

## KNUTSFORD TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment Committee held on 17 October 2011

#### **EC11/0055 PRESENT**

Cllr Mrs J Nicholson (Chair)  
Cllr T Dean  
Cllr Mrs B Emmett  
Cllr S Gardiner  
Cllr C Nicholson  
Cllr P Coan  
Cllr Ms B Coan  
Cllr Mrs V Davies  
Cllr A Malloy

#### *Also in attendance*

S McQuade, Town Clerk  
Ms D Smith, Town Centre Manager (Until the end of minute EC11/0060)

#### **EC11/0056 APOLOGIES**

Cllr S Hutchence

#### **EC11/0057 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

#### **EC11/0058 MINUTES**

The Town Clerk apologised to members for the problems in the postal delivery of the papers for the meeting.

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2011 be accepted without amendment.

#### **EC11/0059 TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE FROM THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SUB COMMITTEE**

Cllr B Coan reported that the scheduled meeting had been postponed and was now scheduled for 25 October.

#### **EC11/0060 TO NOTE A REPORT FROM THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGER**

Members received a report from the Town Centre Manager and asked for action in relation to:

- 1) The control of flyposting and banners.
- 2) Enforcement of advertising board controls.
- 3) The provision of new or replacement litter bins. Advice on the possibility of a sponsorship scheme requested.
- 4) Traffic speed controls.
- 5) Repair of footway on Regent Street.
- 6) Various repairs to walls, streetlights and other infrastructure.

Cllr Gardiner offered to meet senior officers at Cheshire East Council to make the argument for sufficient budget allocation to ensure standards are maintained or improved.

Discussion took place with regard to the notice boards outside the Council Offices, various possibilities were proposed and the Town Centre Manager would investigate further the options that are available and whether a public information

board could be installed in the centre of Town.

**EC11/0061 TO NOTE ANY ACTION OR CORRESPONDANCE RELATING TO SPARROW LANE**

No further updates had been received and Members asked that the item appear on the January agenda.

**EC11/0062 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON EMBRACE THE GAMES**

Cllr Dean provided an update on the event which will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> October between 11am and 4pm. The working group would also meet to discuss the longer term activities including the mini Olympics next year.

Members agreed that the members on the working group should remain as Cllrs Davies, Dean, B Coan and C Nicholson.

**EC11/0063 DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

A number of options were considered to celebrate the Jubilee which were:

- 1) The installation of a Jubilee Gate to the Moor and possible funding options.
- 2) Participation in the national 'Big Picnic' event.
- 3) Distribution of mugs to primary age school children.
- 4) Support for the scouts participation in the beacon relay.

**Resolved:** To defer matters to future meetings to allow consideration of budgetary implications and for Members to gather further information on the options.

**Resolved:** Cllr J Nicholson to arrange for the scouts District Commissioner to attend a future meeting.

**EC11/0064 MILLENIUM WOOD**

The Chairman drew attention to contact with the Tatton Estate in connection with the wood and that a visit would be made with the Tatton Rangers. The Estate had advised that the wood would require various works that may become chargeable in the next 2 or 3 years. Further information was expected to be available following the Chairman's visit to the wood.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk seeks to identify from the records what the liability is for the Council in respect of this matter.

**EC11/0065 MILLENIUM TAPESTRY**

Cllr Davies declared an interest as a Friend of the Heritage Centre.

The tapestry had become damaged by a beetle infestation and may require work to repair and prevent future damage. Members were broadly in favour of doing what was possible to support the works, but asked that the Clerk clarify a few matters in relation to the tapestry.

**Resolved:** To refer the matter to F&GP Committee as any support may incur future cost.

**EC11/0066 APPOINTMENT OF WALLWOOD TRUSTEES**

It was reported that one trustee was now deceased and the other was no longer on the Council. Cllr P Coan and Cllr Stewart expressed a willingness to put their names forward as Trustees but required more information as to the duties and potential liabilities.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk investigate matters with regard to an item being placed on a future Town Council agenda.

**EC11/0067 JUBILEE GATE PROPOSAL**

The item was discussed as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebration discussions.

**EC11/0068 TO CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF TWO SEATS IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE COUNCIL BY MISS J HOLBROOK AND MR W HAMMAN**

**Resolved:** That both former councillors be asked if they had a preference for the location of the benches and that the benches be purchased and installed at those locations where possible. In the event that for a variety of reasons the choice of location was not possible then an alternative location was to be identified and the benches installed.

At this point Cllr P Coan had to leave the meeting due to business commitments.

**EC11/0069 TO CONSIDER BUDGET HEADERS WITHIN THE REMIT OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Members reviewed some basic information prepared by the Clerk that showed the budget and spend to date. Members were asked to consider the budgetary requirements for 2012/13 in order that F&GP Committee could build these figures into their recommendations to Council on setting the precept.

Funding arrangements for Knutsford in Bloom were discussed following contact from the group suggesting an alternative funding mechanism.

Cllr J Nicholson outlined possible funding requirements for the Community Payback Scheme to undertake work to keep clean the Town's ginnels and alleys. This would simply amount to the Council covering the costs of transport on each visit.

**Resolved:** That the funding mechanism request be referred to F&GP Committee for consideration.

**Resolved:** That the Chairman of Environment Committee confirm the costs of any future arrangements on Community Payback and also look into any other potential liabilities for the Council.

**Resolved:** That Cllrs J Nicholson, Dean and the Chairman of F&GP together with the Clerk review the financial information to aid understanding of finance requirements for 2012/13.

**EC11/0070 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on 21 November 2011.

**COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**