

- 2545 Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 7thOctober 2019**
The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 7thOctober 2019 were **NOTED**.
- 2546 To approve the recommendation from the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2019 that a formal complaint be made to the Secretary of State regarding Oldham Council's continued failure to fully consult with the Parish Council on planning applications.**
Cllr Allsopp explained the continuing problems which had given rise to this recommendation. He said that the Parish Council has a statutory duty to review all planning applications in the parish and this was being made difficult by Oldham Council's withdrawal of the provision of hard copy plans and not putting electronic copies of the plans onto the planning portal in time for them to be considered at the Planning Committee meetings. However, he acknowledged the very positive comments arising from the meeting with Sean Fielding, the Leader of Oldham Council the previous week in which the Leader said that he would look into these issues as a priority and said that, given Cllr Fielding's undertaking together with the current national political issues, it was perhaps not the right time to take the issues up with the Minister. Following Cllr Allsopp's comments a vote was taken and the recommendation was **NOT APPROVED**.
- 2547 Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 14thOctober 2019**
The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 were **NOTED**.
- 2548 To approve the recommendation from the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 that the Parish Council adopt a formal Reserves Policy**
The recommendation from the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 that the Parish Council adopt a formal Reserves Policy, a draft of which was circulated, was **APPROVED** and the draft policy was **ADOPTED**.
- 2549 To approve the recommendation from the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 that the Parish Council allocate £4,200 from the General Reserve to fund the replacement of the downspouts at the Civic Hall.**
Cllr Sheldon explained that the Estates Committee had agreed to improved lighting at the front of the building and a modification to the drain outside the kitchen door, which was causing flooding during heavy rain, were in progress and would be funded from the Estates Committee budget. He said that some other renovations were being considered which would also be funded by that committee. However, the downspouts are in a very poor state of repair and could very soon become a health and safety issue. Several quotes had been received for the replacement of the cast iron downspouts with aluminium ones and the Estates Committee had requested that the Finance Committee agree to fund this from the release of general reserves. The recommendation from the Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 that the Parish Council allocate £4,200 from the General Reserve to fund the replacement of the downspouts at the Civic Hall was **APPROVED**.
- 2550 Minutes of the Traffic & Transport Committee Meeting held on Thursday 24thOctober 2019**
The minutes of the Traffic & Transport Committee Meeting held on Thursday 24th October 2019, which were circulated at the meeting, were **NOTED**.
- 2551 Greater Manchester Combined Authority consultation – Doing Buses Differently**
Cllr Hulme referred to the consultation document which is 139 pages long and which contains 48 consultation questions, although an option to respond to a shorter, 9 question, version is available. The deadline for responses is 8th January 2020. He explained that the proposals are the first step in the implementation of a London-style integrated system throughout Greater Manchester. He proposed, and it was **AGREED that the Traffic and Transport Committee prepare a response on behalf of the Parish Council and that this be submitted to the meeting on 16th December for approval prior to submission to the GMCA.**

Cllr Hulme added that a drop in session is being arranged for Friday 29th November for members of the public to encourage them to make their own responses to the consultation. He also encouraged members of the Council to make their own individual responses.

2552 Motion proposed by Cllr Woodvine and seconded by Cllr Sheldon that:

“This Council urges First Group and all relevant parties - including Transport for Greater Manchester - to immediately suspend the proposed changes to the 180 and 184 bus service timetable.”

Due to the changes having been implemented on 28th October, Cllr Woodvine amended the motion to read

“This Council urges First Group and all relevant parties - including Transport for Greater Manchester - to immediately reconsider the changes to the 180 and 184 bus service timetable.”

Cllr Woodvine explained the changes which had been implemented by First Group without any consultation. The changes particularly affect Greenfield as the 180 service has been seriously reduced and the Sunday service withdrawn. The 184 service revisions include a reduction in the number of stops between Saddleworth and Manchester. Cllr Sheldon said that he could understand reductions in of peak services but that the peak services are necessary for commuters and schoolchildren. He said that the changes, particularly as Greenfield train station has not been listed for rail upgrades, will result in an increase in car usage. Cllr Hulme said that he has already written a letter of complaint on behalf of the District Partnership. Cllr Belmore thanked Cllr Woodvine for his motion and said that it was outrageous that First Group had not consulted on such major changes. Cllr Byrne said that both services a widely used by school pupils, including Saddleworth and Mossley Hollins schools, and by students at the Bluecoat School and Sixth Form College in Oldham. Cllr Sheldon said that the reduction of bus services between Saddleworth and Oldham would contribute to the already serious demise of the High Street as shoppers would also be adversely affected.

The amended motion was **APPROVED**.

2553 Verbal report from Cllr Darlington, Chairman of the Environment Committee, regarding grant funding for the Climate Change leaflets.

Cllr Darlington said that he had approached Saddleworth Hydro for a grant to fund the production of the Climate Change leaflet. He said that although they had been very supportive, they felt that the leaflet should be more Saddleworth-focussed and that other relevant parties should have the opportunity to contribute to the content of the leaflet. He said that they had also requested an amended layout from the draft. He asked for volunteers from the Parish Council to join a working group to redesign the leaflet for resubmission to the Council at a future meeting. The Chairman asked for volunteers and Cllrs Woodvine and Hulme agreed. Cllr Darlington said that Cllr Al-Hamdani had already agreed to be a member of the group.

A meeting of the group will be held on Monday 18th November.

2554 Report from Cllr Beeley on the Peak Park Parishes Day, Saturday 12th October 2019

Cllr Beeley reported that she and Cllr Kevin Dawson had attended the Parishes Day. She had made some notes from the day, which had been circulated with the agenda together with information about the 2 workshop sessions which they had attended. Cllr Dawson had attended the workshop on Sustainable Travel and she had attended the workshop on Visitor Management. She said that she had brought some literature back with her and this was available in the office if anyone was interested. The day had been interesting and had afforded the opportunity to network with representatives from other parishes.

2555 Changes to Committee Memberships for 2019/2020

The Clerk reported that, in order to accommodate Cllr Woodvine's academic studies, the following changes to the committee memberships for 2019/2020 were proposed:

- Cllr. Woodvine to move from the Strategic Planning Committee to the Estates Committee;
- meetings of the Estates Committee to be held at 10:00am instead of 10:30am; and
- Cllr. K. Dawson to join the Strategic Planning Committee to replace Cllr Woodvine.

The proposed changes were **APPROVED**.

2556 Feedback for the meeting with Cllr Sean Fielding, Leader of Oldham Council, Tuesday 22nd October 2019

The Chairman said that he felt the meeting had been a productive one which covered a wide range of issues, including the planning issues referred to in M2546 and the problems with the bus services. He said that the latter was ironic as Cllr Fielding had travelled by bus and arrived half an hour late. He felt that the Parish Council had presented a good case and believed that Cllr Fielding now had a better understanding of what the Parish Council actually does. He referred to Cllr Fielding's public Facebook post following the meeting, a screen shot of which had been circulated, which included some very positive comments. He said that Cllr Fielding is open to attending more meetings, possibly with other members of Oldham Council's Cabinet, and had suggested that he meet on a regular basis with himself. He said that he was looking forward to a closer and more constructive relationship with Oldham Council.

2557 Yorkshire Devolution Movement – correspondence with Cllr Sean Fielding, Leader of Oldham Council

The Clerk had received copies of the correspondence which had been circulated with the agenda at the request of the Yorkshire Devolution Movement. Cllr Allsopp referred to Cllr Fielding's letter which incorrectly said that 2 boundary stones had been erected by the Parish Council but that these had actually been erected by the Civic Trust. He added that the Parish Council had not decided not to progress the erection of more brown tourism signs but this was the result of Oldham Council's withdrawal of Revenue Support Grant funding from the Parish Council. He asked that the Clerk write to Cllr Fielding to correct these misunderstandings.

2558 Accounts for Payment for September 2019

The accounts for payment for July 2019 totaling £22,438.50 were **APPROVED**.

2559 Any Other Business

Cllr Phillips said that period poverty is a growing issue in the Borough and said that, if councilors wished to donate items, she would collect them at each meeting and distribute them to the most appropriate recipient at the time. Cllr Byrne asked that underwear be donated in addition to sanitary products. Cllr Phillips asked that a reminder be included on future agendas.

Cllr Beeley said that Springhead Community Association's Arts and Crafts exhibition was to be held this coming weekend and entry to the exhibition is free. Cllr Darlington said that the One World Fair is also taking place this weekend.

Cllr Allsopp said that the wreath laying for Remembrance Day will take place at 7.15pm on Monday 4th November and, if necessary, the start of the planning Committee meeting will be delayed to allow people to attend.

The Chairman said that the charity Flea Market held on Sunday had raised £1,300. He thanked the members of the charity committee for their hard work and support. Cllr Byrne said that Paul and Aileen Fryer had both worked extremely hard to help make the event a success.

The Chairman reminded everyone of the Halloween Ball which will take place on Friday 1st November.

2560 Dates of Next Meetings

The dates of future meetings are:

Monday 25th November 2019
Monday 16th December 2019
Monday 27th January 2020
Monday 24th February 2020

Monday 23rd March 2020
Monday 27th April 2020
Monday 18th May 2020 (AGM)

all at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:40pm.