

RESOLVED: that members of the Town Council accept the invitation to meet with young people at The Hub.

RESOLVED: that the Acting Clerk make enquiries about setting up a Youth Council.

RESOLVED: that photographs be taken of the damage to the play areas and that this information be shared with Congleton Borough Council and the Police at a forthcoming PCSO Review meeting.

RESOLVED: that Congleton Borough Council be asked to provide a timetable of their planned works to refurbish the play areas.

3. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Chairman of the Council updated members on the current position. He explained that through the white paper 'Stronger and Safer Communities', Town and Parish Councils will be encouraged to take greater responsibility for service provision within their areas. Cheshire County Council has responded to the white paper with a bid for unitary authority; the response from Central Government is expected on 22 March. Should the response be positive then it is likely we will enter into a consultation period and it was agreed that Sandbach Town Council should be considering the implications and formulating a response.

RESOLVED: that a Working Group be formed comprising of the Cllrs Moran, Scragg, Darnes, Sherman and Sutton. Their remit is to engage with Cheshire County Council and Congleton Borough Council over the Local Government Reorganisation.

RESOLVED: that the Working Group's terms of reference be reviewed by Sandbach Town Council on 8 May 2007.

4. THE VISION OF SANDBACH

The Chairman of the Council referred to the draft document which was considered at the last Quality Committee meeting and subsequently suspended. It is felt that the content of the document could form the basis for the Local Government Reorganisation work as detailed at 3 above.

RESOLVED: that an item be included on the next Quality Committee agenda.

RESOLVED: that a Working Group be formed comprising the same members as the Local Government Reorganisation Working Group.

5. LIVERPOOL YEAR OF CULTURE

Cllr Sutton detailed the 2008 plans of both the Sandbach in Bloom and the Transport Festival committees; both ventures are supported by Congleton Borough Council. The general plan is to further develop what is already in place and to host a two day event in April 2008. It is hoped that Sandbach Town Council will offer both financial and physical support to make 2008 an exceptionally good year.

RESOLVED: that Cllr Sutton's report be received.

6. NEWSLETTER

The Chairman of the Quality Committee presented the final version and it was confirmed that approval to print has been given to Impressions of Sandbach. The newsletter will be distributed by the Sandbach Directory during March and

April. Members were asked to be proactive in passing information to the Clerk's office for inclusion in the next edition which needs to be printed by 30 June.

RESOLVED: that a copy of the newsletter be sent to the Talking Newspaper.

RESOLVED: that a copy be sent to each member of Sandbach Town Council.

7. QUALITY STATUS

The aim of Sandbach Town Council is to become a Quality Council, it is hoped that this can be achieved before the end of 2007. Becoming a Quality Council will enable Sandbach Town Council to take responsibility for service delivery as detailed in the local government white paper 'Stronger and Safer Communities'. The Acting Town Clerk has made little progress with her AQA portfolio due to recently increased work pressures; however she remains committed to achieving the qualification as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: that the document 'Review of Quality Status' as prepared by the Clerk be presented at the next Quality Committee meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Review of the Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme

RESOLVED: that the letter become a consideration for the Local Government Reorganisation working group.

9. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Quality Committee Meeting is scheduled to be held at 7.15 pm. on 14 June 2007 at the Sandbach Literary Institution. This date is yet to be confirmed.

Meeting closed: 9.47pm

P Darnes
Chairman – Quality and Project Committee

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