MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COLNE AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT COLNE TOWN HALL ON 12th MAY, 2016

PRESENT-

Co-optees

N. Butterworth D. Clegg M. S. Foxley A. R. Greaves D. E. Lord N. T. McCollum J. Nixon S. Pettv

Mr. A. Sutcliffe (Colne Town Council)

S. E. Cockburn-Price G. Roach G. Waugh P. White

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J. Cooney and Mr. J. Dransfield (Trawden Forest Parish Council)).

Officers in attendance:

Neighbourhood Services Manager and Area Co-ordinator Peter Atkinson Jane Watson Senior Committee Administrator

1.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor G. Waugh be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

Councillor G. Waugh (Chairman – in the Chair)

2.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor J. Nixon be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

3.

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTEES

RESOLVED

That the following co-optees be appointed for the ensuing Municipal Year from the organisations stated:-

Representatives from Colne Town Centre Forum, Colne Town Council, Foulridge Parish Council, Laneshaw Bridge Parish Council and Trawden Forest Parish Council

4.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the declaration of interests.

5.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr. O'Connor from Glen Street, Colne referred to a question he had raised in June, 2014 requesting the painting of a yellow box at the junction of North Valley Road and Glen Street, Colne. The matter had been referred to the County Council's Traffic Liaison meeting who had refused the request. Mr. O'Connor asked if the matter could be raised again as access and egress from Glen Street was proving difficult.

The Chairman said he wasn't hopeful the response from the County Council would be any different but he said the request would be referred back to the Traffic Liaison meeting. Councillor D. E. Lord who was also the County Councillor for that area volunteered to follow up the request.

6.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of this Committee at the meeting held on 31st March, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7.

PROGRESS REPORT

A progress report on action arising from the last meeting was submitted for information.

8.

PLANNING APPEALS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted, for information, a report giving the up-to-date position on appeals.

9.

ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES

(a) Outstanding Enforcements

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted, for information, a report giving the up-to-date position on enforcement matters.

RESOLVED

That the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manger be requested to circulate to the Committee, via email, updates on the following:

PLE3062Convenience Store on Keighley Road, ColnePLE3149Land at Argyle Street, ColnePLE16/0018Tram Tracks at Trawden

(b) Enforcement Action

The Democratic and Legal Manager submitted, for information, a report giving the up-to-date position on enforcement matters.

RESOLVED

That the Democratic and Legal Manager be requested to circulate to the Committee, via email, an update on the Herders Inn, Trawden.

(c) Hubbs House Farm, Colne

The Chairman informed the Committee that a response had recently been received from the Chief Executive of the County Council, Jo Turton, to his letter dated 26th February regarding enforcement issues and unauthorised tipping activities at Hubbs House Farm. Although unlawful activities had been ongoing at this site over the past 3 years the County Council were still collecting evidence and preparing to take the matter before the Magistrates Court by way of a prosecution rather than serving an injunction.

The Committee were concerned that the County Council had not yet decided to serve an injunction on the owner for the unlawful activities being undertaken on the site. Their reason was that they were of the opinion that this should only be used if there had been persistent breaches of planning control over a long period where other enforcement options had been ineffective. The Committee's opinion was that other enforcement options had been served and proved to be ineffective and the problem had been ongoing since 2013. It was reported that additional evidence in the form of photos and a witness statement had been sent to the County Council from Environmental Services in April 2016.

RESOLVED

That on behalf of this Committee the Chairman send a further letter to the County Council acknowledging the work done so far regarding the unauthorised activities at Hubbs House Farm, Colne but also referring to the evidence already provided by Pendle Council going back to 2013 with a request that the County Council consider serving an injunction as soon as possible.

REASON

In order to ensure that activities at the farm are brought under satisfactory control and that the continued harm to the environment being caused ceases.

10.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016/17

The Neighbourhood Services Manager reported that the current balance for the Committee's Capital Programme for 2016/17 was £2,163.

Three bids were submitted for consideration:

- (a) Repairs and upgrade to LED lighting on the path between Windy Bank and Mason Street, Colne £1,400
- (b) Changing Places Disabled Bathroom Facility £2,000
- (c) Colne Rhythm and Blues Festival 2016: Town Centre Entertainment £4,575

RESOLVED

That the following allocations be approved:

- (a) Repairs and upgrade to LED lighting on the path between Windy Bank and Mason Street, Colne £1,400
- (b) Changing Places Disabled Bathroom Facility £2,000
- (c) Colne Rhythm and Blues Festival 2016: Town Centre Entertainment £4,575

REASON

To enable the capital programme funding to be allocated efficiently and effectively.

11.

TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

Minutes of the Traffic Liaison meeting held on 14th April, 2016 were submitted for information.

The Committee raised a number of concerns and asked for them to be referred to the next meeting of this group.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Traffic Liaison meeting be asked to consider the following at its next meeting:
- Request for double yellow lines outside the shop on the corner of Skipton Road and Varley Street, Colne (vans park outside the shop and cause an obstruction for vehicles exiting Varley Street onto Skipton Road).
- Shaw Street, Colne be effectively narrowed by the use of road markings to slow down the traffic (the 20mph road signage needs to be improved).
- Request for 20mph zone to be implemented throughout Trawden.
- (2) That a representative from the County's Traffic section along with the relevant Portfolio Holder from the County Council be invited to meet with the Committee to discuss a range of traffic issues.

REASON

To address traffic issues.

12. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Haverholt Road, Colne

It was reported that the residents had requested the road be re-surfaced. The majority of the road was unadopted with one section owned by the County Council.

RESOLVED

That the Neighbourhood Services Manager be asked to submit a report to the next meeting on costs to resurface Haverholt Road, Colne along with details of how requests for private street works are administered.

REASON

In response to a request received from the residents and to inform Councillors about the procedure for private street works.

13.

PROBLEM SITES

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report on problem sites in the area.

It was suggested that the Homes and Communities Agency be contacted regarding possible gap funding which could possibly assist with the redevelopment of the former Hycrome site in Colne. A meeting with the owners of the site was also suggested.

There was a discussion about the deteriorating condition of Bank House on Albert Road, Colne. It was reported that the property had been sold but progress on bringing the property back into use was slow.

Another property which was causing concern was the former Children's Home, Applegate on Albert Road, Colne. This property had been for sale for over 12 months and again its condition was deteriorating.

Photographs of an untidy area of land on Walton Street, at the rear of the furniture shop on Craddock Road, Colne, was circulated at the meeting. The site was becoming overgrown and unsightly and it was suggested that this be considered under the sites included in the Environmental Blight report.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That a meeting be arranged with the owners of the former Hycome site in Colne and the possibility of obtaining gap funding from the Homes and Communities Agency for the redevelopment of this site be investigated.
- (3) That reports on Bank House, Albert Road, Colne and the former Children's Home,

Applegate, Albert Road, Colne be submitted to the next meeting prior to them being added to the Problem Sites list.

(4) That the area of land on Walton Street, at the rear of the furniture shop on Craddock Road, Colne be added to sites included in the Environmental Blight report.

REASON

To address issues associated with various properties/areas of land within the Colne and district area.

14.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME UPDATE

The Environmental Services Manager submitted, for information, a report detailing environmental crime for the period 1st January to 31st March, 2016 in the Colne area. This included spend on litter/dog waste bins and the annual totals for 2015/16.

It was noted that Section 215 Notices were repeatedly being served on the same properties. There was a discussion about the use of Community Protection Notices which may be able to be used for some of these offences.

15.

PARKS UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Services Manager submitted, for information, a report which provided an update on the current Parks, Recreation and Green Spaces work along with upcoming plans/development for the parks and green spaces in the Colne area.

Reference was made to the LNR survey which was yet to be undertaken and concerns had been expressed that officers had not yet signed the required paperwork to enable this survey to be undertaken.

It was also reported that at the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Ball Grove concerns had been raised that delivery vehicles to the café were restricted by the height barrier and a request had been made to the Council 18 months ago for the boulders to be removed. Currently vehicles had to drive over the grass which was not ideal.

There was also a comment made that the contractors who had carried out the improvements to the changing rooms at Holt House should be contacted about the defective paint used for the floors and that this cost should not be paid by the Council.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That updates of the issues raised above be emailed round to the Committee as soon as possible.

REASON

To keep the Committee informed.

16.

GARAGE SITES

The Neighbourhood Services Manager submitted a report within provided a list of garage sites within the boundary of the Colne and District Committee. This included the current rental income for each site along with a recommendation for the future management of each site.

The Transfer of Services and Facilities to Town and Parish Councils Committee were in the process of considering transferring garage sites to Town and Parish Council. The Committee have asked the Area Committees for their comments on the future management of the sites in their areas before they make a decision.

There was some discussion that the minute did not reflect the decision made by the Transfer of Services and Facilities to Town and Parish Councils Committee.

RESOLVED

That the matter be referred back to the Transfer of Services and Facilities to Town and Parish Councils Committee for clarification.

REASON

To clarify the request.

17. COLNE PREMISES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS: 2015/16 SUMMARY

The Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager submitted, for information, a report which provided a summary of the Colne Premises Improvement Grants scheme for 2015/16.

18.MISCELLANEOUS MINUTES

Minutes of meetings held by the Friends of Greenfield LNR, the Friends of Alkincoats Park and the Friends of Ball Grove were submitted for information.

19.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The following item had been requested by this Committee and a report would be submitted to a future meeting:-

Types of replacement tree grilles (report requested 04.02.2016)

Chairman _____