

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

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

**Present:** Cllrs J Smith (Chairman), L Ashley, A Hay and F Newell.

**L39 18/19 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs J Carney and W Haggata.

**L40 18/19 FDC Update**

Mr Bob Ollier had called in earlier in the day to give his apologies for the meeting and a brief update:

Church Meadow: He said the church meadow had been re-seeded and the Clerk informed him that the bench had been repaired by the Town Council's gardener.

Section 106: On the question of the Section 106 money given for the Larham Way play area, Mr Ollier confirmed information that had been received from Mr Phil Hughes (via Cllr Murphy) that the money could also be used for other open spaces in the town. Mr Ollier suggested part of the sum should be spent at Larham Way and local residents should be consulted on what was required – higher fencing to stop balls flying over on to the bypass or more play equipment. He also said the Council should consider where it wished to use the remaining funds.

Cllr Hay suggested a completely new and adventurous idea for the Fens – a waterjet park similar to the one on the market place at Peterborough. She suggested it could possibly be an income stream by charging people to enter.

Cllrs Ashley and Newell were excited by the idea and initially suggested the recreation grounds but eventually agreed a better location would be the Market Hill or Jubilee Gardens and there should be no charge for entry. Cllr Smith then warmed to the idea. It was agreed to look into costs.

Wenny Recreation Ground: Cllr Smith asked if the works had been carried out at the recreation ground and if the gate had been re-installed at Meeks Cemetery.

**L41 18/19 Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of the Group**

L37 Footpaths: Cllr Hay said she had handed photographs of the overgrown footpaths to the Highways Officer, Mr Les Middleton, in the hope action would be taken. The Clerk also agreed to chase it again. Cllr Smith said she had raised a complaint about the overgrown state of the roundabout near Jacks and had been given the contact details the officer who organised the adoption of roundabouts but that officer had failed to reply to emails. Cllr Smith said she would be chasing the matter again and was advised to copy in another Highways officer.

L37 Bins: The Clerk had met with FDC officers that morning to discuss the possibility of installing refuse bins at the bus stop in Bridge Street, opposite Aldi, and in Doddington Road.

There was no problem with installing a bin near the bus stop in Doddington Road but the pavement was too narrow in Bridge Street. The Clerk had been advised it would be possible to install a bin on the verge outside Aldi but queried if it would be used.

L36 Section 106: Cllr Smith said it had been suggested that section 106 funds could be used to replace brown tourist signs. The Clerk said it was unlikely this would be seen as a correct use of Section 106 funds but there might be other ways to fund the signs and she agreed to enquire about prices.

#### **L42 18/19 Little Acre Fen Pocket Park**

- a) Commemorative Trees – A quotation had been received for container grown Rowan, Hornbeam and Silver Birch trees which could be planted as commemorative trees. Prices ranged from £75 or £85 + VAT for a Sorbus (Rowan), £100.00 or £115.00 + VAT for a Carpinus betulus (Hornbeam) and £70 or £80 + VAT for a Betula pendula (Silver Birch). It was agreed the prices quoted in the agreement for a commemorative tree should also include VAT, two stakes, straps, a guard, delivery and the planting costs. Members agreed those ordering a commemorative tree should be given a choice of trees and prices.
- b) Pond – The Clerk had received one quote for creating the pond and dipping platform plus some hedging (which it was hoped would be donated). The total cost was £7,081 and the Clerk had asked another contractor to provide a quote for the pond, for comparison.
- c) Community Orchard – The Community Orchard administrator was back from holiday and had been in touch briefly. He had asked when the Council wished to plant the orchard and the Clerk had informed him winter 2018/19.
- d) Mound – The Clerk had met the contractor who was clearing and reseeded the site at Little Acre and explained how the Council wished to see the bund developed into a mound and had asked for a price for the work. The contractor had advised using the spoil from the pond to plug a gap at the end of the bund as reeds would continue to grow in the spoil. It had been agreed the drove, which ran through the site, should be levelled and re-seeded once the other works on the site were complete.
- e) Finance – Mrs Ellie Buckton had been in touch to enquire if the Council wished to apply for grant funding from Healthy Fenland for the project. The Clerk had sent the quote for the pond. Cllr Smith suggested asking if the Council could begin filling in the paperwork for a grant while it waited for the second quote. Cllr Carney had forwarded paperwork for a Grow Wild grant but the Town Council was not eligible. There was, however, still £5,683 in the solar farm fund for the Pocket Park project and of the £2,000 set aside for maintenance of the area in 2018 only £310 had been spent and that money was, therefore, available to spend on the project.

#### **L43 18/19 Town Map & Town Trail Correspondence**

The Council had been sent information from a company which produced illustrated town maps showing public footpaths, local businesses, landmarks, boundaries, etc. The cost of a map was £850, with 5 years of free upgrades. Councillors were interested in a town map but concerned by the price and wanted to know more details about the type of map which would be produced. They agreed to consider the idea again at the next meeting when more information was available.

The managing director of TrailTale had also been in contact giving an update and asking if the Council was still interested in the project. Members decided they were not interested.

#### **L44 18/19 Any Other Business**

The Clerk said she had studied the proposed Minerals and Waste Plan for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and had noted there were 12 proposed sites for sand and gravel extraction between Chatteris and Mepal plus two sites for landfill and inert recycling. All the sites would result in lorries using the A142 and lorry movements for the sites ranged from 36 to 40 a day to 458 a day. The sites would be operational from 3 to 85 years and start dates ranged from 2019 to 2030 with most being in 2019 and 2020. The Clerk warned the impact on the A142 would be enormous. She promised to draft a response to the report in time for the planning meeting and members said the response should ask what plans there were to improve the road which was a major route for Chatteris residents. The response should also point out the anaerobic digester already caused problems on the road at certain times of the year. Members suggested the MP should be copied in to the response.

#### **L45 18/19 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018.