

**CHATTERIS TOWN COUNCIL  
LEISURE AND GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP**

**Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

**Present:** Cllr J Smith (Chairman), L Ashley, J Carney and W Haggata.

**L58 17/18 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs J Burrow, A Hay and F Newell sent apologies for absence.

**L59 17/18 Any Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of the Group & FDC Update**

L50) FDC: Mr Bob Ollier had updated the Clerk on FDC's position. A couple of hours he had earlier confirmed that approval had been given for funding of £18,234.16 to be released from Section 106 funds to:

- 1) Clear and re-seed the site at Little Acre Fen and install the long footpath and two bollards;
- 2) Replace the goal posts on the green at Tithe Road;
- 3) Clear and re-seed the open area at the rear of the Parish Church;
- 4) Refurbish the sign for the area at the rear of the Parish Church;
- 5) Refurbish the pathway at the front of the Parish Church leading to the Church door;

Members welcomed the good news and suggested a sign should be erected at Little Acre Fen prohibiting quad bikes and motorcycles on the land.

Mr Ollier had also outlined plans to find a company to complete tree works which had not been carried out by ISS. These included works to trees in The Elms, the felling of up to 20 dead trees in Wenny Recreation Ground and the spinney, the felling of Yew and Lime trees and works to other trees in Meeks Cemetery, the lifting of crowns on trees at Fairway football pitch and works to more trees at Gibside, Hunters Close and Farriers Gate. All works were necessary on health and safety grounds. He also promised to try and get the trees on land at the top of the Old Auction Yard cut back.

Cllr Smith asked if plans had been revealed to revamp the flower beds at Wenny Road and Station Road as the sleepers had been removed from the Station Road bed. She also asked if the fencing at Wenny Recreation Ground had been repaired.

The Clerk had received numerous complaints about the state of Little Acre Fen Drove and West Street. Farmers lifting beet had left deep ruts in the drove and deposited mud on West Street. The Clerk had attempted to raise the issue with both County Highways and the Police but both had claimed it was the others responsibility and closed the case. No-one wanted to take responsibility.

Members suggested making an official complaint to the farmer believed to be responsible for the damage. The Clerk pointed out she did not have the authority and it was agreed that the County Council should be asked to acknowledge their responsibility as the Right of Way was

no longer passable because the damage was so deep and extensive. The Clerk would also offer to meet a County officer on site to show them the problems.

Cllr Haggata said he had inspected Birch Fen Drove and the resident who had attended the Town Council meeting was quite right, it was being accessed by four wheel drive vehicles and there was a considerable amount of dumping

L51) FACT Questionnaire: With all the questionnaire answers collected Cllrs Haggata and Carney kindly agreed to meet with the Clerk the following morning to collate the answers. The Mayor and the Clerk were also due to meet with representatives from Stainless Metalcraft to discuss ideas for the planters next to the gas lamps outside the Council Chambers. It was agreed any wording should mention Chatteris and the year the gas lamps were erected and the planters should be bolted down in some way so they could not be stolen.

L54) Mooring: Cllr Carney said he had been speaking to boaters who had assured him a mooring on the Forty Foot would not be seen as too far out of town. The possibility of a mooring behind the Tesco's site was also mooted. Cllr Smith pointed out provision of any mooring was a big project which should be undertaken properly and should be looked at in the future.

#### **L60 17/18 Town Plan Report**

The Clerk had extracted all the action points raised in the Town Plan and work began on deciding who was responsible for the actions, timescales for the work and how the action points could be delivered (**see attached sheet**).

#### **L61 17/18 Plans for Annual Town Meeting 2018**

It was agreed the Annual Town Meeting should be held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May at the King Edward Centre. To encourage residents to attend tea, coffee and cakes and sausage rolls, baked by councillors and officers, would be offered.

The main focus of the meeting would be the Town Plan and how the action points were being delivered. An invitation to attend the meeting would go out to groups and businesses. Cllr Smith said she was happy to leaflet the High Street and invitations could be taken to the South Fens Business Centre.

Cllr Smith also said she was happy to help the Rotary Club with the town guide update. The Clerk agreed to pass on this offer.

**L62 17/18 Any Other Business:** There was no other business.

**L63 17/18 Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018.