MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COLNE AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT COLNE TOWN HALL ON 8TH JUNE, 2023

PRESENT-

Councillor D. Cockburn-Price (Chair)

D. Albin N. Butterworth S. Cockburn-Price	M. Thomas A. McGladdery
D. Lord	
K. McGladdery	
T. Ormerod	
A. Sutcliffe	

Co-optees

Officers in attendance

Councillors

Neil Watson Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services Lynne Rowland Committee Administrator

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K. Salter, B. Hodgson (Trawden Forest Parish Council) and R. Bucknell (Laneshaw Bridge Parish Council).)

The following persons attended the meeting and spoke on the items indicated -

Andrea Pickles	Proposed Asset of Community Value 02/2023/ACV	Minute No.38
	Langroyd Hall	

Kerry Parsons Items for discussion – Essex Street garage site Minute No.41(a)

26.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the declaration of interests. The following person declared a pecuniary interest in the item indicated –

Councillor T. Ormerod Proposed Asset of Community Value 02/2023/ACV Minute No.38 Langroyd Hall

27. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

28.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th May, 2023 be approved as a correct record and

signed by the Chair.

PROGRESS REPORT

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

During discussion, reference was made to the resolution regarding the Cemetery Lodge, Keighley Road, Colne. Members reiterated the request that the property be marketed through an online platform and that the listing clearly highlighted the situation regarding the parking, garden and electric gates.

In a verbal update from a Member, the Committee was advised that the local businessman who had gifted the stone spheres on Hartley Square was happy for them to be relocated to an equally prominent position in the town. A suitable location was being sought.

30.

29.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning appeals

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report on planning appeals.

31.

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 was also given.

32.

AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2023/24

The Director of Place reported that the current balance for the Committee's area committee budget for 2023/24 was £41,390.

Further to consideration of a bid for funding of £2,500 for improvements to the drainage of the communal footpath to the allotments on site of Grosvenor Street and Mabel Street, Colne being deferred at the last meeting, a site visit had taken place. The bid was resubmitted for consideration.

Members were also asked to consider a bid from Colne Town Council for a contribution of £4,000 towards Colne Grand Prix.

A Waterside and Horsfield Ward Councillor also made an urgent request for a contribution of £300 to Elisha House drug rehabilitation project for the provision of four, four-man tents for use on an upcoming trip to Ben Nevis.

Further to a request at the last meeting, Members had been updated on the maintenance arrangements for Knotts Drive Pond. The Committee was no longer being asked to consider a bid for funding.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the bid from Colne Town Council for a contribution of £4,000 towards Colne Grand Prix be refused.
- (2) That an allocation of £500 be made to Grosvenor and Mabel Community Land Trust towards improvements to the drainage of the communal footpath to the allotments on the site of Grosvenor Street and Mabel Street, Colne.
- (3) That funding of £300 be awarded to Elisha House, Colne subject to receipt of a completed area committee budget bid form.

REASON

To allocate the Committee's budget effectively.

33.

COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES AND POLICE MATTERS

The crime figures for May, 2023 compared to the same period last year were submitted for information. The figures related to the policing areas of Waterside, Horsfield, Colne Rural, Vivary Bridge and Foulridge and the totals were broken down as detailed below.

	2022	2023
Burglary – Residential	6	4
Burglary – Commercial	2	0
Vehicle Crime	15	8
Hate Crime	0	0
Assaults	48	29
Theft	47	17
Criminal Damage	17	13
All Recordable Crime	252	193
Anti-Social Behaviour	76	37

Draft minutes of a meeting of the Colne and District Working Group of the Colne Community Safety Partnership held on 11th May, 2023 were submitted for information.

The Chair also provided a brief update on community safety issues and police matters following his attendance at the earlier Community Safety Partnership meeting. It had been reported that Pendle Council was no longer providing administrative support for the meetings.

The Committee made a further request for town centre incidents and domestic violence offences to be recorded separately. Consideration had previously been given to this request and at that time it had been determined that under the current system this would be a very time-consuming process and would not be practical given the work and time constraints involved.

RESOLVED

- (1) That Pendle Council be asked to reinstate the administrative support to the Colne and District Working Group of the Colne Community Safety Partnership.
- (2) That the Police and Crime Commissioner be advised of this Committee's concern over the way in which the crime figures were reported; a request be made that Colne Town

Centre incidents and domestic violence offences be recorded and reported separately; and information be sought on when a new Town Centre Officer would be appointed.

REASON

- (1) To assist the Colne Community Safety Partnership in its valuable work for the residents of Colne and District.
- (2) To progress the request for more detailed information on crime in the Colne and District area.

34. COLNE YOUTH ACTION GROUP

An update was provided on the work and activities of the Colne Youth Action Group (CYAG).

It was reported that the new staff member was now in post and actively getting involved in projects, partnerships and activities. The Group was hoping to recruit a further part-time senior member and a junior member and was also working in partnership with University of Central Lancashire and Nelson and Colne College for placement staff and volunteers respectively.

35. LEVELLING UP FUNDED PROJECTS

An update on progress with the Colne Levelling Up Fund (LUF) projects had been circulated prior to the meeting. The projects consisted of the Heritage Quarter (the Muni Theatre, Little Theatre, and Pendle Hippodrome) and Colne Market.

It was noted that, at its 25th May meeting, the Executive agreed to set up a Working Group to consider the proposals for the remodelling of Colne Market Hall. The Group consisted of two Executive Members, two representatives from Colne Town Council, two representatives of Colne and District Committee, and two market traders. The representatives from this Committee had been agreed as Councillors David Cockburn-Price and Ash Sutcliffe.

36. COLNE MARKET FORUM

Draft minutes of the Colne Market Forum meeting held on 15th May, 2023 were submitted for information.

37.

COLNE BID

An update was provided on the work of Colne Business Improvement District (BID) which included outreach and partnership work. Details of past and upcoming events in the town were also provided.

The BID was in its fifth and final year. A campaign, with business plan, was currently ongoing to be elected for another five-year term. The result was expected on 30th June.

38. PROPOSED ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE – 02/2023/ACV LANGROYD HALL

(Councillor T. Ormerod declared a pecuniary interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting for this item only.)

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report for Members to consider whether Langroyd Hall met the criteria for designation as an Asset of

Community Value and to determine whether the property should be added to the list of Assets of Community Value for Pendle.

RESOLVED

That the Langroyd Hall premises not be designated as an Asset of Community Value.

REASON

The application fails to demonstrate that the criteria contained in Section 88 of the Localism Act 2011 will be satisfied; it fails to show there has been a social interest derived from the property; and it is not realistic to think there is a time in the next five years that there could be a use that furthers the social wellbeing or interests of the local community.

39. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Committee was asked to consider appointing representatives to a number of outside bodies/organisations.

RESOLVED

(1) That Pendle First Aid Services and Luther Greenwood Festival Committee be asked to confirm if a Council representative is still required and, should it be the case, the following nominations be agreed -

Pendle First Aid Services -Luther Greenwood Festival Committee - Councillor Kieran McGladdery Councillor Neil Butterworth

(2) That the following nominations onto outside bodies be agreed –

Trawden and District Agricultural Society -	Councillor Sarah Cockburn-Price
Colne Business Improvement District -	Councillor Sarah Cockburn-Price

REASON

To maintain Council representation on outside bodies.

40.

VIVARY WAY SKATEPARK, COLNE

The Assistant Director, Operational Services submitted a report which updated Members on progress with potential layout and financial implications for a proposed skatepark adjacent to Vivary Way, Colne.

The following three contractors that specialised in the construction of concrete skateparks had been approached for assistance in initial costings and scheme possibilities –

- Canvas Spaces Ltd, Bristol
- Clark & Kent Contractors, Market Drayton
- Playcrete & Bendcrete Leisure Ltd, Abingdon

The report provided approximate costings from each contractor with example schemes.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Assistant Director, Operational Services be requested to pursue the scheme illustrated in sample 09 from Canvas Spaces Ltd, Bristol.
- (2) That Members agree to actively assist in sourcing funding for the project.
- (3) That the initial capital budget of £11,540, re-allocated in the Council's capital programme by this Committee at its December 2021 meeting, be used to fund the planning application fees of £462 and the £3,000 required to draw up initial plans to generate funding bids.

REASON

- (1) To contribute to the corporate plan of developing a wider, sustainable leisure offer, to enhance health and wellbeing for those who live, work and study in Pendle.
- (2) To draw in site users from outside of the Borough and increase footfall through the Colne BID.
- 41. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Essex Street garage site

It was reported that the garage site at Essex Street had been derelict for a number of years and posed a danger to the public. It was understood that the roofs of the garages contained asbestos and were at risk of falling through, especially as children played on them. A request was made for the garages to be demolished and removed from site urgently and an open green space or similar play area created for the benefit of the community.

Reference was made to some funding that had previously been set aside by members of this Committee to create a pocket park in the area. It was noted that the area had been designated as a local green space in the, yet to be adopted, Colne Neighbourhood Plan. However, as a result of a cap on the Committee's budget carry forward, the funding had had to be reallocated to alternative projects.

RESOLVED

That Liberata Property Services and the Council's Building Control Manager be asked to carry out an urgent inspection of Essex Street garage site and report back to this Committee on proposed actions to make it safe and to develop the area and, in the meantime, an Essex Street residents' group consider how the existing Essex Street local green space and the garage space could be used for the benefit of the community in the future.

REASON

In the interests of public safety and amenity.

42.

ENVIRONMENTAL BLIGHT

Members were advised that there were no existing environmental blight sites in the Colne and District area.

A potential site had been put forward to an officer of the Council for investigation.

43. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The following items had been requested by the Committee. Reports would be submitted to a future meeting(s).

- (a) Conservation areas
- (b) Town Boundary Signs
- (c) Parcels of land to the rear of Belgrave Road; Dam Side; Primet Bridge; Primrose Hill; and to the west of Bankfield Street

44. EXCLUSION OF THE 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 items of business when it was likely, in view of the nature of the proceedings or the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure of exempt information which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENTS

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted, for information, a report which gave the up-to-date position on outstanding enforcement cases.

A verbal update was given on a number of cases on the list.

46.

45.

PROBLEM SITES

The Committee asked that reports be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on a number of potential problem sites in the Colne and District area.

47. ABANDONED VEHICLES

The Assistant Director, Operational Services submitted an update on progress on reported abandoned vehicles in Colne and District.

The Committee asked that future reports comprise a comprehensive list of all reported abandoned vehicles, including long-term cases, and that the vehicles remain on the list until the situation had been resolved.