MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COLNE AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON 8TH OCTOBER, 2020

PRESENT -

Councillor G. Waugh – Chairman (In the Chair)

Councillors Co-optees

D. Clegg T. Clark

S. Cockburn-Price

V. Fletcher

M. S. Foxley

P. Foxley

A. R. Greaves

D. Lord

N. McCollum

J. Nixon

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N. Butterworth and A. Mann and M. Thomas (Colne Town Council).)

Officers in attendance

Neil Watson Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager (Area

Coordinator)

Lynne Rowland Committee Administrator

50. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

51. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

52. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th September, 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

53. PROGRESS REPORT

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

54. POLICE ISSUES

In the absence of a police representative there was no update on police issues.

55. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning appeals

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on planning appeals.

56. ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES

Enforcement action

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

A verbal update on a number of cases was provided.

57. NATIONAL PLANNING REFORMS

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report for information on reforms to the General Permitted Development Order (2015) and Use Class Order (1987) made by the Government in July 2020.

The report had been considered by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 17th September, 2020 at which it was agreed that an additional comment be added to the response to Government in relation to affordability of housing in areas of low land values.

58. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager submitted a report which advised Members on the Committee's 2020/21 capital budget.

59. TRAFFIC LIAISON MEETING

The minutes of the Traffic Liaison meeting held on 9th September, 2020 were submitted for information.

A discussion was held regarding the traffic lights at the junction of Langroyd Road and North Valley Road, Colne. It was understood that the timing of the lights had been tuned to improve traffic flow. It was agreed that this in itself was not deemed to be a problem, however the short light time at this junction often led to vehicles proceeding through a red light.

Although the issue had not recently been discussed at the Traffic Liaison meeting, the Committee was advised that Lancashire County Council had recently approached Colne Town Council to discuss the possibility of linking into the Town Council's CCTV cameras along this route. This had been agreed to and, as a result, the lights could be monitored off-site and adjusted remotely.

However, Members felt that this may not address the problem of vehicles dangerously proceeding through a red light, as the cameras could fail to record this information.

RESOLVED

That, in view of the frequency of vehicles proceeding through a red traffic light at the Langroyd

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Road/North Valley Road junction and the danger this presents, the Traffic Liaison Group be requested to consider what action could be taken to address this problem.

REASON

So that this dangerous problem of numerous drivers jumping the lights while on red is satisfactorily tackled.

60. TACKLING CONTAMINATION IN RECYCLING BINS

The Environmental Services Manager submitted a report which provided Members with an update on plans to tackle the issue of contamination within the recycling materials collected via household and commercial schemes.

The Committee acknowledged the issues reported and the work being carried out to address the problem. In addition, a number of suggestions were made. These included engagement with primary schools and the use of bin stickers, providing information on what could/could not be placed in the bin.

RESOLVED

That the views of this Committee be relayed to the Environmental Services Manager and the matter be discussed further at the next meeting of this Committee.

REASON

To address the borough wide issue of contamination in recycling bins.

61. TREE PLANTING ON COUNCIL OWNED LAND

Following consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 17th September, 2020, the Committee was invited to comment on a report of the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager. The purpose of the report was to discuss proposals to increase the Council's efforts in planting trees on Council owned land; to inform Committee of funding opportunities; to discuss and propose the need for a Tree and Woodland Strategy for Pendle; and to agree the proposed tree planting annual target.

Appendix 1 to the report provided a list of proposed sites, which included land adjacent to Alkincoats Park; Langroyd sites; and King George V, Colne.

Members suggested a number of other sites that could be suitable for planting, most of which were privately owned. They also felt that there should be some community engagement. The Committee was advised that there was a limited budget and limitations on where the trees could be planted. However, all ideas were welcome and arrangements would be made for the Council's Tree Officer to contact the ward councillors.

62. RE-OPENING OF PENDLE'S TOWN CENTRES

There was no further update on the Action Plan for Colne Town Centre.

63. 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 9th September, 2020 were submitted for information.

64. ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that there were no existing environmental blight sites in Colne and District and no new sites had been put forward.

65. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The following item had been requested by the Committee. A report would be submitted to a future meeting.

(a) Land off Laithe Street, Colne (07.03.19) (09.05.19)

66. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED

That in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the next item of business when it is likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings or the business to be transacted, that there will be disclosure of exempt information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

67. OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

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

He answered a number of specific questions relating to the report.