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WERNETH AREA COMMITTEE

Meeting: 28 September 2020

At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Christine Corris (Chair) in the chair; Councillor Angie Clark (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Stuart Corris, Chris Gordon, Mark Roberts and Lisa Smart.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 17 August 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

The following interests were declared:-

Personal Interest

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Chris Gordon	Agenda Item 10 – Residents Parking Report as the Chair of the Stockport Disability Forum

Personal & Prejudicial Interests

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Lisa Smart	Agenda Item 4(vi) – Ward Flexibility Funding – Woodley and Romiley Towpath Team (WARTT) as a volunteer for WARTT.
Angie Clark	Agenda Item 4(vi) – Ward Flexibility Funding – Woodley and Romiley Towpath Team (WARTT) as a volunteer for WARTT.
Mark Roberts	Agenda Item 4(vi) – Ward Flexibility Funding – Woodley and Romiley Towpath Team (WARTT) as a volunteer for WARTT.

3. URGENT DECISIONS

It was reported that on 7 September 2020 the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of the Area Committee, took urgent action under the Constitution to allocate £15,000 from the Area Committee's Delegated Budget (£7,500 from each of the Bredbury & Woodley and Bredbury Green & Romiley ward allocations) towards the cost of funding the provision of an alternative rail service on the Rose Hill (Marple) to Guide Bridge railway line for a temporary one week period.

RESOLVED – That the urgent decision be noted.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

(i) Chair's Announcements

The Chair reported and thanked everyone in the Community to petition and save Rose Hill Station.

The Chair also reported on the Romiley Active Neighbourhoods Consultation which had begun seeking local residents views on making Romiley a safer place to walk, cycle and live. The consultation would conclude on the 23rd October 2020 and local residents could access the consultation by using the following website www.romiley.commonplace.is or by calling 0161 217 6043 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm).

(ii) Public Question Time

Members of the public were invited to put questions to the Chair on any matters in the powers or duties of the Area Committee, subject to the exclusions set out within the Code of Practice.

One public questions was submitted as follows: -

- Relating to the flooding on Cherry Tree during the flood event of late July / early August 2019 and why had it been left out of the draft flooding report by Mott McDonald when the Friends of Tangshutt passed on details of the flooding issues on Cherry Tree to Mott McDonald and United Utilities at the Council's organised drop in session.

In response, it was stated that the draft report was to ensure that local residents and the committee could comment on the report while it was in draft format and an assurance was given that the details raised in the question would be included in the final version of the report.

(iii) Public Realm

Councillor Smart enquired about previous meetings when either a written report was submitted or an officer was in attendance and it was disappointing that neither had been done for this meeting as either was welcomed and appreciated by the Committee.

A request was made for the waste bins to be checked in the public spaces in the Bredbury and Romiley Ward for the replacement of street furniture.

A request was made for the Public Realm Team to visit:

- Otterspool Road and to check the overgrown grass on the footpaths and cycle paths and the littering on the streets from the takeaway shops.
- The footpaths in Romiley Ward in the vicinity of Stockport Road and Urwick Road and Urwick Road to Chadkirk Road for overgrown nettle.

RESOLVED – (1) That a written report relating to the Public Realm be submitted to future meetings.

(2) The following issues raised be forwarded to the Public Realm team for action accordingly: -

- Waste bins to be checked in both wards of the Area Committee for potential replacement of street furniture that was no longer deemed usable.
- Otterspool Road and to check the overgrown grass on the footpaths and cycle paths and the littering on the streets from the takeaway shops.
- The footpaths in Romiley Ward in the vicinity of Stockport Road and Urwick Road and Urwick Road to Chadkirk Road for overgrown nettle.

(iv) Petitions

No petitions were submitted.

(v) Open Forum

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive reported that no organisations had indicated that they wished to address the Area Committee as part of the Open Forum arrangements.

(vi) Ward Flexibility Funding - Woodley and Romiley Towpath Team - WARTT

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service & Monitoring Officer (Legal & Democratic Governance) submitted an application received on behalf of Woodley and Romiley Towpath Team towards the cost of erecting signage.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to an application received from the Woodley and Romiley Towpath Team for a grant of £770 from the Ward Flexibility Budget towards the cost of erecting signage.

5. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

There were no development applications to consider.

6. PLANNING APPEALS, ENFORCEMENT APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENT NOTICES

A representative of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration submitted a report of the Strategic Head of Service & Monitoring Officer (Legal & Democratic Governance) (copies of which had been circulated) listing any outstanding or recently determined planning appeals and enforcements within the area represented by the Bramhall & Cheadle Hulme South Area Committee.

A request was made for an update on the Tree Replacement Notice to be submitted to the next meeting.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That an update on the Tree Replacement Notice be submitted to the next meeting.

7. 2019 FLOODING DRAFT INVESTIGATION REPORT

A representative of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) presenting the various aspects of the flood events that occurred on the last week of July and first week of August 2019 and specifically incorporated the draft Independent Section 19 Investigation Report in accordance with the Flood & Water Management Act (FWMA) 2010 on the investigation into the flooding events that had been undertaken independently by Mott MacDonald Consulting Engineers.

The following comments were made/ issues raised:-

- It was suggested that once the Appendices were completed that it should be submitted to the Area Committee for consideration.
- It was noted that work was already underway in Layfield Avenue to alter the 'curb', but it was suggested that the local residents be engaged and informed of the process involved to avoid any complaints relating to the work being undertaken.
- Members welcomed the report and the references to the blocked gullies in Romiley as a reasons for some of the flooding as it would mean that there would now be scheduled cleaning to avoid any future flooding.
- It was noted that there was a reference on page 72 of the report to the 'cistern draining' into the Etherow. It was suggested that this be amended to correctly read "cisterns draining into the Goyt".
- It was suggested that there was no mention of the University Estate in the report despite the problems with flooding in the area. In response, it was noted that there were different problems associated with the site and the issues raised were already being discussed with the estate and that if there are no references in the Appendices to the site, then this would be noted.
- There also needed to be included in the report the issues with Werneth Low due to the increased rainfall and the flooding on Werneth Road.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the Appendices once completed would be submitted to the Area Committee for consideration.

8. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS TO LAY WREATHS AT REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service & Monitoring Officer (Legal & Democratic Governance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) requesting the Area Committee to appoint Councillors to lay wreaths at Remembrance Day Services at Bredbury and Romiley War Memorials on Sunday, 8 November 2020.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to the appointment of the following Councillors to lay wreaths on Sunday, 8 November 2020:-

Bredbury War Memorial - Councillor Chris Gordon
Romiley War Memorial - Councillor Angie Clark

9. RESIDENTS PARKING REPORT

A representative of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) detailing proposed revised principles to guide future parking policy decisions and seeking feedback on the proposed changes to resident parking policy and town centre parking policy to reflect the revised principles.

The following comments were made/issues raised:-

- It was suggested that the proposal to provide councillors with a free permit covering all residents parking zones in their wards and cabinet members to park across the borough should be removed from the proposed scheme.
- Members welcomed the flexible approach adopted in the report by balancing the needs of the various road users and officers being able to apply their discretion, rather than a one size fits all across the borough.
- Clarification was sought regarding the list of medical, paramedics and carers permits and the costs of the permit. In response, it was noted that carers rely on the 'visitors permit' with limited timeframes and it was being looked at in terms of the options and what works well and best managed.
- Concern was expressed regarding the increase in charges and the potential discrimination that could be shown against low income families who could not afford off road parking and may need a vehicle for work e.g. delivery and taxi drivers.
- It was commented that the moratorium on the residents parking schemes would be welcomed once the policy is in place.
- It was suggested that disabled bays was not addressed in the report and some consideration should be given to residents parking bays and blue badge users and the monitoring of the enforcement in those areas. In response, it was noted that the issue raised regarding the disabled bay was also being considered, but due to the legislation there was very little that could be done.
- It was noted that the increase in charges should not be doubled in one go, it should be phased in over two or three years. In response, it was noted that the Cabinet Member responsible was still considering the increase in charges and the concerns that had been raised and the outcome would be reported to the Committee at a future meeting.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

10. PROGRESS ON AREA COMMITTEE DECISIONS

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service & Monitoring Officer (Legal & Democratic Governance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) updating the Area Committee on progress on decisions taken by the Area Committee since the last meeting and the current position on the Area Flexibility and the Delegated budget.

A request was made for a report relating to Mill Lane and Rodney Drive being submitted to the next meeting.

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A request was made for official Council notices to be displayed in the wards to advertise the funding options that were available from the Council for those experiencing difficulties and for businesses re-opening.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That a report relating to Mill Lane and Rodney Drive be submitted to the next meeting.

(3) That a request be made for official Council notices to be provided to the ward councillors to advertise the various funding options to local residents and businesses to assist their re-opening and for local residents experiencing difficulties during the pandemic.

The meeting closed at 6.45 pm.