

MAIN SUBJECTS COVERED: Clifford Road Narrowing/Operations Manager's Update incl. Dickens Lane Mini Roundabout, Historic Water Trough on London Road North and Chester Road/Family Fun Day 1st June

MINUTES OF THE FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING HELD AT 8PM ON MONDAY 8TH APRIL 2013 AT THE CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr A Smith

Cllrs G Bartos, Mrs S Horsman, G King, I Hollingworth,

Cllr H Murray, substituting for Cllr G Smith (SO 54)

Cllr M Beanland (SO 56)

86. Apologies for absence

Cllr Ms R Horsman, Mrs J Sewart and G Smith

87. Absent

Cllr B Lewis

88. AOB: Urgent Business

The Clerk explained that SO 19d) permits the introduction of an urgent item. The Town Council has today received a request for an easement of Poynton Byelaws for Parks and Opens Spaces from Lostock Christian Fellowship, who are staging a Family Fun Day on Saturday 1st June 2013. Given that this Committee does not now have a meeting scheduled until later in June, it was felt that this was of sufficient urgency to add as a last agenda item.

RESOLVED: That consideration of an easement of Poynton's Byelaws for a Lostock Christian Fellowship event be added to the agenda (SO 19d) (NC)

89. Declarations of Pecuniary and Other Interests

None

90. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th March 2013

Cllr Hollingworth asked for an update on the installation of LED poles and refurbishment of the zebra crossing at Dickens Lane. The Clerk explained that this is a particularly busy zebra serving the three nearby schools. The road markings are very worn. The Town Council are pushing for LED poles which are already used in neighbouring areas. The lighting levels of the illuminated poles vary by night and day and are very effective. The Operations Manager added that this project has been brought to the attention of the LAP to consider funding under the Minor Highways Works programme. The next meeting is in early May where the Cheshire East Highways Officer may agree to take this further. The approximate cost is about £3,000.

On the issue of double yellow lines at Shrigley Road North and Clumber Road Cllr Murray said he received a report today which states that when Cllr Murray and Cllr Mrs Saunders confirm their agreement the work will go ahead.

Cllr Hollingworth asked for an update on the further development of the mini roundabout at the bottom of Dickens Lane. The Clerk said the design has been completed. The Town Council has recommended that the work is completed in the next school half term holiday (May/June 2013). Cllr Murray clarified that this will be a proper mini roundabout with an elevated dome and signage. (This issue is also covered in the Operations and Events Manager's report below)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting held on 11th March 2013 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman (NC)

91. Clifford Road

The Clerk presented his written update. In addition he provided a verbal update on the response he had received this afternoon by e-mail from Cheshire East, which provides a timetable of events to resolve this issue (with the Clerk). The Chairman said this was frustrating, as there has been no progress since the consultation closed on 1st December 2012. The Clerk added that Cllr West had contacted Kevin Melling and other Highways Officers at Cheshire East, who had conflated this issue with the wider SEMMMS consultation. The Clerk was able to produce an e-mail trail which showed that this was an entirely separate consultation. The Highways Officers have now acknowledged this.

RESOLVED: That the written and verbal updates from the Clerk concerning road narrowing on Clifford Road is received; that the Clerk ensures that the CE e-mail with their timeline for resolution is incorporated in the official record (NC)

92. Operations and Business Update

The Operations and Events Manager, Richard Holland presented his written report. Decision requests as highlighted in the report were considered during discussions.

Dickens Lane Roundabout

Richard explained that the Town Council's recommended period for the work on the Dickens Lane mini-roundabout is the next school half term holiday in May/June 2013. The Chairman asked if this provided sufficient time in which to complete the work. Following discussion it was agreed that if Cheshire East requires a longer period then the school summer holiday should be recommended as an alternative, given the high levels of traffic during school time. The Operations Manager also assured members that there was no issue with any work on the PVRS snagging list coinciding with work at the roundabout.

RESOLVED: That the Operations Manager recommends that this work is carried out by Cheshire East during the next school half term or, if more time is needed, that it is postponed to the longer school summer holiday (NC)

Civic Hall

The double glazed windows were installed at the Civic Hall some 20 months ago by Leonardo Windows, and following discussion members agreed that the company should be contacted given the apparent lack of any sealing around some of those in the roof area.

RESOLVED: That the Operations Manager pursues Leonardo Windows concerning the window seals (NC)

Water Trough

The Operations Manager requested the Committee's permission to obtain quotes for the repair of the historic water trough on London Road North, with guidance from Cheshire East's Heritage Officer. The Chairman suggested it would be very worthwhile preserving and promoting this historic feature. Cllr Murray suggested that based on the views of the Heritage Officer other ideas could be considered. He suggested for example that the trough could be positioned as a lateral point of interest to help depress traffic speed through this area. This item should also be forwarded to the Visitor Economy Working Group for consideration as a heritage issue.

RESOLVED: That based on the Heritage Officer's suggestions, designs are considered and ways to incorporate this within the aspect of the highway, possibly as a traffic calming measure; that the lead on this is transferred to the Visitor Economy Working Group (NC)

Chester Road

Cllr Beanland raised the concerns of two residents who attended the recent Council surgery. They were both very concerned about the state of Chester Road where it runs over the railway bridge. One resident was particularly stressed by the vibration that is being caused by the huge trucks that are travelling over the road and then hitting a pothole. The resident also asked if anything could be done to police the weight of the vehicles travelling over the bridge. Cllr Beanland noted that there is a series of cracks and the condition of this section of road is diabolical. Cllr Beanland asked if there was anything that could be done.

The Operations Manager suggested including this as an additional road on the list of roads for resurfacing within the local LAP. In terms of the recent work carried out on the railway bridge, the Clerk explained that he had spoken with the contractor who confirmed that a dislodged coping stone and some missing brickwork had been replaced. Some of the saplings growing out of the bridge were removed.

Members discussed whether this was a resurfacing issue or if an investigation into the condition of the bridge was required. Cheshire East is responsible for resurfacing and Railtrack would be responsible for the structure. Cllr Beanland proposed that the issue of the integrity of the bridge structure be investigated by Railtrack and the resurfacing pushed as a priority with Cheshire East Highways, plus an investigation into any weight limit for this road section.

RESOLVED: That the issue of the integrity of the bridge structure is investigated by Railtrack; that the resurfacing of this section of road is pushed as a priority with Cheshire East Highways, plus an investigation into any weight limit restriction for the bridge (NC)

PVRS

Following discussion of the PVRS snagging list the Clerk confirmed that the action plan to deal with issues will continue to be publicised in the PUN. The Operations Manager will provide an up to date snagging list at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report from the Operations and Events Manager is received with thanks (NC)

93. Queensway Revitalisation

The Clerk presented a written update concerning the Queensway Revitalisation.

RESOLVED: That the report by the Clerk concerning the Queensway Revitalisation is received (NC)

94. Street Lighting

RESOLVED: That the letter signed by our four Cheshire East Ward Councillors dated 25th March 2013 to Kevin Melling, Head of Highways and Transport at Cheshire East, concerning the poor state of lighting maintenance in Poynton, is received (NC)

95. Any Other Business: Easement of Byelaws

Members approved the easement of Poynton's Byelaws for the Family Fun Day to be held on 1st June 2013 by the Lostock Christian Fellowship.

Cllr Murray asked the Clerk to follow up on the presence of PCSO's at the event since this would mean a diversion from normal policing duty.

RESOLVED: That the easement of Poynton's Byelaws for the Family Fun Day to be held by the Lostock Christian Fellowship is granted; that the Clerk pursue the presence of the PCSO's at the event (NC)

The meeting concluded at 9.00 pm