

## Minutes of Community Services Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 16 May 2017, starting at 6.30pm  
Present: Councillor S Carefoot (Chairman)

Councillors:

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| J E Alcock   | J Holgate  |
| A Brown      | S Hore     |
| P Dobson     | S Knox     |
| R Hargreaves | R Newmark  |
| T Hill       | M Robinson |
| S Hind       | N Walsh    |
| S Hirst      | J White    |

In attendance: Director of Community Services, Head of Engineering Services, Head of Culture and Leisure Services, Waste Management Officer.

Also in attendance: Councillor K Hind (until 6.55pm).

### 8 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence from the meeting.

### 9 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 10 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest.

### 11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 12 FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing information on a proposal from Clitheroe Wolves Football Club to work in partnership with the Council to develop an indoor artificial surface for general community use including football, rugby and cricket at Roefield playing pitches.

He welcomed Ross Hibbert, Chairman of Clitheroe Wolves Football Club and Steven/Stephen Lancaster representing the Lancaster Foundation to the meeting.

Mr Hibbert gave a brief presentation on the history of Clitheroe Wolves Football Club, along with the current situation with regard to the number of teams and facilities that they are currently using. He broadly outlined their vision in developing an indoor artificial surface facility at Roefield playing pitches with the generous help of the Lancaster Foundation.

The Director of Community Services informed Committee that the Council owns and manages the grass and artificial pitches at Roefield, alongside and behind the tennis centre. These pitches are provided for clubs and groups to hire for which they are charged an annual set of charges fixed by the Council. Clitheroe Wolves Football Club is one of the largest clubs in the borough, running a variety of teams for males and females from juniors through to seniors and currently have 36 teams which includes nearly 500 registered young people aged 4 – 18.

Clitheroe Wolves Football Club had approached the Council with a proposal for a project to develop the football facilities at Roefield playing pitches for broader community use. This did not require the Council to invest a capital sum in the project over and above the already committed to annual maintenance. The project would however require the Council agreeing to lease some of the land adjacent to the outdoor tennis courts to the club so that they could apply for planning permission to build an indoor sports facility incorporating a new artificial 3G pitch area. This would facilitate indoor training during winter months and provide a year round facility for both football and rugby teams. The centre would be subject to the normal planning permission process for any building.

In addition to this, the current outdoor tennis area would be resurfaced with a 3G artificial surface that would be football specific. Tennis would cease to be offered on this area and only the indoor courts would be available for casual use.

Funding for this total project which is expected to be in excess of £1m would be from the club itself and the Lancaster Foundation. Committee were asked to consider this proposal which would be for the benefit of not just Clitheroe football teams but those borough-wide.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approve the project in principle and authorise the Director of Community Services to enter into formal negotiations with Clitheroe Wolves Football Club regarding the scheme; and
2. ask the Director of Community Services to report back to Committee on the agreement with Clitheroe Wolves Football Club for final consideration.

### 13 APPOINTMENT OF WORKING GROUPS

The Director of Community Services asked Committee to confirm arrangements and memberships for the Working Groups under the remit of this Committee. These included the Grants Working Group, the Car Park Working Group, the Open Space Working Group and the Public Convenience Working Group. It was felt that as the Public Convenience Working Group had not met for more than 2 years now, that this be mothballed at the current time.

It was also felt that a Working Group on Waste Management would be an asset in light of the preparations required for the refuse and recycling collection services from 2018.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the following Working Groups, along with their membership:

- (a) Grants Working Group – Councillors Carefoot, Hirst, S Hind and Robinson;
- (b) Car Parking Working Group – Councillors Carefoot, Hore, Hill and A Knox.
- (c) Open Space Working Group – Councillors A Brown, Alcock, Holgate and Robinson; and
- (d) Waste Management Working Group – Councillors Sayers, Carefoot, Alcock and A Knox.

14 JUNIOR PARK RUN

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing information on an offer from Ribble Valley Runners to gain permission, set up and establish a Junior Park Run event within the Castle Grounds, Clitheroe.

The Park Run is a national charity aimed at getting more people running across the country and the globe. They offer free safe timed runs every week in parks around the UK and the world.

Junior Park Run follows an identical model but is exclusively for 4 – 14 year olds. The Junior Park Run would look to be held every Sunday morning at 9am; it would comprise of two laps of a 1km circuit using the existing tarmac paths within the Castle grounds.

Park Run as an organisation requires the landowner’s written consent that they are happy for the event to be staged on their land every week and also provides substantial public liability insurance for any runner injured during an event.

It was felt that as Clitheroe town centre is quiet on Sunday mornings, this event would have little impact and would not prevent other members of the public from using the Castle grounds at the same time.

**RESOLVED:** That Committee authorises the Director of Community Services to formally write to Ribble Valley Runners to give them approval to set up a Junior Park Run within Clitheroe Castle Grounds subject to a 12 month review and in the knowledge that if there is another event on in the Castle grounds their use would be suspended.

15 OFF-STREET PARKING – PAY BY PHONE

The Director of Community Services submitted a report looking at the current issues affecting parking in the borough. This included the implementation of a Pay by Phone service for all its pay and display car parks on a 12 month trial period. The facility enables the car vehicle owner to either pre-pay for a parking space in a car park where they know there is no mobile signal or pay for a space by phone if they have no change.

Chipside currently provide the back office service for parking enforcement and the Pay by Phone service was available as part of their framework agreement. The report outlined the usage of the system over the last 12 months and it showed that after a slow start the number of transactions had steadily increased.

There were minimal problems with the system and it had had little impact on the performance of the parking enforcement staff.

RESOLVED: That Committee continue with the Pay by Phone service provided by our present back office parking services and that this be reconsidered when the back office service contract ends.

## 16 REPORT ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Members of the Outside Bodies that are under the remit of the Community Services Committee and their membership. These are as follows:

Children's Trust – Councillor Stella Brunskill;  
Lancashire Tourism Forum – Councillor Joyce Holgate;  
Lancashire Waste Partnership – Councillor Ian Sayers;  
Langho Football Club – Councillor Alison Brown;  
Longridge Social Enterprise Co Ltd – Councillor Ken Hind;  
Ribble Valley Sports and Recreation Association (Roefield) – Councillors Stuart Hirst and Noel Walsh;  
Salesbury and Copster Green Commons Management Committee – Councillors Peter Ainsworth, Sue Bibby and Stuart Hirst.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

## 17 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2016/17

The Director of Resources submitted a report reviewing the final outturn of 2016/17 Capital Programme for Community Services Committee and seeking Member approval for the slippage of some capital scheme budgets from the 2016/17 financial year to the 2017/18 financial year.

Actual expenditure on the Capital Programme was £416,094 which was 94.4% of the revised estimate budget. Four of the six capital programme schemes were completed in year and within the budget available for those four schemes. The two schemes not completed in 2016/17 were the Ribblesdale Pool improvement work where the main contract had been finalised but the retention payment could not be made until 12 months after financial completion of the main contract and the play area improvements where the two planned elements of this scheme had not yet taken place due to inclement weather.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the requests for slippage of £23,600 into the 2017/18 financial year for the two schemes:

- Ribblesdale Pool improvement work £16,820
- Play area improvements £6,780

## 18 MEETING WITH LCC – WASTE MANAGEMENT BEYOND 2018

The Director of Community Services reported upon a meeting he had had with Lancashire County Council's Director of Community Services and the Head of Service (Waste Management) in April 2017. At this meeting it was made very clear that the financial problems that LCC are facing are driving their policies in

relation to waste management. However it was not clear whether they had fully evaluated the possible effects of their decisions. LCC are aware that Committee is in the process of considering a suite of reports on various aspects of our refuse collection and recycling services and they have been advised that it is the intention of Committee to use these reports to inform a debate in preparation for the 2018/19 budget process. At that time Committee should be in a position to take a decision as to which measures might be introduced to mitigate the loss of funding of £430,000 per annum for recycling.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

19 PREPARATION FOR REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES FROM 2018 (REPORT 5)

The Director of Community Services submitted a report for Committee's information on the implications for the current refuse and recycling collection services following the withdrawal by Lancashire County Council of costs sharing payments from April 2018 when over £430,00 would be lost. This was the fifth report in a series of preliminary reports that would be presented to Committee. Each one focussing on a range of options available to this authority that may in part mitigate this loss of income culminating in options to be considered by Members in August. This particular report outlined options available for dealing with recyclable/compostable waste streams.

These included:

- (a) ceasing the separate collection of paper and cardboard and collecting in the burgundy wheeled bin;
- (b) adding paper and card in with the current comingled waste stream and passing on to the County Council to sort;
- (c) adding paper and cardboard in with the current comingled waste stream and sourcing directly a market for fully comingled waste;
- (d) to stop providing all the collected dry cyclate and garden waste to the County Council and source our own markets/outlets; and
- (e) changing the frequency of collection.

Without further information it was difficult to establish our legal position on several of the options covered within the report and also the extent of the savings and/or income that each option may generate. This was the final report in this series presented to Committee that would form the basis of the newly arranged Working Group to consider the options available to help mitigate the budget's shortfall due to the withdrawal of the cost sharing agreement.

Committee would be requested to determine what measures to introduce at their next meeting on 29 August 2017.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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## CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing information on the scale and range of play areas in the borough which the Council operates. The Council operates 18 play areas across the borough which are accessible by the community.

The Council does not manage or provide every play area in the Ribble Valley as there are a number provided by Town and Parish Councils, as well as some which have been incorporated into new housing developments which are the responsibility of the individual developer. There is an annual budget for the 18 play areas of £40k which covers all expenditure relating to their upkeep including inspections/maintenance, equipment replacement and enhancement. Unfortunately misuse and vandalism have play areas constitute a significant portion of the annual budget which means that it is rare for a play area to be enhanced with a new piece of equipment.

It is planned to assess the current 18 play areas and determine if they are all required in light of other play provision which might now be provided. Until that time the Council would continue to maintain and operate the 18 areas within the budget provided.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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## EVENTS ON COUNCIL OWNED LAND

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing information on the scale and range of events on Council owned land. The Council owned a number of locations where events are staged; the most popular outdoor sites are Kestor Lane Recreation Ground in Longridge and the Castle Grounds in Clitheroe. Others used are the car park at Edisford and Ribblesdale Pool. The events for the current year were listed in the report for Committee's information.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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## GENERAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Director of Community Services submitted a reporting updating Committee on the forthcoming Clitheroe Food Festival and tourism activities within the borough.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

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## REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

The meeting closed at 7.27pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact John Heap (414461).