

Gorleston Area Committee

Minutes

Thursday, 17 December 2015 at 18:00

PRESENT:

Councillor T Wainwright (in the Chair); Councillors Fairhead and Walker.

County Councillor Grey

Mr K Huggins (Fusion Hairdressers)

Mrs C Webb (Senior Member Services Officer)

12 members of the public.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no Declarations of Interest declared at the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Blyth, Grey, Plant, Pratt, Walker, Williamson and Wright.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2015 were confirmed.

4 MATTERS ARISING

(i) GP Surgery Relocations.

The Chairman reported that the CGP had recommended the Shrublands site to NHS England for approval. It was hoped that NHS would approve this recommendation in the new Year and that the new surgery would be up and running within 24 months.

(ii) Swings at Pirate Ship at Gorleston Cliffs.

The Chairman reported the sad passing of John Field who had been instrumental in this project. Condolences had been sent to his family.

(iii) Driveway Obstructions

The Chairman reported that if a dropped kerb was being obstructed, a Council CPE Officer could issue a penalty charge notice. However, there was a strict limit as to how far across the dropped kerb they had to be before a PCN could be issued.

(iv) Greater Yarmouth BID

The Chairman reported that County Councillor Grey had requested that a BID Board member attend the next meeting and therefore, Kevin Huggins, was in attendance and would give a presentation.

5 A SHORT PRESENTATION BY KEVIN HUGGINS ON THE GREAT YARMOUTH BID

Kevin Huggins gave a presentation on how the Greater Yarmouth BID operated.

County Councillor Grey asked how you could become a BID Board member. Kevin Huggins reported that a letter detailing the process had been included with the last invoice. County Councillor Grey also suggested that the Board should consider holding evening meetings to allow more small business owners to attend.

Kevin Huggins reported that events such as Gorleston in Bloom, the Priory Gardens Project and the Gorleston Christmas Lights had benefited from BID grants.

The Chairman thanked Kevin for his informative presentation.

6 GORLESTON CONSERVATION AREA COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that following the resignation of the Chairman, Margaret Ward, the meeting on 21 September 2015 did not go ahead and the Committee had since been disbanded.

Councillor Fairhead reported that it was hoped that the Committee might be reinstated in the New Year if a new Committee could be formed.

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

(i) Kennedy Avenue.

Residents raised concerns as they were uncertain as to what improvements the County Council had agreed following the recent public consultation.

The Chairman reported that County Councillor Plant was not present to clarify the situation. However, he would make further enquires and bring a copy of the plans to the next meeting.

County Councillor Grey reported that it was imperative that the resulting scheme was

right for the residents of Kennedy Avenue.

(ii) Savings resulting from closure of toilets in the Northern Parishes.

A member of the public raised concerns that savings amounted to £32k from the closure of public toilets in the Northern Parishes was to be given to St.Georges Theatre.

The Chairman reported that this issue would be discussed at Full Council on Monday, 21 December 2015. He felt that the grant of £40k to St.Georges Theatre should be taken out of Council reserves and not from these savings, which if sanctioned, could bring the Council into disrepute.

County Councillor Grey suggested that the Council grant given to stage the Out There Festival should be given to St.Georges Theatre instead.

Councillor Walker reported that the Council gave a grant of £75k to Seachange Arts, which delivered the Arts Strategy on behalf of the Council, of which, the highly successful Out There Festival was one of the events staged in the Borough which brought a huge revenue receipt in to the Town.

(iii) Tree maintenance

A resident was concerned about the damage to local drains from tree roots in Poplar Avenue and asked who was responsible for tree maintenance.

The Chairman reported that this was a County matter and that if a resident held concerns regarding a particular tree that they should contact their County or Ward Councillor in the first instance.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reported that there was no other business of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 24 March 2015 at 6 pm in Gorleston Library.

10 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

The meeting ended at: 18:55