

Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ferryhill, on **WEDNESDAY, 5th FEBRUARY 2020.**

PRESENT: Councillor: K Graham

Councillors: G Barker, K Conroy, N Jones, J Makepeace, R Smith, and C Woods

Officials: D. Shingleton, Acting Town Clerk

CS38.19-20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors D Farry, K Campbell and J Lindsay

CS39.19-20 MEMBERS DISPENSATION

There were no members' dispensations in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

CS40.19-20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CS41.19-20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

CS42.19-20 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2019 be agreed as a true and accurate record, subject to Councillor Barker being added to the list of members present.

CS43.19-20 SUB COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the following meetings be received:

- a) Events and Community Engagement Sub-Committee – 23 October 2019

CS44.19-20 ALLOTMENTS

Members considered a report from the Works Manager, previously circulated.

Councillor Makepeace referred to problems at Storehouse involving dumping of rubbish and vehicles accessing the site and dumping green waste. The problem was the existence of two entrances and one option discussed was the welding closed of one of these. Councillor Conroy suggested a bollard in an appropriate place may prevent vehicle access.

RESOLVED that:

- a) The Acting Town Clerk and Works Manager meet with Councillors Jones and Makepeace to consider the situation and make recommendations to the next meeting of the Allotments Sub-Committee in March.
- b) The report be received.

CS45.19-20 ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Members considered a report from the Works Manager, previously circulated.

In relation to vandalism, Councillor Woods pointed out that at one time swings had been removed over the winter period to avoid vandalism. The Acting Town Clerk agreed to contact Councillor Woods regarding this possibility.

The Acting Town Clerk read an email he had received from a resident in Greenfields, which is adjacent to King George V playing fields, regarding anti-social behaviour in evenings and on weekends not only at King George but in the Town Centre and Ferryhill generally. He expressed concern at the possible outcome if this is not addressed. Councillor Graham stated that the garages at one end of the area appeared to attract groups of young people – they may be owned by Livin.

The Acting Town Clerk also read a letter he had received from the Chair of Ferryhill PACT expressing thanks for repairs to the perimeter fence at King George and the installation of a sign regarding no access for unauthorised vehicles, such as off-road bikes. The letter asked if the Council could arrange for the removal of broken glass and litter from the play area, as Broom Cottages Primary School is encouraging young children to respect and care for the environment. The Acting Clerk stated that he had asked the Works Manager to address the situation. Councillor Makepeace referred to paragraph 2.5 of the Works Manager's report which states that litter is collected on a daily basis.

RESOLVED that:

- a) In relation to the anti-social behaviour at King George, the Acting Town Clerk informs the Police of the receipt of the email, contacts Livin regarding the garages, arranges a site visit with the Works Manager with a view to identifying if the Council can do anything, and responds to the resident accordingly.
- b) In relation to the PACT letter, the Acting Town Clerk sends a reply stating that steps will be taken to remove the glass and litter, if not already done, and commends the school and the children for the positive attitude regarding caring for the environment.
- c) The report be received.

CS46.19-20 HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTIONS REPORT

Members considered a report from the Works Manager, previously circulated.

Councillor Woods asked if Ferryhill Station toilets are open at weekends. The Acting Town Clerk would find out and respond.

Councillor Makepeace made further reference to the rubbish at Storehouse and asked whether this didn't represent a risk in accordance with those identified in paragraph 2.1.

RESOLVED

That the report be received.

CS47.19-20 GRANTS OF GRAVE SPACE

Councillor Makepeace reported that he had received another vote of thanks to the Council for installing a Memorial Bench at the cemetery.

RESOLVED

That the details of grave spaces issued, which were listed on the Agenda, be noted.

CS48.19-20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 1st April 2020.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.25pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....

