# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COLNE AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT COLNE TOWN HALL ON 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019

#### PRESENT -

The Worship the Mayor (Councillor K. Hartley)

Councillor G. Waugh – Chairman (In the Chair)

Councillors	Co-optees	Constabulary Representative
N. Butterworth D. Clegg S. Cockburn-Price V. Fletcher M. S. Foxley P. Foxley A. R. Greaves D. E. Lord A. Mann J. A. Nixon	B. Hodgson M. Thomas C. McBeth	Inspector A. Winter Inspector A. Cartwright

#### Officers in attendance

David Walker Environmental Services Manager

Kathryn Hughes Principal Development Management Officer

Lynne Rowland Committee Administrator

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N. McCollum and S. Petty.)

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The following person attended the meeting and spoke on the item indicated –

John Hartley Outstanding Enforcements Minute No.42(a)

#### 35. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

# 36. THE MAYOR OF PENDLE

The Worship the Mayor of Pendle, Councillor Ken Hartley attended the meeting and gave a brief talk on his role as Mayor of the Borough and his plans for his Mayoral year.

# 37. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

 Mr W. Blackburn referred to social media reports of unauthorised activities taking place in relation to the development at land to the East of Windermere Avenue, Colne. He asked that the Planning Department be requested to ensure that the developers of the site keep within the regulations.

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 Mr Blackburn also made reference to a leaflet that had recently been circulated around Colne Town Centre by Britain First which he said included inflammatory remarks. He stated that the content was not factual and asked that the Committee condemn the remarks.

It was understood that the leaflet had been produced in response to a planning application for the conversion of St Bartholomews School, Exchange Street, Colne for which a petition objecting to the application had been received. It was believed that the petition also contained inaccurate information and was responsible for encouraging community hatred.

The Planning application would be considered by the Committee at a future meeting.

38. MINUTES

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 39. PROGRESS REPORT

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

#### 40. POLICE ISSUES

Inspector Winter advised the Committee of Central Government funding of £1.5m that had been allocated to Lancashire, for use in 2019/20 only, to prevent and reduce the fear of knife crime. This had been subject to a further £325k based on data of recorded violence and hospital admissions relating to injuries caused by knives.

Work on the operational side had already begun, with a team of one sergeant and six constables being tasked to patrol a specific area every weekend (Friday/Saturday/Sunday night). Operations had taken place in Pendle on 24<sup>th</sup> May and 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Work was also due to take place in schools and with youth groups.

A number of other issues were raised by Members which included –

- drug dealing and/or drug use at Ivegate across from the Duke of Lancaster pub, behind the library and in the cemetery which, although it appeared to have reduced slightly, continued to be an ongoing problem;
- the collection of a large number of needles that had been discarded;
- two serious incidents that had occurred on the Millenium Green. One in which a young boy
  had been forcibly fed drugs and a second where an autistic youth had been seriously
  assaulted.

These incidents would be investigated further by the police.

Inspector Winter finished by informing the Committee of his upcoming retirement and thanked Members for their help and support during his time in the area. He introduced his replacement, Inspector Andy Cartwright, who would attend future meetings of the Committee bi-monthly.

The Committee expressed their thanks to Inspector Winter and wished him well for the future.

# 41. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

# (a) Applications to be determined

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report of the following planning applications to be determined -

18/0768/FUL

Full: Major: Conversion of upper floors and part ground floor of mill building to form 8 dwelling houses; demolition of weaving shed and erection of 6 dwelling houses and associated external works (Re-submission) at Black Carr Mill, Skipton Road, Trawden for CRS Plant Ltd

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager reported that a noise assessment had been requested, but had not yet been submitted. Without this there was not sufficient evidence to show that the existing commercial uses would not have an undue impact on the aural amenity of the proposed residential units and therefore the scheme could not be fully assessed.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be delegated authority to **grant consent** subject to receipt of the requested noise assessment and a satisfactory resolution to any noise issue.
- (2) That, should the requested information not be received within two months of the date of this Committee, and the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be minded to refuse the application, it be referred back to this Committee for further consideration.

#### REASON

To allow for due consideration.

19/0083/HHO Full: Change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden and erection of a detached garage with office accommodation above at Thornlea, Lane House Lane, Trawden for Mr and Mrs N. Waring

Further to this item being deferred at the last meeting of this Committee following a dispute over land ownership, it was reported that there had been no submission of evidence from either party in relation to ownership of the land.

#### **RESOLVED**

That consideration of this application be **deferred** to the next meeting of this Committee.

#### REASON

To allow time for the affected parties to provide evidence of land ownership.

# (b) Appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report which advised the Committee of three outstanding appeals. The following two appeals had been dismissed –

18/0749/PIP Appeal against refusal of permission in principle of erection of detached

19/0001/AP/REFUSE dwelling house and garage at Land East of Carry Bridge Farm, Coal Pit

Lane, Trawden, Colne

PLE/17/1380 Appeal against Enforcement Notice at 82 Albert Road, Colne

18/0008/AP/ENFORCE

# 42. ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES

# (a) Outstanding enforcements

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report, for information, which gave the up-to-date position on outstanding enforcement cases.

Mr Hartley of the Lidgett and Beyond Charity raised a number of concerns with regard to the work being carried out at land to the East of Windermere Avenue, Colne (ref. PLE/19/0550). The Committee was advised that many, if not all of the issues had already been brought to the attention of the Council's Planning Department. The majority related to activity that was taking place in accordance with the planning conditions. Others were being addressed.

A discussion was held in relation to a number of other cases detailed in the report. It was noted that the unauthorised activity that had been taking place at the Municipal Hall, Albert Road, Colne (ref. PLE/19/0408) had now ceased.

# **RESOLVED**

That file reference PLE/19/0408 – Use of D2 premises as bar/pub venue, Municipal Hall, Albert Road, Colne be removed from the list of outstanding enforcements.

#### REASON

The unauthorised activity has ceased.

#### (b) Enforcement action

The Head of Legal Services submitted a report, for information, which gave the up-to-date position on prosecutions.

A verbal update was given with regard to a number of cases listed.

#### (c) Hubbs House Farm, Colne

It was reported that the owner of Hubbs House Farm, Colne was due to be released from prison tomorrow.

# (d) Persimmon Homes Site, Knotts Drive, Colne

No further issues were reported with regard to the Persimmon Homes Site, Knotts Drive, Colne. It was noted that a further residents' meeting was due to be held tomorrow evening.

#### 43. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that the current balance of the Committee's capital programme for 2019/20 was £9,471.

Members were reminded of the Vivary Bridge environmental improvement fund allocation that had an uncommitted balance of £7,285. They were asked to consider allocating this spend to the approved road surfacing scheme at Haverholt Road, Colne.

Members were also asked to consider a bid of £1,000 for drainage improvements at Carriers Row.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the uncommitted balance of £7,285 from the Vivary Bridge environmental improvement fund be allocated to the approved road surfacing scheme at Haverholt Road, Colne.
- (2) That a total of £500 be allocated towards Carriers Row drainage works and this be funded equally by the capital funds of Councillors S. Cockburn-Price, M. Foxley and P. Foxley.

#### REASON

To allocate the Committee's capital programme effectively.

#### 44. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2018/19

Members noted the allocations made to date under the Community Investment Fund.

#### 45. PROBLEM SITES

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on problem sites in the Colne and District area. It was noted that the Kippax Buildings, Dockray Street, Colne were now secure and planning permission was in place for a change of use.

Members were advised that, at the Committee's request, a report on 95 Skipton Road, Colne would be submitted to the next meeting.

A request was also made for investigations to be carried out with regard to water pouring from the back yards of 40 and 42 Walton Street, Colne. It was stated that this matter had been reported to the Council and United Utilities previously.

# **RESOLVED**

(1) That the Kippax Buildings, Dockray Street, Colne be removed from the Committee's list of problem sites.

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- (2) That it be noted that a report on 95 Skipton Road, Colne was due to be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.
- (3) That appropriate officers be asked to carry out investigations with regard to water pouring from the back yards of 40 and 42 Walton Street, Colne and report back to a future meeting of this Committee.

#### REASON

- (1) The site is no longer a problem.
- (2) For information to help determine whether to add the properties to the Committee's list of problem sites.

#### 46. FORMER PUBLIC CONVENIENCES – COLNE BUS STATION

The Committee considered a report of Liberata Property Services which sought approval to proceed with landscaping works to screen the former toilet block at Colne Bus Station.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) That approval to proceed with landscaping works to screen the former toilet block at Colne Bus Station be refused.
- (2) That Liberata Property Services be asked to submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee providing alternative options for this site, to include details of the options presented to this Committee in March 2019.

#### REASON

To allow for further consideration.

# 47. LAND ADJACENT TO GREAT HOUSE FARM, RED LANE, COLNE

The Committee considered a report of Liberata Property Services which recommended that land adjacent to Great House Farm, Red Lane, Colne be declared surplus to requirements following an enquiry received from the adjacent property owner.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to declare land adjacent to Great House Farm, Red Lane, Colne as shown edged black on the plan attached to the report, surplus to requirements and, subject to satisfactory negotiations with the adjoining property owner, grant delegated approval to the Chief Executive for the disposal.

#### REASON

In the interest of good land management and to gain a capital receipt.

# 48. LAND AT LENCHES ROAD, COLNE

The Committee considered a report of Liberata Property Services which advised on a request for

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the various restrictive and positive covenants covering five parcels of land fronting, and to the rear of, Lenches Road, Colne to be removed. The lifting of the covenants would allow the land owner to develop the site, subject to the appropriate planning permissions being in place.

#### **RESOLVED**

That consideration of this item be **deferred** to a future meeting of this Committee.

#### **REASON**

To allow for further information.

# 49. ALKINCOATS PARK MULTI-USE GAMES AREA

The Environmental Services Manager submitted a report which provided Members with updated costs and plans for the siting of the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) in Alkincoats Park, Colne.

These had been developed in response to the resolution of this Committee at its meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 which was as follows –

'That consideration be given to using the funding already allocated for this scheme to fund the creation of a hard core area, for use primarily by younger children, on the informal grassed football area between the tennis courts and the children's play area; and for the installation of a MUGA at the end part of the tennis courts, currently used as a kick about area'.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the new plans and costs detailed in the report, developed based on the above resolution, be approved.

# REASON

To ensure the MUGA is located in the best position in the park and to enable the project to move forward.

# 50. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report on environmental blight sites in the Colne and District area.

A discussion was held with regard to the land off Skipton Road roundabout which had become overgrown with weeds and brambles. It was understood that the land was owned by Lancashire County Council, who had given permission for Pendle Council to clear the site. However, in order to do this funding would have to be identified. Plans for future maintenance of this steep section of land would also need to be agreed.

It was reported that in 2017 a proposal had been put forward to sow wildflower seeds on this section of land. The Committee felt that wildflowers would require a lot of management and collect rubbish and generally were not in favour of this option.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Council's Engineers and Environmental Services be asked to discuss possible options for this site and provide an update to the next meeting of this Committee.

#### REASON

To ensure the land around the roundabout is properly and efficiently maintained.

# 51. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES – HARTLEY HOMES TRUST

The Committee was reminded that the Council, via this Committee, appointed four Nominated Trustees to the Hartley Homes Trust, for fixed four year terms (or the unexpired term where there was a resignation). There were currently two Nominated Trustees appointed by this Council (Councillor J. Nixon to 2020 and Councillor M. Foxley to 2021) which left two vacancies.

At the last meeting, the Committee put forward Councillor D. Lord as a Nominated Trustee. However, as Councillor Lord was already one of the seven Life Trustees which, under its Constitution the Trust itself appointed, she could not be appointed as a Nominated Trustee.

Therefore the Committee was asked to make nominations to fill the two vacancies, one to 2022 and one to 2023.

Reference was also made to the decision of this Committee, at its last meeting, to appoint Councillor N. Butterworth to the Trawden and District Agricultural Society. It was noted that Councillor S. Cockburn-Price had shown an interest in this particular appointment.

Councillor Butterworth was happy for the appointment to be reconsidered.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the following nominations onto outside bodies be agreed –

Hartley Homes Trust Councillor A. Mann

Trawden and District Agricultural Society Councillor S. Cockburn-Price

# 52. COLNE AND DISTRICT WORKING GROUP OF THE COLNE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of a meeting of the Colne and District Working Group of the Colne Community Safety Partnership held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 were submitted for information.

# 53. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The following items had either been referred to this Committee or requested by the Committee. Reports would be submitted to future meetings.

- (a) Residents Parking, Calder Street, Colne (07.02.19) (Result of survey)
- (b) Land off Laithe Street, Colne (07.03.19)
- (c) Old Mill sites in the South Valley (04.04.19) (Report on outcome of the meeting)
- (d) 95 Skipton Road, Colne (09.05.19) (Potential problem building)

CHAIRMAN	