

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

**Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Present:** Cllrs J Smith (Chairman), L Ashley, W Haggata, A Hay, J Carney, I Benny and Angela Papworth (Financial Officer)

**L77 18/19 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr F Newell and J Melton (The Clerk)

**L78 18/19 FDC Update**

No updates received

**L79 18/19 Matters Arising from the Last Meeting of the Group**

L65) Street Map: The Clerk was still waiting for instructions on the size and number of street maps required. Cllr Haggata had obtained permission from the police station to put a new map outside the building. Members agreed that 4 maps would be required, one in the library, one on the Town noticeboard, one outside the police station and one in the Council Chambers window. Cllr Haggata advised he would obtain the measurement for the map at the police station and Cllr Smith advised she would obtain the measurement of the map to go in the library. The Clerk has the measurements for the Council Chamber and the Town noticeboard maps. Members agreed that the map should not have adverts round the outside and that the Clerk should get prices for the reprinting of the map only.

L69a) Benches at Wenny Recreation Ground & Market Hill: The bench has been refitted at Market Hill but the Wenny Recreation Ground bench has not been done yet. This was supposed to have been refitted at the same time as Market Hill. The Clerk to chase FDC.

Cllr Haggata advised that the ramp to the zip wire at Wenny had been damaged. The Financial Officer advised that the Town Council Gardener reported a dangerous piece of metal sticking up from a piece of play equipment that had been removed at the Huntingdon Rd recreation ground. The Clerk to report both to FDC.

Cllr Smith advised that the Station Rd flower bed that had been planted by In Bloom had been stripped out by FDC due to a lack of communication.

Cllr Carney advised that the Royal visit at Stainless Metalcraft went extremely well.

## **L80 18/19 Little Acre Fen Pocket Park-Sign, Pond, Bins, Dry Pond/River**

Members were advised that the contractors had started the additional work on the bund making it into a taller hill in one corner.

The pond contractors had begun work on the pond area by removing the reeds and digging the pond out.

Cllr Smith advised she would get measurements for the dry pond/river so the Clerk could get quotes for the stones.

The contractors enquired where the two large tree trunks needed to be placed. Cllrs said it would be best to meet at the Pocket Park after Easter to discuss the best place for them. The Financial Officer said she would arrange a mutually convenient date and time for the meeting.

Cllrs agreed that the Clerk/Financial Officer should draft a template sign for the Pocket Park. The sign should include phrases like “welcome to, please enjoy, treat with respect, created by, maintained by volunteer group, no motorbikes, clean up after dogs, rubbish in bins.” It was agreed that the sign should be put on the gate.

Cllr Haggata said he would like to see directional signs in the Town for the Pocket Park. Proposed signs to be put at the top of the railway line, West Street and Blackmill. The Clerk to investigate.

Members agreed that two rubbish bins should be supplied, one at each end of the park. The bins should have Chatteris Town Council on them as it is the Town Council that will be paying for the bins. Cllr Hay asked how the emptying of the bins would be managed. Cllrs Smith, Haggata & Carney advised that the Friends of the Pocket Park would assist in this. The Financial Officer advised Members that she would instruct the Town Council’s Gardener to empty the bins when he is doing his weekly cutting service.

The Clerk attended the Friends of the Pocket Park meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Members were updated with items discussed at the meeting. The group have lots of good ideas and are very keen.

Cllr Carney advised Members that the group were still unsure of being a stand-alone group or a sub group of Chatteris In-Bloom. Cllr Carney offered to take on the role of Treasurer if the group decided to be a stand-alone group.

Members were unanimously against a sub group, the Pocket Park is a Chatteris Town Council project which needs the group to be a stand-alone group. Funding will be an important part of the group and as some funding will come from the Town Council it needs to be a separate entity as the Town Council fund In Bloom too.

Members discussed a Deep-water sign at the pond and also a Buoy at the edge of the pond. It was proposed that the Friends of the Pocket Park group could look into the price of a Buoy.

Members are really happy with the Friends of the Pocket Park group and advised that the Town Council will help them to implement their ideas in any way they can.

**L81 18/19 Annual Town Meeting Review**

Cllrs agreed that the meeting was well attended and went well. Cllr Smith advised it would have been better to have had a large screen for the presentation. Cllr Carney advised there is a way to do this and is something to look at for next year's meeting.

**L82 18/19 Next project**

Cllr Haggata proposed a drinking fountain in the Town, Members were not keen on this proposal. Cllr Carney proposed an electric hook up in the Town. He advised that Chatteris would be the first Fenland Town to have one. Cllr Smith said it is the future and there should be funding available for this type of project. She advised Members that she would look into other Parish and Town Councils who have an electric hook up and ask their opinions and experiences of having one in their village/town.

Cllr Benny advised Members that the Empress building is for sale. This could mean that Chatteris may be without a swimming pool if the building is sold. All Members were aware of this, however, they agreed it was pointless discussing any future projects such as a swimming pool until the new council was in post and the Empress building was sold.

**L83 18/19 Questionnaires**

Members completed a Cambridgeshire County Council Highways Stakeholder Survey.

In the additional comments box, they advised that the Town Council was dissatisfied with the way the LHI scheme is scored.

**L84 18/19 Any Other Business**

Cllr Smith asked what was happening with the Town Guide reprint as they had received no updates on its progress.

The Clerk to chase and advise at the next meeting.

**L85 18/19 Date of Next Meeting**

Members agreed to set the date of the next Leisure meeting at the May full council meeting.