

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE PARK COMMITTEE held on 19 August 2004 in the Parish Room, 2 Fiddlers Lane, Saughall

In attendance: Councillor A Marsden
Councillor Mrs JE Storrar
Councillor Mr RA Storrar
Councillor A Warrington
Councillor C Wynne-Eyton (Tree Warden)
Councillor Mrs J Young (in the Chair)

Co-opted Members: Mr M Bell
Mr D Bird (Project Co-ordinator)
Mr H Dobson
Mr B Huxley
Mr D Parry

10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors C Moss and Mrs D Whitton.

11 CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

12 MINUTES

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1 July 2004 be **AGREED** as a correct record.

13 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
- RE-DESIGNATION OF LAND FOR RECREATIONAL USE
- REMOVAL OF HEDGEROW

Members received copies of the planning consent and noted that it had been granted subject to compliance with 14 conditions detailed in a document dated 14 July 2004 and signed by Chester City Council's Strategic Director – Development, Mr Andy Farrell. It was noted that no additional actions needed to be taken at this stage, in light of the planning permission.

RESOLVED:

That the detail of the planning permission be noted.

14 GRANT AID OPPORTUNITIES – EXTERNAL FUNDING

(a) Partnership Approach

Mr Parry reported that if a partnership was formed between interested parties as a voluntary organisation it would be able to access grant aid not available to Parish Councils.

RESOLVED:

That the Council be **RECOMMENDED** to draw up a partnership agreement between itself and other interested parties including the local schools, Saughall Colts and Saughall Cricket Club.

(b) WREN Funding Update

Mr Parry had made an initial submission for funding under the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme. Subsequently, the Clerk had received a letter from Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd acknowledging receipt of the application and requesting some further information in support of it as follows:

?? Evidence that the Council has consulted with the community and relevant organisations or user groups regarding the project

?? Copies of any letters of support received for the project

?? A copy of the Council's Constitution

?? A copy of the Council's latest Accounts

?? A Business Plan for the project

?? Written confirmation from the Gowy North Area Committee of its donation of £5,000 for the financial year 2003/04 and indicative funding of £5,000 for the financial year 2004/05

On receipt of this information and by 7 September 2004 the application would be put before the Cheshire Advisory Panel scheduled for 12 October 2004 and before Directors of WREN on 7 December 2004 after which the Clerk would be informed of the decision.

Any grant that was offered by WREN would be between £2,000 and £50,000 and would be subject to the successful registration of the project with the Regulator of the Scheme, ENTRUST. Registration would be undertaken by WREN on the Council's behalf following the Director's meeting (unless otherwise agreed) and it would take at least one month to complete. Members were reminded **that if the project was started before it was registered it would become ineligible for funding.**

RESOLVED: That

(1) Mr Parry be requested to submit the additional information requested to WREN by Tuesday, 14 August 2004; and

(2) the wording detailed above in bold be noted.

(c) Letters of Support

Mr Huxley provided the Clerk with a letter of support from Saughall Cricket Club. Unfortunately, it had not been possible to obtain a similar letter from Saughall Colts or the Cheshire Constabulary although various approaches had been made. It was imperative that letters of support were provided as a matter of urgency otherwise the bid to WREN for funding might fail.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Councillor Mrs JE Storrar be requested to approach the Vicar, Rev Brian Harris, and Chief Inspector David Hill to request letters of support for the project; and
- (2) Councillor Mrs J Young be requested to call on Mr Martin Smith to request that he provide a letter of support on behalf of the Saughall Colts and ascertain that they are committed to the project.

(d) Saughall Cricket Club

Mr B Huxley reported that the Saughall Cricket Club had applied for a number of grants available specifically to cricket clubs. A joint funding bid with Saughall Colts had not been progressed. The commitment of the Colts was needed and it was also noted that the land must be adequately drained.

(e) Chester CVS

It was reported that the CVS would be holding a meeting fairly soon in respect of funding.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Mrs JE Storrar be requested to obtain a date and time for a meeting between the CVS, the Project Co-ordinator and Mr Parry to discuss funding opportunities available in respect of the Golden Jubilee Park development.

(f) Funding Bids Made So Far

RESOLVED:

That Mr Huxley and Mr Parry be requested to supply the Clerk with a list of organisations approached for funding so far.

15 OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL CABLES

(a) Powersystems

The Committee considered a letter from the Clerk to Mr E Davies of Powersystems dated 5 July 2004 requesting the detail of his Programme of Works and a timescale for its completion. Mr Davies had responded to inform only that he was pursuing the matter on an urgent basis.

Members were most concerned because Mr Davies had been requested to take the necessary action as long ago as 2002. If the cables were not removed soon the whole project could be in jeopardy. Councillor RA Storrar informed that he was under the impression that Powersystems had a statutory obligation to take down the cables within twelve months of being requested to do so.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to write again to Mr E Davies to ask him to confirm whether or not there was a statutory duty to remove the cables within twelve months, provide a further progress and a completion date as requested previously.

(b) Inquiry from a Local Resident

The Clerk reported that a local resident had enquired about the exact route of the overhead cables when they were re-routed away from the Golden Jubilee Park.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk be requested to inform the resident in question to contact Powersystems direct for details on their proposed route and method for re-routing the overhead electric cables away from the Golden Jubilee Park.

16 TENDERS

The Committee gave consideration to the tendering process and considered the need to extend the period of time before the work was undertaken in the light of the funding required.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the proposal to extend the period of time before the work begins and the possible implications of such action be considered again at the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (2) the Project Co-ordinator be requested to contact the tenderers to discuss the possibility of delaying the start of the development work pending further funding being received.

17 POND WORK

Councillor C Wynne-Eyton informed that he had obtained advice from Mrs Helen Cakebread with regard to vegetation and trees around the pond.

The Project Co-ordinator informed that he had spoke to Dr Hodgson of Aquatic Management Services regarding the new pond.

Dr Hodgson had written to DEFRA regarding a proposal which would avoid the use of newt traps. It was proposed to strim around the pond because newts did not like to inhabit flat ground. He was also considering the best shape, size and depth for the new pond.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be received; and
- (2) Mr Bird be requested to strim around the pond during the following week.

18 WHAT ELSE CAN BE DONE ?

(a) Open Day

RESOLVED:

That no Open Day be arranged for the time being and instead local residents be kept informed of the progress being made with the Golden Jubilee Park via the Parish Council's newsletter.

(b) Fencing

Members discussed the fencing to be erected before the hedge could be grubbed out, the tree cut down and the ditch piped. Temporary fencing was needed to either fence the pond or form a barrier where the hedge was currently.

It was noted that the new land had been ploughed and sown and that opening up the land would provide a bigger playing field.

Members considered the public liability insurance and the advice they had received from its insurance company, Allianz Cornhill, when the land had been acquired.

RESOLVED:

That temporary fencing be erected around the pond with "Keep Out" signs affixed before the hedge and tree are removed.

19 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be at 7:30pm on Thursday, 23 September 2004 in the Parish Room, 2 Fiddlers Lane, Saughall.