

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE PARK FOCUS GROUP held on 8 January 2004 in the Parish Room, 2 Fiddlers Lane, Saughall

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

Co-opted Members: Mr D Bird
Mr B Huxley representing Saughall Cricket Club

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor A Bailey
Councillor C Moss
Mr M Bell
Mr K Evans

2 CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

3 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Focus Group held on 29 September 2003 were **AGREED** as a correct record.

4 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
- PREDESTINATION OF LAND FOR RECREATIONAL USE
- REMOVAL OF HEDGEROW

(a) Progress on the Application

It was reported that if planning consent was to be obtained the site layout must be amended to provide additional car parking space. The Focus Group would consult local people over the provision of additional car parking and adjust the layout as appropriate.

An Awareness Raising Event was being held on Saturday, 10 January 2004 and it was hoped progress would be made with the application after views had been received and taken into consideration.

(b) Hedge and Oak Tree and Recent Tree Planting

Councillors RA Storrar and C Wynne-Eyton had met with Mr Pete Murray of Chester City Council and it had been agreed that the oak tree in the hedgerow that was not of significant value, would not be removed prior to planning consent.

It was noted that approximately 243 new trees had been planted on the land earmarked for the Golden Jubilee Park.

(c) Awareness Raising Event

The Focus Group finalised arrangements for the Awareness Raising Event to be held on Saturday, 10 January 2004. A report on proceedings would be available at the next meeting.

(d) Opposition

It was noted that some local people, particularly those who lived in Long Lane, remained opposed to the proposed development. They would be able to make their views known to the Planning Department through the planning process.

(e) Publicity

It was hoped that the Chester Chronicle may include a feature on the proposed development and publicise the Awareness Raising Event being held in order to canvass the views of local people. Suggestions on sports and leisure provision were invited.

5 REPORT OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE PARK FUNDING WORKING PARTY – GRANT AID OPPORTUNITIES

The Focus Group received a copy of the Action List compiled following the meeting of the Working Party on 13 October 2003 and were informed orally of the proceedings of a further meeting that had been held immediately before this one.

Councillor A Marsden reported that the development land would require spraying with broadleaf weed killer. He also suggested that hay be made this year. It was **AGREED** that Councillor Marsden would fertilise, roll and spray the land and take away the hay.

Any bids for funding could take account of the maintenance work and also the need for protectors for the newly planted trees.

Mr Huxley informed that the Cricket Club was working in partnership with Saughall Colts on a joint funding bid. Each had also identified one or two grants that would be applied for separately. It was **AGREED** that the joint submission would include a proposal to provide changing facilities.

The Focus Group was informed that until the draft Business Plan was made available no progress could be made with funding applications. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would contact Mr M Bell to find out when the Business Plan would be available and then call an urgent meeting of the Funding Working Party.

An application for landfill tax monies would be made to WREN. It was hoped to make the submission by the closing date of 31 May 2004. This would then be considered by the Funding Panel that would meet on 12 July 2004.

Mr Derek Bird would approach the Managing Director of Urenco in respect of funding and inform the Focus Group of the outcome in due course.

Mr Parry had lined up approximately 30 funding opportunities and he would pursue them once he was in possession of a copy of the Business Plan.

The Funding Working Party had suggested that the Focus Group may wish to recommend to the Council that it give consideration to forming a Charitable Trust and that it be built into the Business Plan. It was **AGREED** that this course of action be **RECOMMENDED** to the Council.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

It was **AGREED** that a report on the Environmental Project be made at the next meeting of the Focus Group.

7 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was **AGREED** that the next meeting of the Focus Group be held at 7:30pm on Thursday, 5 February 2004.