UPTON BY CHESTER AND DISTRICT



PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Upton by Chester and District Parish Council’s General Purposes and Localities Committee, held on Monday 20th November 2017, 7.00pm, at Upton Pavilion, Upton, Chester.

Present: Cllr Evans (Chairman), Cllr Bennion, Cllr Lee, Cllr M Lloyd, Cllr S Lloyd,

Cllr Samuel and Cllr Walmsley.

In attendance: Suzi Pollard (Clerk) and Darren Flaherty (Pavilion Supervisor).

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Southward.

**Resolved: noted.**

Cllr Samuel

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No declarations of interest were made.

**3. CLERK’S REPORT.**

**Resolved: that the clerk will politely request that police attend Parish Council meetings when possible; alternatively they may attend General Purposes meetings. Meeting dates will be sent to Sgt Brown.**

**4. MINUTES.**

**Resolved: the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**Proposed by Cllr Walmsley, seconded by Cllr Bennion.**

**5. PAVILION SUPERVISOR’S REPORT.**

The Pavilion Supervisor reported on the following matters affecting the pavilion and QE II playing fields:

Grass cutting.

Income report.

Tennis court maintenance – rejuvenation scheme approx. £3,000.

**Resolved: that the Finance Committee will be asked to put the required funds into the budget for a deep clean.**

**6. PLAYGROUND INSPECTION REPORT.**

**Resolved: the Annual Playground Inspection Report was received and the following action was agreed:**

The Pavilion Supervisor will work through the list of repairs listed on the Annual Report.

**7. CHRISTMAS.**

The Clerk reported on the action taken so far towards a UPC Christmas event.

**Resolved: that a few members of the Buckley Brass Band will attend to play carols. Song sheets will be provided. Outdoor lighting will be hired and put in place. The singing will take place on the pavilion patio. Refreshments will be provided in the pavilion – where possible we will seek to receive donations from local supermarkets. A maximum budget of £400 will be set for this event.**

**8. WAR MEMORIAL.**

The Chairman reported that UPC has now been successful in its application for funding towards the War Memorial maintenance and repairs.

The amount awarded is not the full amount requested in the application and may only be spent on specific items detailed in the Contract Schedule.

Re-engraving of the memorial lettering and work on the memorial garden is not included.

It may be possible to re-apply for funding for engraving once other work is carried out and when photographic evidence that it is required is submitted to the War Memorial Trust.

**Resolved: the Committee will make a recommendation to the full Parish Council to provide funding for the engraving to be carried out if necessary after the cleaning work has been done. The Chairman will progress this work.**

Thanks were extended to Cllr Bennion for assisting with improved arrangements for the Remembrance Day Parade which resulted in fantastic attendance.

**9. WESTON GROVE SHOPS.**

The Parish Council has received information from the Properties Department at One Stop that confirms it will be looking for a tenant to occupy the empty retail unit at Weston Grove as soon as possible.

Resolved: that the clerk will contact Paula Maccabee of CW&C Council to discuss the potential long term impact on the empty unit.

Car parking at Weston Grove will be put onto the next agenda.

**10. DOGS ON LEADS.**

Members were asked to consider sending a letter to CW&C Council to urge them to take action in line with Cheshire East Council’s Public Space Protection Order.

(to increase dog fouling/dog control fines from £40 to £120)

**Resolved: that the clerk will write to CW&C Council to request that action is taken.**

**11. CHEMISTRY PITS.**

The Chairman of the Parish Council reported on a meeting held recently with an officer of CW&C Council regarding the pros and cons of forming a ‘friends’ group for Chemistry Pits playing field.

The clerk reported on the outcome of liaising with Chemistry Pits neighbouring residents which for various reasons has resulted in there being no apparent wish to form a ‘friends of…’ group.

It was further reported that as agreed earlier, the work to restore and repair the path, along with installing a small drainage system at Chemistry Pits, will be carried out in December.

**Resolved: the QE II sub-committee will recommend to the Full Parish Council that it moves on to consider improvements at both Chemistry Pits and Marl Heys once the current QE II project is complete.**

**12. HIGHWAYS ISSUES.**

The following highways issues were considered:

An additional street light on Alpraham Crescent was requested by residents earlier this year and rejected by CW&C Council due to financial constraints. However, it is thought that this may be re-considered.

**Resolved: that the Chairman will follow up on this matter with the CW&C Council Highways department.**

Further information on the resident request for an electronic speed sign on Long Lane was provided by Cllr Houlbrook at the full Parish Council meeting; electronic speed signs are too costly and there are alternative signs available and being considered.

The committee was asked (in order to alleviate problems experienced by residents, due to inconsiderate car parking by visitors to the Countess of Chester Hospital) to consider requesting that CW&C Highways applies waiting restrictions (in the form of double yellow lines) to specific areas at the Bache Hall Estate.

**Resolved: that the Chairman will request that waiting restrictions are applied.**

**13. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

**Resolved: the date and time of the next meeting will be on Monday 8th January 2018 at 7.00pm.**