

Knutsford Town Council

Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green

Council Offices, Toft Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 6TA

01565 653929 www.knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

townclerk@knutsfordtowncouncil.gov.uk



Minutes

of the

Environment and General Purposes Committee meeting held 19th November 2018

In the Lower Council Chamber of the Town Council Offices

- EGP18/056 Present**
Cllrs Power, Nicholson, Beswick, Coan, Hutchence, Malloy and Wells-Bradshaw.

In attendance: S Morgan (*Deputy Town Clerk*)
- EGP18/057 To receive apologies for absence**
All members were present
- EGP18/058 To note declarations of members' interests**
Cllr Malloy declared in interest in the Friends of the Moor item as a Committee member of the group.
- EGP18/059 Public Participation**
No members of public wished to speak
- EGP18/060 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2018**
It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes
- EGP18/061 To consider the committee budget and spending to date**
The budget and spending to date was noted.
It was requested that the cost of the repairs to the civic regalia be checked. The overspend on the cycle map was explained to be offset by sponsorship.
- EGP18/062 To consider a report from the Friends of the Moor**
Cllr Malloy spoke about the bulb planting that has taken place and also about the 2018 award of the Green Flag. which is an international mark of quality for parks and green spaces. It is anticipated that Friends of the Moor and Knutsford in Bloom will work in partnership to replant the meadow, with assistance from ANSA. It was highlighted that group is looking for more volunteers to join.
- EGP18/063 To consider a report from Friends of the Heath**

It was pointed out that the protocol for the use of the Heath was provided by the Friends group and not the Council.

Cllr Malloy provided an update having attended a positive meeting with the group and the landowner representative last week. The landowner has taken the proposed

protocol document to consider and clarify the position re the legal status of the land.

It is hoped that the Friends of the Heath will meet on a regular basis (3 – 4 times a year) to discuss event proposals and maintenance. Assistance will be offered in determining whether events are major, minor and acceptable for the space, if required.

EGP18/064 To consider matters related to Knutsford in Bloom¹

Cllr Power explained that he had attended a meeting regarding Knutsford in Bloom, and that there is a void in who is steering the group, with no volunteers wishing to take on the positions.

It was requested that thanks to the outgoing Chair, Treasurer and Secretary to be recorded in the minutes.

Concerns about resources were raised in relation to the option of dissolution of the group and custodianship received support as a temporary way forward for the group

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the custodianship option for the group, with Cllr Nicholson as Chairperson and the Town Clerk as treasurer.

This will be reviewed at the Environment Committee in March 2019

EGP18/065 To review feedback from the Cheshire Community Pride Awards

The feedback was reviewed and noted, with mentions being given to the empty plots for consideration for next year's entry and positive feedback on the bunting.

The Deputy Town Clerk also highlighted the Little Gem Community Pride Award that was given to the cricket pavilion alongside the 2nd place for Knutsford in the Market Town category.

It was requested that thanks be recorded to the Deputy Town Clerk for the community pride competition entry (re feedback received on clarity of entry) and the portfolio for North West in Bloom.

EGP18/066 To consider matters related to the Chelford Road Obelisk

The obelisk was discussed with background being given on the origin of the stone used to build the tower and how the tower was brought to the attention of the Council

Concerns re claims to the land were raised as it is currently unregistered, however it was considered important to improve this area and obelisk for a number of reasons, including highway safety.

The meeting was adjourned to allow a member of public to address the committee. It was advised that road works were taking place and may be affecting the foundations of the structure.

¹ Cllr Hutchence arrived during this item

The meeting was reconvened, and it was **RESOLVED** to support the improvements of this area and obelisk, subject to the approval of costs to undertake the works following an initial assessment of the area and structure by the Town Ranger.

EGP18/067 To consider the draft committee budget 2019/2020

Watering costs were raised as an area to review, due to the knowledge of other towns providing their own water bowsers to save funds. It was advised that comparative quotes could be sought.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the proposed budget.

EGP18/068 Member questions to the Clerk

Locations for the Manchester Airport oak trees were discussed, with suggestions given for Higher Town Green and Richmond Hill. Locations already agreed were given by the Deputy Town Clerk.

EGP18/069 To consider the town maintenance log

It was requested that contact is made with the CEC Councillors to communicate extreme concern re worn lines on Canute Place crossing and raise to portfolio holder in light of the recent accident.

Tatton Street – raised as a priority as people are driving on the pavement due to poor flow of traffic. The pavement is wide but cannot be narrowed due to utilities. It is considered that raising the road would be more cost effective. It was suggested that bollards, bins or planters be considered to prevent driving on the pavement with a preference for planters, if suitable. It was requested that a report outlining suggestions be brought to the next meeting.

It was also requested that completed items be removed from the log.

EGP18/070 To consider the actions log

It was requested that completed actions be removed from the log with the River Lily bridge item remaining on until further action.

It was also requested the Tour of Britain legacy project to be added back to the log and that item EGP18/007 is followed up for further clarification on the replacement policy for trees that are removed.

EGP18/071 To note the date of the next meeting

The date was noted.