

Minutes of the Meeting of the Public Spaces Working Group

Thursday 25th November, 9:30am

Cllr Thomas	Cllr Williams	Cllr Saunders
C Oswald-Jones	Cllr Perkin	Cllr Hook
A Andrews	S Ramm (SBC)	

In Attendance:

L Bareham (Town Clerk)

141. Apologies for Absence

A Blackburn (KCC)

142. Declarations of Interest

None

143. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were voted on at the last Town Council meeting.

Chris Oswald-Jones asked for a correction to the minutes on item 137, where it says, 'needs permission', it should say 'may need'. This amendment was **AGREED**.

144. Budget

Cllr Thomas noted that out of the remaining £6,000 in the budget, £2,000 is outstanding to SBC for Queen's Hall Car Park.

145. Benches

Adam Andrews gave an update on the benches. The six serpentine benches have been refurbished. To make the benches more accessible, it will be requested that the bins are moved further away from the benches.

Swale has painted the serpentine benches gold.

ACTION - Sophia Ramm (SBC) will ask the contractor about this issue. Cllr Hook suggested that the gold is left until the next time they are refurbished to save public resources.

ACTION - Sophia will also follow up with the contractor to make the benches SBC have refurbished level.

146. Additional Bench

Cllr Hook has received request for a new bench where the public are waiting for the new X4 bus. An example photo of the bus shelter was shown.

ACTION – A Andrews to measure the pavement to determine whether a bench, rather than a bus shelter, can be put there.

147. Town Signs

Adam Andrews gave an update on the refurbishment of the town signs. It is hoped they will be ready late December or early January, when Adam will refit them.

148. Town Centre Cycle Racks

Joseph Hannah repainted one of the racks at the end of West Street green, making it stand out a lot more. It was suggested that the green doesn't make the racks more attractive to cyclists.

It was **recommended** that the racks are left black and only repainted as required. It was **AGREED** to have a cycle rack under the Guildhall. **ACTION** – Adam to confirm location with a photograph.

149. Queen's Hall Car Park

Cllr Williams updated the meeting on the works at Queens Hall car park to repair the brick planters there. Two additional tree pits have also been installed. It has been observed that two trees have had to be re-clad, but they are lower than the root ball. The aesthetics are fine, but it could do with another layer. A quote for this has been found, which will come to £515 + VAT for both trees.

It was **proposed** that another sleeper layer be installed for each tree, and on being put to the meeting it was **AGREED**.

ACTION – Adam to review whether one sleeper layer will be adequate and liaise with Cllr Thomas.

150. KCC Highways

In Alan Blackburn's absence Cllr Thomas provided an update. There are 350 red bricks missing from West Street, these will be replaced at the end of January. There is no date yet for when the cobbles in Court Street will be repaired. Sophia provided an update on the drop kerbs; some have been agreed. This will be picked up in the next financial year but have been marked out ready.

151. HIP

Cllr Thomas referred to the HIP spreadsheet. There have been some updates where KCC have refused some proposals or new proposals have been added.

Cllr Saunders noted that we could have a prioritisation list for the HIP, similar to that for the LCWIP. This will be picked up in the new year.

152. SBC's Faversham Town Centre Improvement Project

Cllr Thomas referred to the document containing the list of improvements.

Sophia gave an update on behalf of SBC:

- The planters by Court Street and East Street gates have been returned to where they were loaned from. **Action** – Louise to begin the process of applying for funding for the planters to be returned.
- The drop kerbs will be progressed.
- The Forbes Road underpass improvement works are still planned for the end of January.
- There is no confirmed date for the water bottle refill point.
- Lamp column painting in Cross Lane will not go forward until spring next year.

Action – wrapping the old Iceland store and the phone mast hoarding to be investigated.

153. FTC's PSWG Town Wide Improvements

Items 6, 10, 12 and 7 on the spreadsheet were recommended to be removed.

Cllr Hook suggested that a path across the King George playing field be added to the list.

Adam noted that item 12, the bollard, should stay as it is recommended for security of the Magna Carta exhibition.

154. Matters for Report

None.

Minutes typed by Abi Rainbow