

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 18 JANUARY 2017

Present: Councillor MH Greenslade (Chairman)
Councillors: J Greenslade, A McCarthy,
D Nowell, M Pearce, S Rydzkowski

Apologies for absence: Councillors M Banner, M Creaghan, A Hill, D Hill, B Maher.
P Wright

EA81 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

EA82 Minutes

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

EA83 Development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct

There were no matters to report.

EA84 New Cut Lock entrance – reinstatement plan

The Committee gave consideration to a draft scheme submitted by the Environment Agency for consultation:

Recommended,
That the Environment Agency be informed that the Council supports the objection from residents to the provision of seating as part of the scheme.

EA85 Somerset Way at entrance to Woolston Park – provision of fencing

The Committee gave consideration to the scheme to provide protection of the highway verge on Somerset Way adjacent to the entrance to Woolston Park further to minute C95 Borough Council business, 14 December 2016. Councillor McCarthy reported that residents in the area had been consulted on the proposed scheme and there was support for the introduction of no waiting restrictions on Somerset Way and the provision of a timber fence to protect the highway verge. The Borough Council had agreed to include a scheme for the introduction of no waiting restrictions on a section of Somerset Way in the programme of future measures. Consideration was given to the means to progress the scheme for the installation of fencing:

Recommended,
That

1. the report on the support given by the Borough Council for the introduction of no waiting restrictions be noted;
2. the Borough Council be approached for approval to the introduction of a timber fence to prevent parking on the highway verge with this work being funded by the council.

EA86 Kings Leadership Academy – shared use of car park

No matters to report.

EA87 Martinscroft Village Green – traffic calming scheme

The Clerk reported further to minute EA72 – 14 December 2016 that the Borough Council had informed the Council that public notice was to be given of the intention to introduce the traffic calming scheme. This would follow the usual procedures taken regarding similar schemes implemented by the Borough Council, including consideration of any representations or objections made:

Recommended,
That the report be noted.

EA88 Parish Path Warden scheme

Councillor Nowell reported on the role of Parish Path Wardens across the Borough following the recent meeting of the Public Rights of Way Forum. It was agreed that it would be useful to review the role as currently undertaken in the parish with that in other areas. At present, it was noted that the only issue with a designated public footpath related to Brook Lane:

Recommended,
That

1. the report be noted;
2. a review of the duties of the post of Parish Path Warden be undertaken.

EA89 Bus shelter at old Manchester Road

The Committee noted that with the assistance of the Borough Council the replacement shelter had been sited on old Manchester Road.

EA90 Weir Lane Play area – proposed improvement

Further to minute EA75 – 14 December 2016, details had been requested from the Borough Council of the final scheme for the play area. The Committee noted that the Borough Council had carried out consultation on the proposed refurbishment of the play area and other works and there had been support from residents in the area. The scheme was to be financed on the basis of the use of section 106 funding from the David Wilson Homes development and a contribution from the parish council.

The Borough Council had received revised quotations for works as previously agreed to enhance the play facilities. The original plan had been to arrange supply and installation of play equipment inclusive of safety surfacing with the play equipment provider. However, the company's quotation had risen significantly because a new safety surfacing under the new unit was needed. In view of this, the Borough Council proposed to organise installation and safety surfacing separately and this would reduce project costs, although they were still a little higher than previously stated. These estimates whilst more up to date were not actual costs as the safety surfacing contractor had provided a quote without visiting the site. The council was asked to approve a potential contribution of £5821.02 with an additional £500 contingency for any safety surfacing anomalies. Should the final scheme be delivered for

less than stated the contribution would be reduced accordingly. The Committee gave consideration to the possible deletion of items from the work schedule to reduce the council's contribution:

Recommended,

That

1. the report be noted;
2. the chairs of the Environment and Amenities Committee and the Finance and General Committee be authorised to finalise the scheme with a view to reporting back to the next meeting of the Council.

EA91 Battery Lane Allotment site
– transfer of storage container

The Committee noted that the transfer of the storage container to the Council from the Association had been completed.

– inspection of allotment plots

The Committee noted arrangements had been made for an independent inspection of all plots on the site to be carried out in February 2017.

– determination of rent for 2017-18

The Committee gave consideration to the rent of a plot for 2017-18:

Recommended,

That the rent for an allotment plot for 2017-18 be set at £16 (£8.00 for senior citizens and persons in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance) and the required notice be given to tenants.

EA92 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.

EA93 Draft Committee estimates 2017-18

The Committee considered a report of the Clerk on the draft committee estimates for 2017-18:

Resolved,

That the draft estimates be referred to the Finance and General Committee with a recommendation for approval and submission to the Council.

EA94 Business raised by members

There were no matters to report.

Chairman.....