

Public Services Committee  
Thursday 11 May 2017 - 6.30 pm

Present: Councillors R G Heseltine [Chairman], Mrs W Clark, C Clark, J W Dawson, E Jaquin, Mrs P Heseltine, P Madeley and Mrs K McIntyre.

Also present: Councillor J Kerr

Officers: Dave Parker [Chief Officer] and Les Chandler [Estate Manager]

1. To accept representations from the Public between 6.30 pm and 6.45 pm.

None.

2. To accept apologies for absence.

None.

3. To record declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda.

None.

4. To consider the recommendations of the Chief Officer relating to requests for dispensations to Members on items requiring a declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

None.

5. To approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on 6 April 2017.

Members noted that the meeting attended by Councillors J Dawson and P Madeley was the Spatial Planning Sub-Committee and that Councillor E Jaquin had missed the meeting because of family commitments.

Item 13 - Members noted that Council has resolved to support the provision of a 'bus shelter near the junction of Harrogate Road and Overdale Park, not Overdale Grange.

Subject to these amendments the minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2017 were accepted as a true and fair record of what transpired at that meeting.

- 6. To report and receive information arising from the minutes of items not on the Agenda from Members and the Chief Officer.

Holy Trinity churchyard boundary wall - a meeting between the Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Council's Chief Officer and Estate Manager, and the Highways Authority's Area Manager is being arranged.

- 7. To consider excluding press and public for consideration of item 15 on the grounds that it relates to confidential matters.

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude all press and public.

- 8. To consider a breach of Tenancy Agreement by a Middletown Allotment tenant.

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The meeting returned to public session.

- 9. To discuss an issue relating to vehicular access to The Ginnel Play Area.

Since it is not be possible - under the current access restrictions - to undertake any necessary maintenance work involving the use of heavy equipment and machinery it was **RESOLVED** that The Ginnel Play Area should be closed if, as a result, the safety of any of the play equipment cannot be guaranteed.

In view of the urgency it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should ask Craven District Council's Legal Services to confirm with the landowner, as soon as possible, the Council's right to access the play area.

- 10. To decide whether or not to allow an event to take place at the North Parade Recreation Ground.

Because of the slight risk of members of the public encroaching onto the sewage contaminated area of the playing field it was **RESOLVED** to allow *Forever Loved Pet Sanctuary* to use North Parade Recreation Ground as the venue for its Family Fun Day on 8 July 2017 only on condition that, in addition to the usual rules of hire, it agrees to take special steps to ensure that anyone attending the event avoids the contaminated area.

- 11. To decide whether the Town Council should offer to contribute towards the cost of repairs to the damaged floodlighting cables at Christ Church churchyard.

Given the risks to public safety and the fact that the Council assists Holy Trinity with the cost of floodlighting it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should make a one-off, 'without

prejudice' donation of £50 towards the cost of repairing the faulty floodlighting cables at Christ Church.

12. To discuss the replacement of a faulty hand dryer at Coach Street of public conveniences.

If the faulty hand dryer at Coach Street public toilets cannot be repaired or replaced under warranty it was **RESOLVED** that the Chief Officer should arrange for its replacement either with a cheaper model or on a like-for-like basis, whichever represents best-value.

13. To discuss an application, from a previous tenant, for a plot at the Broughton Road allotment site.

Since the circumstances which led to the problems with her previous tenancy are not clear it was **RESOLVED** that a Member of the Allotments Working Group, supported by the Allotments Administration Officer, should meet with the applicant for the vacant allotment at Broughton Road and then make a recommendation to the Working Group as to whether her application should be accepted.

14. To discuss matters relating to proposed improvements at Middletown Recreation Ground.

Members noted that *Candelisa Limited* has yet to produce detailed proposals for the provision of a new children's' play area at Middletown Recreation Ground.

15. To receive any updates regarding: projects and initiatives being supported by Skipton BID; the Market Management Group; and Footfall Counter data.

Skipton BID:

- the *Association of Town and City Management's* night-time accreditation scheme ('Best Bar None'), which is supported by the BID and encourages licensed premises to prevent anti-social behaviour, is now underway.
- Skipton Gala Committee's application for funding support has been declined given that the Committee already has extensive cash resources.
- BID renewal: the BID is due for renewal in April 2019 so work is now underway in preparation for a ballot in December 2018.

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Market Management Group: the next meeting of the Group will be on Wednesday 17 May.

Footfall Counter data: the latest figures are very encouraging, showing that footfall in the town is consistently high.

17. To receive notification of matters that members would like included on a future agenda.

Council policy with regard to closed burial grounds.

Review of BID activities.

Meeting closed at 7.31 pm.

Chairman: .....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

Chairman: .....