

MINUTES OF THE FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
(FIED) COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 5TH JUNE 2023

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr S Lees

Cllrs: M Blackie, L A Clarke (Sub), P Oakes, Mrs J Saunders and J Waterhouse

Officers in attendance: Haf Barlow (Town Clerk)

1. Anyone attending or present at the Committee meeting declares that they are making, or intend to make, an audio recording and/or film the meeting

The Chair confirmed that the meeting is recorded for the purposes of minute taking and the recording is deleted when the draft minutes are agreed.

There were no other declarations.

2. Questions from members of the public

There were 2 members of the public present representing the Twinning Association of Poynton. The Twinning Association have taken on responsibility for the planted troughs on London Road South. Troughs nearest to the supermarket are maintained by Aldi. The Twinning Association made a request to the Operations Manager that the Town Council assists with watering the planters. The Operations Manager has confirmed that the Town Council can water twice a week but he can't confirm what day this will be done. The Clerk undertook to speak to the Operations Team to request that watering starts this week.

3. Apologies for absence

Cllrs K Booth, M Sewart

4. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

Cllr L Clarke declared an interest in item 15, Skanza Ltd, Park Lane, Poynton being a part owner of a property nearby. Cllr Clarke will abstain.

5. To approve the draft minutes of Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting on 27th March 2023

RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic development Committee meeting on 27th March 2023 are approved (NC)

6. To receive the action log for the FIED committee for 2023-2024

The Clerk spoke on a number of ongoing issues where no response has been received from Cheshire East. A number of items were on the agenda for consideration.

RESOLVED: That the action log for the FIED committee 2023-2024 is received. (NC)

7. To note the action taken under SO51 to purchase Coronation decorations

RESOLVED: That the action taken under SO51 to purchase Coronation decorations is received (NC)

8. To receive and consider the Operations Managers report for Mid – March to end of May and agree any recommendations therein

The Clerk gave an overview of the report and its recommendations.

Allotments: The long waiting list at the allotments was noted by the Committee. S106 money has been identified for possible use but this would have to be with the agreement of Cheshire East. The Operations Manager has now identified some land that could be used for allotments and the owners are willing to sell the land. The land is close to the existing allotments so would be ideal.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk requests the support of Cheshire East Councillors for the proposed use of Section 106 money. If and when the Town Council has that support the Clerk will write to Cheshire East Council to request that the Section 106 money is allocated for the purchase of land and to ascertain what process Cheshire East want to use. That FIED recommends to the Town Council that the land is purchased for the provision of allotments (NC)

For the last four years, the Town Council has set aside funding to purchase replacement Christmas lights. Following a public consultation last year, coloured lights for the tree were favoured by residents.

RESOLVED That the recommendation in principle to buy 10 sets of coloured lights That the Town Council refer to the Finance & General Purposes Committee the decision as to what budget line or other sources of funding should be used.

The Operations Manager has obtained some quotes for noticeboards for the Inclines, one detailing the history and the other outlining the local wildlife. Peter Dowse, Cheshire East Ranger Service, has recommended purchasing metal noticeboards. The committee was also asked to consider waymarking between the Town and Higher Poynton and possibly Lyme Park.

RESOLVED: The Committee confirmed that they wished to proceed to obtain quotes for both waymarking and noticeboards. The Village Improvement Working Group will approve wording for the boards. Quotes and detailed plans will be brought back to the FIED committee for formal approval (NC)

A suitable tree for carving has now been identified and a quote obtained. As this is such a specialist skill it has proved difficult to obtain three quotations and the Clerk asked that the Financial Regulations to obtain three quotes are waived.

The Committee liked the sculpture featured in the report.

RESOLVED: That the Financial Regulations to obtain three quotes are waived. If no other quote is forthcoming the Operations Manager commissions Mike Burgess to undertake the carving, the subject matter of the carving being approved by the Village Improvement Working Group. The project will be funded from the Trees Earmarked Reserve (NC)

9. To receive the meeting notes from the recent meeting between Town Council and businesses in Poynton and to consider setting up a formal business working group

The Clerk spoke of business wanting pop up markets on the front of shop premises and a small working group to promote the Town. The Clerk will arrange meetings to discuss these matters.

The recent seed swap and plant sale was very successful and raised over £130.00.

Sharon and Jenny would like permission to put a bug house on the corner of the Civic Hall. They are also looking at potentially a Poynton Heritage Day.

Cllr Lees suggested that Skanza, Park Lane might be open to popup businesses, very short term lets, using their premises Cllr Lees advised the members that he had a few contacts regarding pop up shops. This will be discussed at item 15.

RESOLVED: That the meeting notes from the recent meeting between Town Council and businesses in Poynton is received and the purchase of a bug house approved (NC)

10. To receive an update from the Clerk on flyposting and the banner leaflet

The Clerk gave an update on the Town Council flyposting and banner leaflet. The Clerk spoke to other Clerks who all have either a written or verbal policy indicating that flyposting in the town will be removed. The Clerk has prepared a basic policy giving guidance around community events and it specifically outlaws businesses using flyposting for advertising.

RESOLVED: That the update from the Clerk on flyposting and banner leaflet is approved (NC)

11. To consider the email from a resident regarding replacing the beech hedge on London Road North

The members considered the email. The resident thanked the Town Council for the offer of shared maintenance of the beech hedge but would now like to remove the hedge and install a fence with financial help from the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council responds to the resident stating that they are unable to contribute towards a fence on property that doesn't belong to them. (NC)

12. To consider and agree a response to the email from Peter Dowse, Park Ranger at Poynton Pool regarding the installation of an additional dog waste bin

Members discussed purchasing a bin and adding it to the list of bins already maintained by the Town Council.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will ask the Operations Manager about the feasibility of adding an additional bin to the bin run and if appropriate, quotes for a new bin will be obtained (NC)

13. To receive and consider an email from the footpaths officer regarding erosion to Footpath 43

The members considered the email. The Clerk advised that the situation continued to be monitored.

RESOLVED: That the email from the footpaths officer regarding erosion to Footpath 43 is received (NC)

14. To consider replacing the Speed Indicator Device

The Clerk spoke of the police report to the last COPS meeting regarding the Speed Indicator Devices. There were 2 devices, one was broken and not replaced. The software on the second device is so old it won't upload anymore. The Clerk advised that although the issue was discussed at the COPS meeting the purchase of the device sat with the FIED committee. The Clerk advised the committee that in 2018 the cost was £3500.00 each.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtains quotations for replacing the Speed Indicator device (NC)

15. To note the response from a representative of Skanza Ltd regarding the empty property on Park Lane

Skanza Ltd in their response to the Town Council state that any potential clients are noncommittal although the Town Council are aware of people desperate to rent the property. The Clerk has had emails asking for contact details as they were keen to take a lease on the property.

Cllr Lees spoke of properties being used as short term lets or pop-up shops and suggested that the Town Council compile a list of potential interested parties.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk respond to Skanza Ltd as set out above (5 for, 1 abstention)

16. To receive and consider the Cheshire East announcement regarding garden waste

RESOLVED: That the Cheshire East announcement regarding garden waste is received. (NC)

17. To note the report of a near miss at the roundabout of London Road and Dickens Lane

Cllr Mrs Saunders updated the committee. The roundabout is being repainted on Sunday 11th June 2023.

RESOLVED: That the report of a near miss at the roundabout of London Road and Dickens Lane is noted (NC)

18. To consider correspondence received from a resident in relation to road safety on Dickens Lane and agree a response

The letter was concerned traffic calming measures on Dickens Lane particularly the area opposite the high school. It was noted that the Town Council are unable to implement traffic calming measures without the support from the police.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the police regarding road safety on Dickens Lane (NC)

19. To consider the Cheshire East Highways newsletter for March and April 2023

Cllr Clarke pointed out that the newsletter made no reference to Poynton.

RESOLVED: That the Cheshire East Highways newsletters for March and April 2023 are received (NC)

20. To consider whether the Town Council would like a free space in the horticultural tent of the Poynton show to showcase pollinator work

The Clerk advised that the Town Council have been offered a place in the horticultural tent to showcase the pollinator work or on the show field to highlight the general work of the Town Council. The stall could be manned by Councillors with support from staff. The Clerk suggested that staff and Councillor availability was confirmed before accepting the offer.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will send an email out to Councillors to confirm availability. Providing sufficient councillors are available the Clerk will confirm that the Town Council would like a stall on the show field (NC)

21. To consider the request from Poynton Show to ease the byelaws at Poynton Park for the Poynton Show.

RESOLVED: That the byelaws are eased at Poynton Park for the Poynton Show (NC)

22. To receive reports from the following Working Group and to agree recommendations contained therein

- a) Car Parking Working Group
- b) Village Improvement Working group
- c) Poynton Festival Working Group
- d) Capital Projects and Scheduled and Preventative Maintenance Working Group
- e) Flood Working Group

- a) Car Park Working Group

There was no report from the Car Parking Working Group.

- b) The Village Improvement Working Group

The Village Improvement Working Group notes had been circulated.

- c) Poynton Festival Working Group

Cllr J Waterhouse updated the members on the Poynton Arts Festival.

- d) Civic Hall Capital Projects and Scheduled and Preventative Maintenance Working Group

The Clerk updated the members. Snagging was continuing as was investigating solar panelling and black out blinds for the Council Chamber

- e) Flood Working Group

A verbal update was received. Work on Poynton Pool plans continued. Cllr Clarke, and Cllr Whitaker together with the Town Coler would be attending a Cheshire East committee meeting tomorrow.

Cllr Clarke suggested a meeting should be held in the next couple of months to discuss matters other than Poynton Pool. The Clerk advised the members that in September the Flood Resilience Plan will be tested and suggested a meeting before then.

23. Communication messages

Green Bins, Poynton Arts Festival

Meeting end time: 9.15pm

Chair.....

Dated.....