

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held at 7.00pm on Thursday, 13 June 2019 at the Sandbach Literary Institution, Hightown.

PRESENT Councillors: K Flavell
 M Muldoon (Town Mayor)
 G Merry
 R Hoffmann
 D Jack
 M Lea
 S Broad
 L Crane
 G Price Jones

Also present were two members of the public and press.

1. COMMITTEE CHAIR

Resolved: that Cllr Flavell be appointed as Chair of the Committee.

2. COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR

Resolved: that Cllr Jack be appointed as Vice Chair of the Committee

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chair adjourned the meeting to allow questions from members of the public.

A Sandbach Resident raised several queries:

- Why is there a proposal to make the Tidy Town Working Group a sub-Committee?
 The meeting Clerk confirmed this was a request deferred to the Committee from the AGM; as a result of receiving no nominations for a Lead Member of the working group it was agreed that a sub-committee be proposed.
- For organisations seeking grants and funding, following recent Council review of process, will copies of the group's annual financial statements be acceptable?
 The meeting chair confirmed this would be acceptable.

- Can it be clarified exactly what role of Council's representatives on outside bodies is? For example, do they report back to council? How frequently? Can something be written to explain the role for Councillors?
- Following Council resolution regarding grants and funding to outside bodies, what plans are in place to inform the relevant groups of this new level of scrutiny and of the requirement for groups requesting funds above £3,000 to engage a Council representative?
- Clarification of specific difference between grant and sponsorship was sought – if the funding process is now to be revised for groups who have, in previous years, received funds without application requirement, the new process requires clarification for these groups.
- Over the past three years, which groups receiving funds have presented accounts to the Council via the Town Clerk and have those records been passed on to the relevant Council or Committee meeting? If not, why not?
- Website progress?
Meeting Clerk confirmed the final documents are being uploaded and it is hoped the site will soon 'go live' and that Council can begin the process of testing the site through regular use, updating and amending by Council Staff as needed.

The resident was thanked for his queries and informed that any suggestions and questions the Committee had been unable to answer this evening would be referred to the Town Clerk for response.

The meeting was reconvened.

5. COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference and requested item 2.4 (PCSO SLA) is removed as the SLA document is no longer used.

Resolved: that the Terms of Reference are approved, subject to deletion of item 2.4.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Correction noted for agenda item 8, amending 'Lights' Committee to 'Transport Festival' Committee.

Resolved: that subject to typo correction above, the minutes of the meeting held 7 March 2019 are approved as a true record.

7. MATTERS ARISING

7.1 Town Council

Lead: Committee Chair

During review of the Tidy Town Terms of Reference it was requested that the Town Ranger be invited to join the group. Councillors Merry, Broad and L Crane volunteered as sub-committee members and it was requested that an invitation be circulated to all Councillors and original working group volunteer representatives.

Resolved: That:-

- i. That the Tidy Town Working Group become a Tidy Town Sub Committee of the Community & Environment Committee.
- ii. Subject to update of Membership to include Town Ranger, The Tidy Town Sub-Committee Terms of Reference to be reviewed are agreed
- iii. All Council members are to receive an invitation to join the Tidy Town Sub-Committee, along with the Town Ranger and existing list of outside body and volunteer group representatives.

8. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

[Attached: Support Officer Report]

Lead: Committee Chair

Resolved: that:-

- i. The report is received.
- ii. The item is deferred to the Assets and Services Committee, to enable the matter to be moved forward as soon as prices are received by the Support Officer.

9. RECYCLING FACILITY

Lead: Assistant Town Clerk

Following receipt of correspondence at the last Community and Environment meeting, a verbal update on the possible siting of recycling bins within Sandbach Park was received. Costs were confirmed for purchase, installation and regular collection of the refuse and, following recent trial schemes in neighbouring Towns, feedback was provided. Unfortunately, the trials all reported inability to recycle most of the waste due to contamination where items were mixed within the wrong compartments of the bin.

Resolved: the recycling query be deferred to the Tidy Town Sub-Committee for review.

10. TOWN HALL PANTOMIME

Lead: Committee Chair

Resolved: expenditure of £1480+vat is approved for the annual Town Hall pantomime; this cost will be covered through ticket sales.

11. HANGING BASKETS

Lead: Assistant Town Clerk

The meeting Clerk advised members that, following receipt of a recent hanging basket query, an audit of all Town baskets will be undertaken, in due course. Following this review a plan to provide an appropriate balance of hanging baskets throughout the Town, along with pricing, will be proposed at the next meeting for inclusion in the 2020/21 budget setting.

Resolved: Results of the basket audit and proposed costings to be presented to the next meeting of the Community and Environment Committee.

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Hanging Baskets
Events Update Report (Fun day and Party in the Park)
Review of confirmed plans for Market Town Festival
Youth Engagement Working Group Update/Report
Wheelie Bin Stickers
Town Ranger welcome.
Website

13. DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Thursday, 5 September 2019 at 7pm in the Sandbach Literary Institution.

Meeting closed 8.05pm

Cllr K Flavell, Chair

KP.