

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE held at The Guildhall, Faversham, on Wednesday 2nd October 2019

Present:

Cllr C Belsom

The Mayor, Cllr A Reynolds
Cllr H Perkin

Cllr C Williams
Cllr J Irwin

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham – Town Clerk

11. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr C Jackson

12. Declaration of Interests

None

13. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by Cllr Irwin and on being put to the meeting were agreed.

14. Allotments

Inspections of Stonebridge and Millfield Allotments had taken place the previous Saturday and members were very impressed with them both. It was agreed to send a note of thanks.

Cllr Belsom noted the request regarding the listed wall which needs to be removed during works to the bridge. As the three year agreement had now expired, KCC were seeking agreement from the Secretary of State again. A meeting will be taking place on site with the Conservation Officer and Town Caretaker in due course. It was proposed by Cllr Perkin, seconded by the Mayor, Cllr Reynolds and on being put to the meeting it was ***RECOMMENDED that the Town Council allow the removal of the listed wall to Stonebridge Allotments site.***

Cllr Belsom confirmed a meeting with North Preston Allotment holders will be held the following evening. Information from the current treasurer had been received and that from the secretary was still awaited. It was agreed that the Town Council would take over the running in the interim period and move forward in a positive way, with an AGM taking place in November.

15. Youth Working Group

The Mayor was excited about the proposed youth café pilot scheme at the Umbrella Centre, although she raised concerns as to whether youth people would go to that location. She also noted that her and Cllr Jackson visit the WFCC where they are looking to increase the number of evenings available to the youth. Rev Rowlands has purchased a youth bus and it was agreed to set up a meeting with him and Rev Rev Daniel Corcoran and the Salvation Army. Cllr Perkin agreed it was important to put all the pieces of the jigsaw together to ensure there was no duplication. It was agreed to see how the pilot café ran and seek future funding. Concerns were raised over the required DBS checks and other requirements, all of which will be investigated. A safeguarding policy will be required.

16. Boat Building Project

Alan Thorne is looking for funding to build 4 skiffs, this is a project for both young and old. Councillors supported the idea and will advise of potential funding opportunities such as SBC heritage grant.

17. Events

The WW2 bunting project will be launched on Friday 1st November and it was agreed to speak to the Market Co-operative and other traders to arrange a 40's weekend for VE75 commemorations.

The Festival of Transport is considering a Friday evening at the Town Quay to include boats and the Creek. The bike shop has also agreed to be involved and vintage bikes will be invited in West Street. Cllr Perkin suggested using the Rec and having bike races.

18. Strategic Plan and Budgeting

The existing plan was considered

Directory of community groups	This has in part started with Sports Council concept
Increase in tourism	Being undertaken by ED Officer and she has been asked to provide information on proposed project and funding
Increased engagement with schools	This could include the 'no idling scheme' being promoted by the Climate & Biodiversity and Public Spaces Committees and the Plastic Free Faversham Whale project at the Environment Day
Better communication with grass cutting etc	Moved to Public Spaces Committee
Set up a volunteer database	Cllrs T Martin and Knights had discussed an idea of getting all groups together with the EDO; signing up for volunteer support; town symposium; an un-conference and facilitating conversations with likeminded groups were all discussed. Cllr Irwin didn't think the Volunteers Fair was effectual.
Providing sustainable floral displays	Moved to Public Spaces Committee
Work to increase SpeedWatch and LorryWatch	Public Spaces Committee

Short term investment for long term gain was agreed with perhaps a community focus group for sport and the elderly in the first instance.	£5,000
Youth Council: proposed events – silent disco, careers fair and open mic Open air cinema Working with Abbey Youth Council on funding projects	£10,000
Stonebridge Allotment listed wall maintenance	£5,000

Allotments general fund	£10,000
Caretaker container	Tbc
Detached youth worker – possibly a 12 month contract linked to outcomes	£30,000
Total	£60,000

19. Any Other Business

None

20. Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be 4th December 2019.