

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

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 17th April 2018

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

L82 17/18 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs I Benney, A Hay and F Newell.

L83 17/18 Matters Arising from the Last Meeting

L76) FACT Bus: A meeting with FACT was being arranged for the following week.

L79) TrailTale: Cllr Smith said she was planning to download the app to decide if it would be of benefit to Chatteris.

L84 17/18 FDC Update

Mr Bob Ollier was welcomed to the meeting and updated members as follows:

Car Park – Mr Ollier said he was awaiting a price to remove vegetation from the car park at Eastwood, not to repair it. Mr Ollier suggested speaking to Mr Gary Edwards about repairs to the car park.

Little Acre Fen Pocket Park – The Clerk and Mr Ollier reported work had begun on creating the footpath which would wind through the park. Two concrete bollards had been cemented in at the Old Railway Line end of track and another had been temporarily installed at the entrance to the site. The temporary bollard would be removed when the gate was installed. The Clerk said she had two quotes for the gate. Anglian Water would be able to gain access to the site if required. The area was due for another cut and had still to be sprayed to kill the vegetation but the park was taking shape.

Meadow at rear of Parish Church – The vegetation had been 75% killed off but required another spraying. Mr Ollier said he would arrange the release of funds to enable the laying of the slabs and the installation of the picnic bench.

Meeks Cemetery – The gates were being repaired. Mr Ollier was awaiting a quote to cut back the hedge between the cemetery and the doctors' surgery.

Flower Beds - The sign on the approach to Chatteris from Ely was to be re-positioned. Cllr Smith said the Station Street flower bed was a work in progress, In Bloom were awaiting funds. She encouraged everyone to vote for In Bloom's entry in the Mick George Skips of Gold competition. She also confirmed Chatteris had entered the In Bloom competition. Mr Ollier suggested entering the Pocket Park as a work in progress. He also advised people to watch a programme called "Bloomers" which was full of ideas for In Bloom features.

Cllr Smith asked when the commemorative tiles would be installed in the church grounds. She argued it was imperative they were installed in 2018 to mark the end of the First World War. Mr Ollier agreed to chase up the installation.

Wenny Recreation Ground - This had still to be sorted. The Clerk reminded Mr Ollier that a metal bench in the shelter at the recreation ground had been damaged. The Council's gardener had made a temporary repair to make it safe but it required attention.

Old Auction Yard - The work to the trees had been completed.

Cllr Carney asked who was responsible for the brown tourist signs on the approaches to Chatteris. He pointed out at least one was in a poor state and asked if Section 106 money could be used to update them. Cllr Haggata supported the idea pointing out better signs would encourage people into the town centre. There was some confusion about whether the signs were the responsibility of FDC or the County Council. Enquiries were to be made.

L85 17/18 Little Acre Fen Pocket Park Update

The Clerk said she had two quotes for the elephant gates at the park: company a) £2,950 plus VAT and company b) £3,508.75 plus VAT. She recommended accepting the quote from company a). Cllr Smith asked that before any decision was taken the Clerk check with Cllr Benney if he had obtained a cheaper quote from a Chatteris company.

Cllr Smith said it was now imperative to promote the pocket park and she kindly offered to compile a list of those who could help with the project. Cllr Carney said the schools were one possible source; Glebelands reception year had a forest school. Cllr Smith suggested a representative of Froglife and scouts and guides might be able to help. It was agreed an article should go in Centrepoin and maps should be shown at the Annual Town Meeting.

It was also agreed signs should go up stating the land belonged to Chatteris Town Council, was being developed as a pocket park, anyone disturbing the land would be charged for its re-instatement and there was no access for motor vehicles.

Cllr Smith asked if bird and bat boxes could be purchased by the Town Council and the Clerk confirmed funds existed from the money donated by the solar farm.

L86 17/18 Plans for the Annual Town Meeting

Members discussed the format of the meeting. Cllr Carney agreed to update the Powerpoint Presentation and it was agreed members would speak on subjects highlighted in the presentation. Plans were also made for members and officers to bake sausage rolls, scones and cakes as refreshments at the meeting.

L87 17/18 Any Other Business

Cllr Smith was keen to see the refurbishment of existing information boards around the town.

L88 17/18 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 8th May 2018.

