



Skipton Town Council

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Public Services Committee meeting of Skipton Town Council held in the Council Chambers on Thursday 10th February 2022

Those Present.

Chairman: Councillor D Shaw
Councillors: Councillor E Jaquin, P Madeley, Councillor R Mahmood, Councillor C Nash & Councillor Judge
Officers: Mrs L Close (Chief Officer)

2021/062

ITEM 1 – Chairman’s remarks

Councillor Shaw welcomed everybody to this Extra ordinary meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

2021/063

ITEM 2 – Apologies for Absence

Councillor K McIntyre – anxiety – Accepted

2021/064

ITEM 3 – Disclosures of Interest

None declared.

2021/065

ITEM 4 – Dispensations Requested

None requested.

2021/066

ITEM 5 - Representations from public

None in attendance

2021/067

ITEM 6 – Wildflowers

The Committee were given a presentation of the Wildflower project and actions to date. This included attendance at the recent drop in coffee morning and various quotations received so far.

Members were asked to consider 6 trial sites that could be used for immediate action and surveying the rest of the estate in July.

Councillor Madeley asked that maps were provided regarding the verges and confirmation of what verges were proposed and what were not. He also advised that the seed was a very high cost, and this should be looked at. He wanted to move forward with the project as soon as possible.

Councillor Madeley also wanted to know where the Council were with grass cutting and wanted a breakdown from NYCC of cost.

The Chief Officer read out an email she had received from NYCC and advised that she would be presenting this information back to the next ordinary PSC meeting that it had been discussed at. She also confirmed that the meeting was to ring fence any remaining PSC budget for this project and that final verges would be confirmed after the survey had been carried out.

Councillor Judge asked if local schools and community groups could be asked to design the signs for the trial sites.

Councillor Madeley advised that the project should include Keighley Road and Broughton Road. The main exit and entry points of Skipton should be used as this was a major road in Skipton.

Councillor Shaw clarified the areas for the trial.

Councillor Madeley stated that he would like the NYCC areas to be included and Councillor Mahmood confirmed that the major roads would be subject to visibility, but the trial sites should be agreed so that the project could move forward.

Councillor Nash asked if we could make sure that we stop mowing immediately so that we can ascertain what wildflowers are already in situ.

Discussions then returned to the NYCC visibility areas, and the Chief officer confirmed again she would provide the information.

Proposed by Councillor R Judge

Seconded by Councillor R Mahmood

RESOLVED to ring fence the remaining budget of PSC at the end of March 2022 to use for this project and move over to the next fiscal year.

(unanimous)

2021/068

ITEM 7 – Church Wall

A scoping quotation was provided to the Committee for the repair work to the Church Wall.

It was asked for confirmation that the proposed client meetings included representatives of the Church. It was also asked that any previous site investigation reports that could be used were passed over.

Councillor Madeley advised that he felt any cost for the removal of the tree which would damage the wall when being removed was met.

Both Councillor Jaquin and Shaw advised that they wanted the footpath closing as soon as possible between the cenotaph and the Castle as it was too narrow for passage and disabled access.

Proposed by Councillor Judge

Seconded by Councillor Nash

RESOLVED to move forward with the scoping quotation and complete the work needed to provide a full survey and cost of work involved to repair the Church Wall.

(unanimous)

2021/069

ITEM 8 – Road Sweeper – Councillor Madeley request

Councillor Madeley advised that Craven District Council had the responsibility for keeping street areas in Skipton clean. He further advised that the back streets of Skipton are needing more and more funding, care, and attention. He would like to look at a proposal of the Town Council purchasing a road sweeper for volunteer and community groups to use. The Town Council would operate the sweeper with the help from the community and areas would be completed by volunteers. He advised that it might be possible to lease or purchase a second-hand machine and he would like the committee to accept a proposal to investigate this in more detail and bring back to the next meeting for further discussion.

Councillor Shaw exclaimed that he thought this was a fantastic idea and one that he supported. He advised that other Councils have this scheme,

Pendle for example and it would be an asset to the Town Council. We could help keep the streets clean and use it in our playgrounds. Councillor Nash asked if this was something the BID could investigate or HAZ funding.

Councillor Jaquin asked where it would be stored and who would drive the sweeper.

Councillor Madeley confirmed that the Town Council would train people to a standard and higher in order to drive and operate the street sweeper and Councillor Shaw confirmed that sponsorship from local businesses could be asked with regards to storage.

It was all agreed that Councillor Madeley would complete some more work and options, with the Chief Officer to present at the next meeting.

2021/070

ITEM 9 - Notification of Business for future agenda

Items raised for next agenda were:

With no further business discussed the meeting was closed at 20:01pm

The Next Meeting is to be held on the 7th April 2022 at 6.30pm