

Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Services Committee held at the Oakwood Centre on Tuesday 22 April 2014 at 8:00 pm

Present: *Councillors: L. Hayward (Chairman); L. Higgs; M. Holmes; C. Lawley; D. Mills; R. Neall; D. Smith; W. Soane; M. Walker*

Also present: *Councillor K. Baker
S. Milligan, Just Around The Corner Charity*

Officers present: *D. Mander, Town Clerk; L. Matthews, Committee Officer*

76. **APOLOGIES**

No apologies for absence were received.

77. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

78. **MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 JANUARY 2014**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

79. **JUST AROUND THE CORNER**

Sam Milligan, Just Around the Corner charity, was welcomed to the meeting and presented the JAC report. He reported that the atmosphere around Woodley was still very good; as the weather improved, Friday nights were starting to get busy, but Saturdays were still quiet. The Friday night team was patrolling on foot, which enabled a larger area to be covered, including parks. They continued to meet up with groups around the town centre.

Sam Milligan informed Members that a member of the JAC staff had been trained in online protection and how to keep young people safe online, and would be able to pass this information on to other members of the team.

Members were informed by Sam Milligan that the Reheboth equine centre would be officially opened by Zara Tindell (nee Phillips) at a garden party on 13 May 2014, which would be attended by the Woodley Town Mayor.

Finally, Sam Milligan thanked the Town Council for the Woodley Citizens Awards, which were presented to two of the young JAC volunteers at the civic reception on 3 April and said that they had been very pleased to receive their awards.

The Chairman thanked Sam Milligan for his report.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note the report from the Just Around the Corner charity.

80. **BUDGETARY CONTROL**

Members noted that expenditure on the allotments for the year 2013/14 was approximately three times the income. The Town Clerk explained that this was partly because the allotment budget was set two years ago, as twelve months notice is required for any change in charges to the allotment tenants, but the water rates increase each year. The summer of 2013 was very hot, which led to increased water usage, and there was also a water leak, which exacerbated the situation. The Town Clerk reported that the water costs were being monitored and the water meter readings were being recorded to help identify any future leaks. The Chairman stated that she would like to see a total review of the allotment charges.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note Report No. CS 7/14.

81. **YOUTH WORKING PARTY**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note Report No. CS 8/14.

82. **ALLOTMENTS WORKING PARTY**

The minutes of the Allotments Working Party meeting held on 6 February 2014 were given in Report No. CS 9/14. Councillor Mills reported that the Allotment Tenants Committee AGM had been postponed as there had been some additional items to add to the agenda, and this had resulted in the postponement of the subsequent Working Party meeting. The Allotment Tenants Committee AGM had now been held, but the Working Party meeting that was to have taken place on 31 March had not yet been rescheduled.

Councillor Mills reported that the waiting list for allotments had been cleared and there were approximately twenty unworked plots, which should be sufficient to meet future requests for allotments.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note Report No. CS 9/14.

83. **KEEP WOODLEY CLEAN WORKING PARTY**

Members recorded their congratulations to Shelagh Flower for being presented with a Woodley Citizens Award for her work with the Woodley Adopt a Street Project and felt that she was doing a marvellous job.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note Report No. CS 10/14.

84. **WOODLEY TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE**

Members noted the Town Centre Manager had been doing a very good job organising the farmers markets, car boot sales and other events in the town centre and that commercial income raised was twice the level of the grant the partnership received.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note the report of the Woodley Town Centre Management initiative meeting held on 29 January 2014.

85. **HIGHWAYS**

- a) Members noted the reply received from Wokingham Borough Council to the letter expressing the Town Council's concern over the scheduling of road works in Woodley and the disruption caused to local road users.
- b) **Road Works/Street Works Major Project Co-ordination meetings**
Members noted the reports from Councillor Walker on the Wokingham Borough Council Road Works/Street Works Major Project Co-ordination meetings held on 18 February 2014 and 18 March 2014.
- c) **Temporary road closures**
Members noted the following temporary road closures to enable carriageway resurfacing works to take place. The Order would come into operation on 28 April 2014 and its maximum duration would be 18 months or until completion of the works, whichever was earlier.
- i) **Fairwater Drive, Woodley**, closed in both directions between its junctions with Woodlands Avenue and Antrim Road. It was anticipated that the works would be carried out from 12 February to 19 February 2015.
- ii) **Mohawk Way, Woodley**, closed in both directions for its full length. It was anticipated that the works would be carried out from 21 July to 22 July 2014.
- iii) **Colemansmoor Road at its junction with Miles Way, Woodley**, closed in both directions for its full length. It was anticipated that the works would be carried out from 21 July to 22 July 2014.
- iv) **Oak Drive, Woodley**, closed in both directions from its junction with Colemansmoor Road for its full length. It was anticipated that the works would be carried out from 23 February to 24 February 2015.
- v) **Western Avenue, Woodley**, closed in both directions between its junctions with Butts Hill Road and Reading Road. It was anticipated that the works would be carried out from 16 February to 18 February 2015.
- d) Members noted that highway improvement works had recently taken place at the roundabout at the junction of Headley Road East with Spitfire Way and Hurricane Way.

86. **TREE PLANTING IN FAIRWATER DRIVE**

Members noted the Wokingham Borough Council would be planting three trees (all Fastigate Hornbeams) in the highway verges along Fairwater Drive over the Easter holidays.

87. **COMMUNITY REFUSE VEHICLE**

Members noted that the Waste and Recycling Manager at Wokingham Borough Council had explained that when allocating a community refuse vehicle to the Airfield Centre site from January to March 2014, he had failed to check with Veolia how many vehicles were available, and had mistakenly over-allocated the vehicles; therefore the extra vehicle for the Airfield Centre unfortunately could not be included in the schedule for 2014/15. The Waste and Recycling Manager had apologised to Woodley Town Council for this error and the problems it had caused.

The Chairman stated that several residents had commented that it had been a good idea to have a community refuse vehicle visiting the Airfield Centre and it was a shame that the service could not be continued.

88. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATION UPGRADES**

- a) Members noted the General Background Information for Telecommunications Development document received from Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd (CTIL).
- b) Members noted correspondence received from Telefonica UK Limited and CTIL regarding a proposed upgrade to the existing telecommunications installation at Bulmershe School.
- c) Members noted correspondence received from Vodafone Ltd and CTIL regarding a proposed upgrade to the existing telecommunications installation on land adjacent to Mays Lane Cemetery, Earley.
- d) Members noted that a similar upgrade is proposed to the telecommunications installation at Duffield Bridge, Duffield Road, Woodley.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To make no response to the proposed upgrades to the telecommunications installations.

89. **ANNUAL GRANTS 2014/15**

Members noted that thanks had been received from ARC, Readibus, WTSC, Keep Mobile, Lend and Play Toy Library and CAB, and all had confirmed that they had insurance to carry out their respective activities.

90. **BUS SHELTER IN FAIRWATER DRIVE**

Members noted that the Service Support Manager was continuing to chase this with both the loss adjuster and Reading Buses' insurer, but that both had been very slow to respond to this issue. Following discussion, it was agreed that Shared Legal Solutions be commissioned to correspond on this matter on the Council's behalf.

91. **AIR QUALITY IN WOODLEY**

The Town Clerk reported that, following investigation into the monitoring of air quality in the borough, she had obtained an air quality report from Wokingham Borough Council. This was quite a complicated document and she therefore thought it would be useful to invite an officer from Environmental Health at Wokingham Borough Council to give a presentation on air quality matters. Members agreed that this would help the understanding of future air quality reports.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To invite an officer from Environmental Health at Wokingham Borough Council to provide an update on air quality matters in the borough.

92. **PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note receipt of the following:
 - Wokingham Station Link Road Newsletter – February 2014
 - The Source – News from South East Water

93. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Under this item it was requested that the Town Clerk write to Reading Buses to enquire why the Council had not been contacted as part of the recent consultation on bus routes in Woodley.

94. **PUBLICITY AND WEBSITE**

There were no suggestions for items to be publicised.

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm

Chairman