

## **Minutes of Community Services Committee**

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 22 May 2018 starting at 6.30pm  
Present: Councillor S Hore (Chairman)

Councillors:

J E Alcock	R Newmark
A Brown	M Robinson
T Hill	I Sayers
S Hind	G Scott
S Hirst	N Walsh
J Holgate	J White
S Knox	

In attendance: Head of Cultural and Leisure Services, Head of Engineering Services, Senior Accountant.

Also in attendance: Councillor K Hind.

### 7 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor R Hargreaves.

### 8 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Head of Cultural and Leisure Services gave a brief update on the Roefield Football project.

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

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

### 10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 11 APPOINTMENT OF WORKING GROUPS 2018/2019

A report of the Chief Executive was submitted asking Committee to confirm arrangements on 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, the Waste Management Working Group and the Clitheroe Food Festival Working Group. It was felt that as the Open Space Working Group had not met for more than 2 years now, that this be mothballed at the current time.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the following working groups along with their membership.

- a) Grants Working Group  
Councillors R Newmark, S Hirst, A Brown and M Robinson
- b) Car Park Working Group  
Councillors S Hore, T Hill, R Newmark and A Knox
- c) Waste Management Working Group  
Councillors S Hore, I Sayers, J Alcock and A Knox
- d) Clitheroe Food Festival Working Group  
Councillor S Hore, K Hind, S Hind, I Brown and A Knox

12

#### KESTOR LANE, LONGRIDGE

The Director of Community Services submitted a report at the request of the Leader and past Chairman of this Committee setting out the advantages and disadvantages of entering into an agreement with Fields in Trust (FIT) for Kestor Lane recreation ground in Longridge. Councillor K Hind was given permission to speak on this item on behalf of the Longridge Councillors and urged the Committee to agree to approve an agreement with the FIT to ensure that the recreation ground remains protected and can be dedicated in November by the Mayor to the Fallen of World War I.

The Head of Cultural and Leisure Services outlined the background to this request in that following the application by the Berry Lane Medical Centre to purchase some of the play area for their extension that was turned down by the Council, it was felt that this recreation ground should be protected in the future. FIT is a non-accountable charitable body and their purpose is to protect playing fields where they are in danger of being sold off for development and no replacement or enhancement is provided. However, then the control of the land moves from the Council to a third party, although the freehold to the land is retained. Sport England is the statutory body who must be consulted if planning permission is sought for development on existing playing fields.

The proposal for Kestor Lane recreation ground to become a FIT site would require the Council to enter into a legal agreement which gives them an equitable interest in the land which then means that any future proposals for the land including enhancement for the purposes for which it is used, have to be approved by FIT even though the land is owned by the Council. The Council could however dedicate the land and/or rename it to commemorate the ending of World War I without entering into a FIT agreement.

Members discussed the ramifications of entering into a FIT agreement and felt that at this stage it was an unnecessary level of bureaucracy when the recreation ground could be dedicated without doing it, although it was agreed that it would give some level of reassurance to the people of Longridge.

RESOLVED: That

1. Committee agree to dedicate the Kestor Lane recreation ground in Longridge to the Fallen of World War I culminating in an event in November 2018;
2. Committee seek formal comment from Longridge Town Council regarding both the proposed dedication and any possible alternative agreement; and
3. a full report be submitted to this Committee outlining other legal alternatives for protecting the recreation ground, the pros and cons of entering into a FIT or other agreement and further details about the FIT agreement.

13 HENTHORN ROAD YOUTH SHELTER

The Director of Community Services submitted a report following up one which Members of this Committee considered in January 2018 where it recommended that further information be brought back in six months to Committee for a decision regarding the problems associated with the youth shelter on Henthorn Road and whether it should be removed.

Discussions had taken place with LCC who, over a period of months, had monitored use of the shelter. Although there is some youth work at the Zone in Clitheroe, this does not include outreach work at the shelter. The monitored use of the shelter by LCC showed no evidence of serious misbehaviour and Members felt that if this youth shelter was removed, then the problem of anti-social behaviour would move somewhere else and perhaps be nearer to the small children's play area at the top of Henthorn Park. It was suggested that the Clitheroe Town Council Lengthsman could do extra to help in the cleaning up of this shelter. It was also felt that should the shelter be removed, it would be a negative message to young people.

RESOLVED: That Committee agree to retain the shelter on Henthorn Road, Clitheroe.

14 FIRE PROTECTION WORKS – LONGRIDGE DEPOT

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Committee of the remedial works required after recent fire risk assessments at Longridge Depot and over 60's club. The significant works required are classed as statutory works and as such must be undertaken to ensure the safety of the general public and the Council's own employees. Responsibility for the Longridge Depot falls under this Committee and responsibility for the Longridge over 60's club falls under Policy and Finance Committee so a separate report would be prepared in respect of that property for their approval. The required works for the Longridge Depot totalled £8,180 and would need a supplementary estimate approving from Policy and Finance Committee.

RESOLVED: That Committee recommend to Policy and Finance Committee approval of a supplementary estimate of £8,180 for the fire protection works at Longridge Depot.

15 EDISFORD RIVERBANK

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing information on the control of both parking and open fires at Edisford Riverbank. The riverbank area is very popular with residents and visitors to the area, especially in good weather. The area is a large open space with a children's' play area, miniature railway, public toilets, ice-cream concession, benches and picnic tables.

During peak periods it becomes full leading to people parking along the road and although vehicle access to the riverbank itself is restricted to authorised vehicles and blue badge holders, whenever the gate is left open, other people drive down on to the riverbank area. Open fires in the form of BBQs have become popular with the sale of disposable units allowing people to take them to the riverbank area. These are placed directly on the grass or occasionally on to the park furniture which becomes a fire hazard.

Although it was felt that the control of vehicle access would be better achieved through installing an automatic barrier, there was currently no provision in the revenue budget for this project. Continuing to use the padlocked gate with a new parking order for the whole area including the grass would give authority to fine people for parking on the grassed area. This was a 12 week process and therefore larger signage to warn people about unauthorised parking would help in the short term.

The control of open fires was more problematical although the Council could erect signs to prohibit their use which would require a bye-law to have the force of law behind it and subsequent enforcement action.

RESOLVED: That Committee agree

1. to the designation of the grassed area by the riverbank at Edisford as restricted with no parking allowed; and
2. to the installation of signs asking people not to use BBQs or open fires at Edisford riverbank.

16 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2017/2018

The Director of Resources submitted a report reviewing the final outturn of the 2017/2018 capital programme for this Committee and to seek approval for the slippage of some capital scheme budgets from the 2017/2018 financial year to the 2018/2019 financial year. 6 of the 11 capital programme schemes approved were completed in year and there were no overspends against the revised revenue budgets set for those schemes. However, 5 schemes were not completed in 2017/2018 and would require approval to slip into 2018/2019.

The Head of Cultural and Leisure Services informed Committee about a replacement vehicle swap that was also required but this would be subject of a report to Policy and Finance Committee for their approval.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the request for slippage of £93,320 into the 2018/2019 financial year for the 5 schemes:

- Play area improvements - £12,939
- Off-street car parks update of payment systems £16,340
- Castle Museum refurbishment of windows £36,000
- Replacement pick-up vehicles - £21,589
- Ribblesdale Pool improvement works - £6,449

17 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2018/2019

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Members of the Outside Bodies that are under the remit of the Community Services Committee and their councillor representation. It was noted that the Lancashire Tourism Forum was no longer in existence and that Roefield's Articles of Association currently only allow for 2 Ribble Valley Borough Council representatives.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

18 UPDATE ON CLITHEROE FOOD FESTIVAL 2018

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing Committee with an update on progress for the planning of the Clitheroe Food Festival for 2018. The report outlined the number of stallholders who have signed up along with the sponsorship deals that had been obtained. The notes of the Food Festival Working Group from 28 February and 20 April 2018 were included for Committee's information.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

19 COMMUNITY TOILET SCHEME REVIEW

The Director of Community Services submitted a report looking at current issues affecting the Ribble Valley Community Toilet Scheme. The scheme had been a success over the last 7 years so it was proposed that the scheme continues and operates in the same manner as it currently does with no specific changes. Some of the premises had requested new stickers to display in their windows. It was proposed to review the scheme again in 3 years' time.

20 PURCHASE OF SECOND HAND VEHICLE - EXEMPTION TO CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Committee of an approval to make an exemption to contract procedure rules in order to be able to purchase a second hand refuse collection vehicle. Normally when a new vehicle is being purchased, contract procedure rules dictate that a procurement

exercise is entered into resulting in a number of tenders being submitted. When purchasing second hand there would only normally be one supplier that would have a suitable vehicle so the normal procedure could not be followed. The application for an exemption to contract procedure rules had been approved by the Director of Resources and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services as standing orders dictate.

An order had been placed for a 2011 Dennis Elite 2 6 x 2 rear steer narrow chassis with OL16N body open back from Dennis Eagle Manchester.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

21 GENERAL REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report updating Members on the sale of Peel Street car park, the increasing incidents of fly-tipping and the developing Artwalk in Clitheroe.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

22 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the following item of business being exempt information under Category 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

23 SWIMMING LESSONS AT RIBBLESDALE POOL

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Members of the difficulties being encountered in the recruitment of swimming teachers at Ribblesdale Pool and to provide an update on the latest recruitment approach being taken. Approval was sought from Members on the new provision of parent and child swimming lessons through an income share agreement with a third party provider.

RESOLVED: That Committee agree to parent and child swimming lessons being provided potentially through an income share agreement with an external provider subject to following contract procedure rules.

The meeting closed at 7.43pm.

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