taking waste to the adjacent New Cut Household Waste Site because it was not classed as domestic refuse. Councillor McCarthy reported that he had contacted the Borough Council officers about this matter. He had been informed that the agreement with the group was for waste to be delivered to the School Brow Depot.

EA52 Business raised by members – highway verge Monroe Close/Wareham Close area

Councillor McCarthy reported on representations from residents at the parking of cars on the grass verge. The Council had been asked to assist in providing barriers similar to those in place in other parts of the parish to protect the highway verge:

Recommendation,

That the provision of suitable barriers be investigated.

Chairman.....