

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT THE WOOLSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB, HALL ROAD, WOOLSTON ON 15 FEBRUARY 2017

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

Apologies for absence: Councillors M Banner, A Hill, D Hill

EA95 Code of Conduct – declarations of interest
Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

No declarations were made at the opening of the meeting.

EA96 Minutes

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

EA97 Development adjacent to the Thelwall Viaduct

The Committee noted that the Environment Agency had provided an opportunity to meet the regulators regarding matters relating to fracking.

EA98 Cleaning of Cenotaph at Martinscroft Green

The Committee noted that a quotation had been received from a specialist contractor for cleaning the Cenotaph and that further information had been requested on the timing of the work and the expected period between each cleaning operation.

EA99 Somerset Way at entrance to Woolston Park – provision of fencing

The Chairman reported on a site meeting held on 14 February 2017 with the Borough Council's Environment Services Area Manager together with Councillor McCarthy, Councillor Nowell (in his role of Parish Path Warden) and the Clerk. Details had been provided of a draft scheme for installing fencing to the boundary of the grassed area at each side of the park entrance and on the opposite side of Somerset Way. No cost estimate was available for the scheme. Councillor McCarthy reported that following the meeting he had requested a further meeting to be attended by senior officers to discuss the proposed specification for the works:

Recommended,
That the report be noted and that a meeting is to be arranged to be attended by the Chairs of the Environment and Amenities Committee and the Finance and General Committee together with the Clerk.

EA100 Kings Leadership Academy – shared use of car park

There were no matters to report on the shared use of the car park.

Members reported on traffic parking on Hillock Lane resulting from vehicles waiting to collect children from schools on that road at the end of the school day. It was noted that the Borough Council had agreed to process a further traffic order to restrict waiting on lengths of the highway in the area. Consideration was given to the enforcement of waiting restrictions to ensure that these were effective:

Recommended

That

1. the proposed introduction of parking restrictions be noted;
2. representations be made to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable in support of Police Community Support Officers enforcing parking restrictions.

EA101 Martinscroft Village Green – traffic calming scheme

The Clerk reported further to minute EA87 – 18 January 2017 that no further information had been received from the Borough Council on the outcome of public notice of the intention to introduce the traffic calming scheme:

Recommended,

That the report be noted.

EA102 Parish Path Warden scheme

Councillor Nowell reported that the Borough Council's Rights of Way Officer had been informed of an obstruction at Moss Edge Cottage on path 12.

Further to minute EA88 – 18 January 2017 the Committee reviewed the role of Parish Path Warden in the parish:

Recommended,

That

1. the report on the action taken regarding the obstruction on path 12 be noted;
2. the duties of the Parish Path Warden continue to operate based on the advice provided by the Borough Council's Public Rights of Way Officer.

EA103 Weir Lane Play area – proposed improvement

The Committee noted that minute C108 – 18 January 2017 had given authority to the chairs of the Environment and Amenities Committee and the Finance and General Committee being authorised to finalise the scheme with a view to reporting back to the next meeting of the Council. This followed a request from the Borough Council for an increased contribution to the improvement scheme for the play area.

In advance of any discussions further information had been received from the Borough Council to confirm that the contribution required would be up to £5200 and that the scheme was to be delivered in its entirety without any additional contribution. In view of this both committee chairs recommended approval of the scheme and a contribution of up to £5200:

Recommended,

That approval be given to the scheme and a contribution of up to £5200.

EA104 “Old Billy” scheme

The Committee gave consideration to draft design options produced by Councillor J Greenslade for the proposed sign to be sited in the highway verge on A57 Manchester Road. It was noted that the Borough Council had provided details of a contractor used by the authority for the provision of this type of sign:

Recommended,

That the draft design showing “Old Billy”, the world’s oldest working horse, be accepted and Councillor J Greenslade be thanked for his work on the scheme.

EA 105 Battery Lane Allotment Site – inspection of allotment plots

The Committee noted arrangements had been made for an independent inspection of all plots on the site later in the month.

EA106 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.

EA107 Business raised by members

There were no matters to report.

Chairman.....