



Minutes of the Meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held at Bollington Town Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14th November 2023

Those present:

Cllrs: Gary Appleton (GA), Michael Broadbent (MB), David Kent (DK), Johanna Maitland (JM), Judy Snowball (JS), Angela Williams (AW)

Chair: Cllr David Kent

Town Manager/Officer: Harriet Worrell

Declarations of Interest

None

Public and press present

None.

CE116/23 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

None

CE117/23 To receive and confirm the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 10th October 2023.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 10th October 2023, CE105/23-CE115/23, were approved as a true record.

CE118/23 Matters arising from the minutes.

a. Update from Cllr Maitland on NECCP.

The core NECCP team has met and agreed to initially focus on considering grant applications. Cllr JM will provide a further update at the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

b. Update from Cllr Maitland on the shop local initiative.

There are three potential schemes: Shop Local, Totally Locally and British Independent Retailers Association (BIRA), each with a different approach. Shop Local is membership based, Totally Locally is a community led network, BIRA provides resources for businesses. Cllr JM felt more research is required into what each scheme offers and potential benefits to Bollington. Other neighbouring towns support the shop local message by different means: Poynton has a business map, Congleton has a business forum, Knutsford has a voucher scheme that can only be used in the town.

The Town Manager to find out more about the Knutsford voucher scheme e.g. who administers it and how much resource is required, its success and who prints the vouchers, report back to the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

Cllr JM to find out more about Totally Locally and report back to the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

c. Update from Cllr Kent on advice from Plastic Free Bollington on how to reduce dependency and use of single use plastics.

There has been no response to emails so Cllr DK queried if the email address was active or being monitored.

Cllr JM to try another contact and report back to the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

d. Update on a Terracycle bin at the Town Hall.

The Town Manager advised One Project is due to deliver a bin for terracycling, which will need labelling so it is clear what items can be deposited. One Project will arrange collections. The Town Manager to publicise the new bin when it is in situ.

e. Update on wildflower planting along Wellington Road.

The CEC Ranger and Town Wardens have prepared stretches of the bank and sown wildflower seeds. The Committee gave their thanks for the hard work.

f. To receive an update from Cllr Appleton on the availability of subtitles for the 20 is Plenty video and Congleton e-learning carbon footprint course.

Cllr GA is still looking at options and will provide an update at the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

CE119/23 To receive an update on the Climate Action plan

a. To receive an update from Cllr Kent on a climate action strategy plan.

The strategy incorporates relevant items from '50 things a council can do' with the existing high-level plan and information compiled by a previous Councillor and the Town Manager. Cllr DK has, where practical, included how actions can be delivered and measured. The strategy to be reviewed by Full Council following this committee's comments and thereafter reviewed annually. Cllr DK sought comments.

Cllr JM supports the document but highlighted that any actions for the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) need to be delivered in 2023-24 not 2025 as the revised NP will be finalised before 2025, that there is no budget assigned to EV chargers at the Civic Hall and that input is sought from the Cheshire Wildlife Trust on a nature strategy.

Cllr JS sought the Planning and Town Development committee has input on actions assigned to it and whether they are achievable, and felt the nature strategy could involve several organisations.

Cllr GA asked for more time to read before commenting.
Further comments to be made at the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

b. To note the plan for climate action ‘eco hot-tips’ to June 2024.

The committee had agreed to a monthly hot eco tip at the September meeting.

Cllr JS asked if the gardening for wildlife in autumn could be expanded.

Cllr JM advised that the Bollington Photography Group may support the tips with photos, and suggested a graphic is produced to frame any image to identify the post as an eco-tip.

The Town Manager to liaise with the Bollington Photography Group.

c. To receive an update on the additions to the BTC Green Bollington webpage.

The Committee was happy with the updated Green Bollington webpage but sought that there is better signposting to it e.g. from a News item and Facebook.

CE120/23 To receive the minutes from the Events Working Group meeting held on 16th October 2023.

a. To agree to support a Light Up White Nancy event in April 2024.

RESOLVED: That the Committee supports a Light Up White Nancy event in April 2024.

b. To agree to commemorating the D-Day 80th year anniversary on 6th June 2024, with a beacon on White Nancy and Market Place road closure, and local primary schools invited to read the Chelsea Pensioner Poem at 11am.

RESOLVED: That the Committee agrees to a D-Day 80th year anniversary on 6th June 2024, with a beacon on White Nancy and Market Place road closure, and local primary schools invited to read the Chelsea Pensioner Poem at 11am.

c. To agree to a Green Week 8th-16th June 2024.

RESOLVED: That the Committee agrees to a Green Week 8th-16th June 2024.

Cllr DK asked if an eco/green market could be combined with a Love Bollington Market which is a successful model used by Congelton for their September Green Fayre. The Town Manager to seek the view of Love Bollington Market.

The Town Manager to add Green Week to all Councillors diaries.

d. To agree to an event, or series of events, in support of Mental Health Week 13th-19 May 2024.

RESOLVED: That the Committee agrees to an event, or series of events, in support of Mental Health Week 13th-19 May 2024.

RESOLVED: That the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Cllr JM advised that the Boundary Walk plan is set in spring each year so that any review of the Mayor’s Boundary Walk by the Events WG would need to be made before then.

CE121/23 To consider a response to the St Gregory's School closure consultation.

Cllr JS advised that the Ward Councillors had met with the school and diocese and there seemed strong support at that meeting for a Special Education Needs (SEN) school. Cllr JM commented that based on social media posts there seemed strong support in the community for a SEN school.

RESOLVED: That Cllr JS prepares a response on behalf of the Council in support of a SEN school, circulated to all Councillors for review and comment, and to be returned as an email by the closing date of 26th November 2023.

RESOLVED: That all Councillors are invited to respond to the consultation in support of a SEN school and that the consultation is shared on the Council's Facebook page.

CE122/23 To note the Mersey Forest presentation on tree planting.

The information was noted followed by some debate on whether the Council should express an interest to the Mersey Forest in tree planting around Bollington including opportunities for land use.

Cllr JM to contact a local resident involved in tree planting to enquire if he would benefit from additional support.

The Town Manager to seek more information on what support the Mersey Forest can provide.

CE123/23 To receive an update on an NECCP grant for the Bollington Town Map and Footpaths.

The NECCP has provided a grant of £700 towards the production of the Bollington Town and Footpath map. The Town Hall staff has a list of local businesses and will focus initially on contacting businesses that attract visitors to the town, such as cafes and restaurants pubs, hotels and possibly visitor accommodation, about featuring in the publication.

CE124/23 To consider a Food Resources page on the Council website.

RESOLVED: That a new page is created on the Council website on local food resources and information from organisations promoting food for all and healthy eating, with the addition of the Too Good To Go app, the new Cre8 grocery price, and a link from the Green Bollington webpage.

RESOLVED: That the next Council newsletter includes an article on sources of food support.

RESOLVED: That Cllr JS contacts the editor of Bollington Live on whether the publication can feature regular updates on information provided by the Council website.

CE125/23 To consider a response to the Cheshire Fire Authority 2024-2028 Draft Community Risk Management Plan.

The Town Manager to contact Bollington Fire Station for its understanding of the Draft Community Risk Management Plan and report back to the next Community & Environment Committee meeting.

CE126/23 To note the cost for the Lawful Use application for flying the Progress Pride flag.

The cost was noted at £58.50.

CE127/23 To receive the Local Policing report.

The local policing report was received and the PCSO thanked.

CE128/23 To receive a report from the Bollington Fire Service.

The Bollington Fire Service report was received and the fire service thanked.

CE129/23 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 12th December at 7pm in the Town Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.16pm

Signed:.....Dated: