

**Main points arising: Shared space remedial work/ Operations Manager's update/ Civic Hall and Library integration plus Civic Hall roof refurbishment/ Town Council insurance claim for bus shelter/ Brecon Park refurbishment**

MINUTES OF THE FACILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2014 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr A Smith

Cllrs. G Bartos, B Lewis, Ms R Horsman, G King, Mrs J Sewart

Also attending in accordance with S0 56: Cllrs. Mrs J Saunders and R E West

16. Apologies for absence

Cllrs. I Hollingworth, Mrs S Horsman, G Smith and Mrs I Thornton-Maddocks

17. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

None declared.

18. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Page 43, Item 12 - Cllr Mrs Sewart noted that the yellow markings on the pavement outside the Tom Yam restaurant at Fountain Place have not been removed. The Operations Manager said that a request would be made to remove these as part of the tidy up following the Shared Space remedial work.

Page 44, Item 14 - Cllr Lewis commented that there is no provision in the byelaws to close Poynton Park. The byelaws cannot be changed without going through central government.

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 are approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman (NC)**

19. Cheshire East Shared Space Remedial Programme

The Operations and Events Manager presented a written and verbal update on this issue.

Cllr Mrs Sewart asked if there had been any comments from traders on whether footfall to their businesses has been affected. The Operations Manager said that three principal shop owners had made representation to him. Businesses run on an appointment basis such as hairdressers have not been affected. Cllr Mrs Sewart said that she had been told by one trader that they had been affected and another trader has been closing early because of the lack of business.

Cllr Mrs Sewart noted that the village seems a lot quieter, perhaps because people are not coming into Poynton or perhaps, in part, due to the summer holiday season. However, it is unfortunate because the village was now doing well and improving, and it is also disappointing to witness the lack of good behaviour by drivers. Cllr Mrs Sewart hoped that this improves again as it had in previous months. She pointed out areas within the shared space area where there is black tarmac and no red inset chippings. The road has not been repaired to the original standard as promised. Cllr A Smith noted that the surface on London Road is deliberately temporary and the tarmac will be re-laid with red chippings on the last day of the repair work. There is a separate meeting on any other repairs that need to be made good.

The Operations Manager explained that CE Highways do have recourse to utility companies to make good repairs following work carried out. Cllr Lewis agreed, and said that there is recourse in law for this, adding that it is for CE to pursue. The Chairman will follow up on this issue.

Cllr Bartos shared the negative feeling he had received from the Post Office towards the Town Council regarding the work being carried out. The Chairman clarified that this is a CE project and the Town Council are doing their best to minimise the inconvenience. He said, rightly or wrongly, the facilitation by PTC was essential as it was definitely helping to reduce the inconvenience around the constraints of the CE project.

Cllr West reiterated that this is a CE contract and CE project. The Town Council do not have any responsibility legally for any consequential costs to traders.

Members thanked the Operations Manager and all those involved in keeping them updated on developments within the CE Shared Space remedial work.

**RESOLVED: That the written and verbal update from the Operations Manager on the Cheshire East Shared Space Remedial Programme is received with a vote of thanks (NC)**

## 20. Operations Manager Update for July 2014

The Operations and Events Manager presented his written update for July 2014.

### Abbey Court

Cllr King informed the Operations Manager about the ponding that had reoccurred opposite Abbey Court despite the recent work. The Operations Manager will report this matter again.

### Towers Road

Cllr Lewis noted that the extension of the double yellow lines on Towers Road has nothing to do with the LAP. The LAP funding is not intended for this purpose. The Operations Manager asked for clarification on the process to pursue this matter further. Members explained that this is a CE Highways matter that should be escalated if necessary.

### Dickens Lane Zebra Crossing

Cllr Mrs Sewart noted the significant improvement to the Dickens Lane zebra crossing. The Operation Officer confirmed that thanks have been passed onto CE Highways for the excellent work carried out.

### Park Lane - Parking on the north side of Park Lane

Cllr Mrs Sewart noted that although it may not particularly be an issue for motorists it is for pedestrians because the pavements are very narrow. This forces pedestrians to walk in the road and negotiate around vehicles. Cllr Mrs Sewart asked if this could be presented as a road safety/pedestrian safety matter. The PCSOs had agreed at a previous COPS meeting that this does present an issue in this area. Cllr King added that as a regular cyclist along this road he finds it is exceedingly dangerous and that motorists have no regard for speed, with the additional parked cars causing a further hazard.

Cllr West suggested that the Town Council along with the view of the local police communicate that this has been assessed as a safety hazard. Cllr Lewis proposed that the Clerk be asked to write to the portfolio holder at CE with a copy to Cllr Rob Menlove, pointing out that there is a safety issue on this part of Park Lane which requires urgent remedial action to be taken. Sergeant Adam Alexander can be contacted for information from the local police.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the portfolio holder at CE, copied to Cllr Rob Menlove, pointing out that there is a safety issue on this section of Park Lane that requires urgent remedial action to be taken (NC)**

### Chester Road

Members discussed the street furniture mentioned in the Operations Manager's report. Members were divided in their opinion on the options for street furniture. Cllr Ms Horsman suggested that concrete tubing currently located outside the old cinema could be planted and painted black and gold

by Poynton in Bloom may present a more aesthetically pleasing effect. It was agreed that the Operations Manager will explore more options.

#### Business Update

Cllr Mrs Sewart congratulated the Operations Manager for this successful initiative.

#### Play Areas

Cllr West raised the issue of S.106 money which is for public open spaces and asked if CE Public Open Spaces have engaged with the Town Council on this. Cllr Lewis agreed that there is some disconnect on the part of the Town Council and that when there is a project of this kind the Town Council should also approach CE Public Open Spaces. The Chairman agreed that there should be a critical pathway to follow for projects. Following further discussion Cllr Bartos proposed that Cllr West pursue the issue further with CE.

**RESOLVED: That Cllr West pursue the issue of S.106 public open space funds further with CE (NC)**

#### Overgrown foliage

Cllr Ms Horsman mentioned that a resident had raised the issue of the problematic tree previously reported on Maple Avenue. The Operations Manager explained that there are a few similar issues with verge trees. These are low on the CE priority list but he will follow this up again.

The Operations Manager will also follow up on the issue of the concrete lighting column that needs replacing on Chester Road.

Cllr West asked if there may be times when it is more time effective for the Town Council to carry out minor works such as trim trees and send the bill to CE.

Cllr King noted that the bush by the School Lane shops is now very heavy and causing a hazard by obstructing the view of drivers. The Operations Manager will follow this up with the Town Council Handyman.

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

#### 21. Civic Hall/Library Integration Project and Civic Hall Roof Refurbishment

Cllr A Smith provided a verbal update on the Civic Hall/Library integration project and Civic Hall roof refurbishment. He reported that work on the roof starts next month and is on schedule. Cllr A Smith will be calling a meeting of the Civic Hall/Library integration project group prior to putting a paper forward to the next full Town Council meeting.

**RESOLVED: That the verbal update from Cllr A Smith is received (NC)**

22. Update on the Town Council Insurance Claim

The Operations Manager reported that as requested at the last FIED meeting the Clerk went back to DAC Beachcroft and had received an e-mail response dated 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014. The Operations Manager shared this communication with Members. The Operations Manager confirmed that the Clerk will be responding.

Members disagreed with the information in the letter and said it should be challenged. It was agreed that this is included as an agenda item for the next FIED meeting, with a copy of the letter made available to members.

**RESOLVED: That the verbal update on the Town Council's Insurance Claim for a former bus shelter on London Road South is received, and that the Clerk pursue this vigorously with DAC Beachcroft (NC)**

23. Brecon Park Refurbishment

**RESOLVED: That the action taken under SO 51 (a) regarding the contract award for Brecon Park refurbishment is noted (NC)**

The meeting concluded at 9.00pm