

## Minutes of Community Services Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 4 September 2018, starting at 6.30pm  
Present: Councillor S Hore (Chairman)

Councillors:

J E Alcock	R Newmark
A Brown	M Robinson
R Hargreaves	G Scott
S Hind	N Walsh
S Hirst	J White
S Knox	

In attendance: Director of Community Services, Head of Engineering Services, Head of Cultural and Leisure Services, Director of Resources, Principal Accountant.

Also in attendance: Councillor M Fenton, Councillor K Hind.

### 205 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors J Holgate, I Sayers and R Thompson.

### 206 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

Councillor S Knox and M Robinson declared an interest in Agenda item 7 – Ribble Valley in Bloom and Christmas Light Grants and Councillors M Robinson and R Newmark declared an interest in Agenda item 8 – Roefield Football Project.

### 208 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman welcomed four people to take part in the public participation item.

Mr Gary Lane, a Trustee of the Ribble Valley Community Sports Trust spoke on Agenda item 8, the Roefield Football Project. He informed Committee that the Ribble Valley Community Sports Trust were grateful for the offer from the Lancaster Foundation towards the proposed project as he felt it couldn't happen without them. The proposed project was looking to improve pitch provision, especially all-weather, and as there was no budget available from RVBC it was an important offer. The project would be self-supporting with a no-risk rent to RVBC and additional car park income.

Mr Geoff Carefoot spoke on Agenda item 9, Kestor Lane Recreation Ground, Longridge and referred to the recreation ground being a memorial to those fallen in World War I and the need for it to be protected. He informed Committee it was

suites to Fields in Trust Centenary Status and that the Longridge Town Council were unanimous in their support for this option.

Mr Charles Carefoot also spoke on this Agenda item and referred to the strength of feeling from Longridge people about any building on this site and the fact that it needs some form of permanent protection. He appealed for the wishes of the Longridge Town Council regarding Fields in Trust Status to be respected.

Steve Ashcroft, a member of the Longridge Town Council, reminded Committee that they had already decided to dedicate the land to World War I but not under the Fields in Trust Centenary Fields initiative. He informed Committee that the Longridge Town Council were unanimous in their support of the Fields in Trust option and encouraged the Committee to apply for this as soon as possible.

The Chairman thanked all the public participants for attending the meeting.

209 REVISITING MEMBER/OFFICER PROTOCOL

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Members to take a re-look at the Member/Officer Protocol. One of the recommendations of the Peer Challenge Review was that the Council should revisit this Member/Officer Protocol as an opportunity to make suggestions as to how the Protocol could be strengthened or improved.

RESOLVED: That Committee make no changes to the Member/Officer Protocol at this time.

210 THE FUTURE OF BRING SITES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report asking Committee to consider the future of Council Bring Sites in the borough. These are areas in car parks and on streets, at which the Local Authorities or third parties provide containers for the public to deposit recyclable materials.

There are presently 15 Council operated Bring Sites in the Ribble Valley that have suffered some problems such as fly tipping, vandalism or illegal deposit of trade waste. The Council have operated the sites to promote recycling in the borough, however since the introduction of kerbside recycling 97% of residents now have access to recycling at home.

Members discussed the Bring Sites and felt that it was important that the Parish Councils involved be consulted upon this issue before any decision was taken.

RESOLVED: That Committee defer the decision to remove the Council operated Bring Sites until the Parish Councils involved have been consulted and that report be brought back to Committee in due course.

(Councillors S Knox and M Robinson left the meeting)

211 RIBBLE VALLEY IN BLOOM AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS GRANTS

The Director of Community Services submitted a report presenting the recommendations of the Working Group in relation to the allocation of granted

under Ribble Valley in Bloom and requesting delegation of the allocation of grants under the Christmas Lights Scheme.

The Grants Working Group had met in June to consider the applications made for Ribble Valley in Bloom grants and recommendations had been made to the five applicants.

The applications for Christmas Lights grants would be held in abeyance until late October at which point the Working Group would meet to consider those received.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. endorse the allocations by the Working Group as outlined in relation to Ribble Valley in Bloom grants and approve delegation of the same in the future; and
2. delegate to the Director of Community Services in consultation with the Grants Working Group the allocation of Christmas Lights grants in due course.

(Councillor S Knox returned to the meeting. Councillor R Newmark left the meeting)

## 212 EDISFORD ARTIFICIAL PITCH PROPOSAL

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing Committee with information on a revised financial offer from the Lancaster Foundation and Clitheroe Wolves Football Club to lease land from the Council to build an artificial pitch area on the Council's existing ATP and the adjacent grass pitches and cricket wicket.

The report reminded Committee that on 13 March 2018 they had agreed a revised project proposal from the Lancaster Foundation and Clitheroe Wolves FC whereby they would create a new charity and the Lancaster Foundation would fully fund two areas of ATP. One essentially covering the Council's existing site and an adjacent full size pitch, both to be operated independently of the Council by a new charitable body. In leasing the land on which this would be built, the Lancaster Foundation and Clitheroe Wolves FC had proposed a cash and in-kind offer to pay £20,000 annual lease plus 10% of the available time would be given to the Council for sports development purposes. The scheme provided no additional changing rooms and no public toilets for the facility.

Since then the Lancaster Foundation and Clitheroe Wolves FC had been working up the scheme and had now determined that the deal they had previously offered and Committee agreed to was no longer suitable to them. The revised offer being proposed is that the Council only receives £10,000 for the first year of operation payable once the facility is built and then £20,000 per annum thereafter. The 10% of slots available for sports development had been withdrawn.

Committee discussed the new offer now put forward and expressed particular concern with regard to the withdrawal of the 10% allocation of available time that the Council would use for sports development purposes. There was unanimous

agreement that the project remained a fantastic one and that should agreement not be able to be reached, then the Council should look at alternatives to achieve it anyway. Members considered the implications of the reduced offer and although the income had to be taken into account, there was much more concern about being able to retain the 10% time allocation to use on Council initiatives.

RESOLVED: That Committee is happy to proceed on the basis of the offer that was accepted in March and ratified by the Council in April 2018. If that offer has now been withdrawn, then Committee instruct officers to investigate alternative means of delivering a similar scheme involving a full-size 3G pitch on the same site.

(Councillor M Robinson and R Newmark returned to the meeting).

#### 213 KESTOR LANE RECREATION AREA, LONGRIDGE

The Director of Community Services submitted a report following on from the discussion at the last meeting of Committee in May 2018 that had requested the advantages and disadvantages of alternative management/ownership options for the Kestor Lane recreation ground in Longridge. At the meeting in May, it had been agreed to dedicate the Kestor Lane recreation ground site to the fallen of World War I with a dedication ceremony to take place in November 2018 and that options with regard to the actual site be subject of further information. The report outlined the advantages and disadvantages to six options which included transferring the land to the ownership of Longridge Town Council; registering the land as an Asset of Community Value; entering into a legal agreement with Fields in Trust; dedicating the land and/or renaming it to commemorate the ending of World War I; maintaining the current position or leasing the land to a Longridge community body.

Longridge Town Council had responded to Committee's request for their views by expressing a clear preference for entering into a legal agreement with Fields in Trust and in particular as a Centenary Field. Committee considered the various options outlined in the report and felt it was important to recognise the area as a war memorial.

RESOLVED: That Committee agreed to RVBC entering into a legal agreement with Fields in Trust for the Kestor Lane recreation area, Longridge as a Centenary Field.

#### 214 JUNIOR PARK RUN

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing an update and review on the Clitheroe Castle Junior Park Run. Committee had agreed to give the Clitheroe Castle Junior Park Run permission to operate for a period of 12 months after which it would be reviewed. The report outlined some of Clitheroe Castle Junior Park Runs achievements during their operation and noted that it was a popular event.

RESOLVED: That Committee authorises the Director of Community Services to formally write to Clitheroe Castle Junior Park Run organisers to extend their permission to use the Clitheroe Castle grounds indefinitely unless any problems are experienced.

215 REVENUE OUTTURN 2017/2018

The Director of Resources submitted a report for Committee's information on the outturn for the 2017/2018 financial year in respect of the revenue budget for this Committee. The report showed the overall spend of this Committee by cost centre compared to the revised estimate and details of variances.

She highlighted that the most concerning area of overspend had been in relation to refuse vehicle repairs and maintenance. Work was ongoing monitoring the level of spend in this area in the 2018/2019 financial year with reports being submitted monthly to CMT. Budget Working Groups have also received reports on the issue.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

216 REVENUE MONITORING 2018/2019

The Director of Resources submitted a report updating Members on the position for the period April to July 2018 of this year's revenue budget as far as this Committee was concerned. The report outlined by cost centre a comparison between actual expenditure and the original estimate for the period to the end of July and highlighted the variations along with the budget holder's comments and agreed action plans.

The Director of Resources informed Committee that refuse vehicle repairs and maintenance spend for the period was currently in line with the budget, however there are concerns around income generated through the sale of waste paper and cardboard. This is due to falling market prices. The situation will continue to be monitored closely.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

217 CAPITAL MONITORING 2018/2019

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing Members with information on the progress of the approved Community Services Committee 2018/2019 capital programme for the period to the end of July 2018. The report gave a summary of the Community Committee capital programme budget expenditure to date and variances and included the full capital programme by scheme with detailed financial information and budget holder's comments. At the end of July 2018 £476,238 had been spent or committed which equated to 55.7% of the annual capital programme for this Committee.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

218 2017/2018 YEAR END PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The Director of Resources submitted a report for Members' information that detailed performance against our local performance indicators.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

219

## GENERAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report updating Committee on issues in engineering services, cultural and leisure services and the Platform Gallery and Visitor Information Centre.

A question was asked with regard to a specific session at Ribblesdale Pool which had been changed recently. Officers informed Committee that it would continue to be monitored.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

220

## REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from representatives on outside bodies.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

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