

## FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Climate and Environment Committee meeting held on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 at 7pm at the Town Hall.

**Present:** Councillors Ann Berry, Abena Akuffo-Kelly (Chair), Ray Field, David Horton, Connor McConville, Jackie Meade, Tim Prater, Belinda Walker and Richard Wallace.

**Absent:** Cllr Danny Brook

**In attendance:** Vicky Deakin – Communities & Events Officer  
Liz Timmins – Communities & Grants Officer

One member of the public was in attendance.

### 14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

### 15. MINUTES

The Committee were asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 and to authorise the Chairman of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Jackie Meade

Seconded: Councillor Connor McConville

Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

At this juncture it was

**RESOLVED:** That agenda Item 7. Trees 2021 / 22 be brought forward.

Proposed: Councillor Richard Wallace

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

### 16. TREES 2021 / 22

Following suggestions from Councillors, Tree Wardens and members of the public; the Tree Working Group compiled the tree planting schedule in partnership with KCC. The schedule includes proposals for planting throughout Folkestone Parks and Highways. Committee were asked to consider the draft schedule and approve the release of the £15,000 budget.

Cllr Richard Wallace and the C & E Officer updated the committee further to which it was

**RESOLVED:** That the planting schedule be approved in principle and further to receipt of a KCC site inspection report, the final list of viable sites be sent to all Town Councillors for last inspection / feedback upon which it is agreed that, providing trees are planted equally, where practicable across all FTC Wards, the £15k budget be released.

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo - Kelly

Seconded: Councillor Richard Wallace

Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

**17. C & G OFFICER - PLAY PARK REPORT CE/21/294**

The C & G Officer updated Members and provided comprehensive supporting information further to her research on best value for money. The committee were asked to receive, consider the options and approve the attached report.

Cllr McConville briefed the committee further to Parks Working Group meetings and regarding RoSPA recommendations.

**RESOLVED:**

**i) To approve Optimum Option: 'Refurbishing the parks to a high specification and make them more inclusive, increasing the play value of the parks and making them into an asset for the local community. The approximate cost of this would be £250,000<sup>i</sup> for the first year and it is estimated a further £35,000 per annum for the next 4 years. If you were to do all the parks in one large tender this would prove to be more cost effective for two reasons: 1; Usually deals can be struck with play companies who are willing to offer discounts to win the business. 2; Once work on the parks is complete the maintenance would be very little. Spreading out the £250,000 over three years, for example, would still require the minimum spend on some of the parks to make them safe in the first year or so'.**

**ii) 'The Parks Working Group recommends the Committee resolve to approve the release a further £150,000 from reserves, subject to the approval of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, at its next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021, to commence with the 'Optimum' option presented'.**

Proposed: Councillor Connor McConville

Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade

Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

iii) Folkestone Town Council's large planters currently situated in Cheriton should be relocated to George Gurr play park further to the C & G Officer ascertaining viability and costs.

Proposed: Councillor Jackie Meade  
Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker  
Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

**18. C & E OFFICER - FAIRTRADE EVENTS REPORT CE/21/295**

The committee were asked to receive, consider the options and approve the attached report.

The C & E Officer briefed the committee in respect of the report.

**RESOLVED:**

- i) To receive and note Report CE/21/295
- ii) To support hosting a Fairtrade Awareness event on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September as part of Great Big Green Week.
- iii) To approve a request to the Finance & General Purposes Committee to consider a virement of £2,000 from the New Services Reserve to the Fairtrade budget to assist in the delivery of the Fairtrade event.

Proposed: Councillor Jackie Meade  
Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker  
Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

**19. ALLOTMENTS 2022/23 RENT REVIEW REPORT CE/21/296**

The committee were asked to receive, consider and approve the attached report.

**RESOLVED: To receive and approve report CE/21/296 and maintain the status quo with the rent remaining at £0.556p per m2.**

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker  
Seconded: Councillor David Horton  
Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

**20. PLANT A TREE FOR THE JUBILEE**

The C & E Officer is currently contacting local schools, community and youth groups, Cadet Units and all other appropriate / eligible organisations to establish if they may wish to be involved with the 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' initiative that FTC are delivering to Commemorate the Queen's Platinum Reign (<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/queens-green-canopy/>)

Members were asked to nominate possible schools, community groups or any other organisation that may wish to be part of this initiative with land on which individual trees or avenues, copses and whole woodlands can be planted.

Noted

**21. FLOWER AND SHRUB BED PLANTING 2021 / 22**

The C & E Officer provided the committee with an update following liaising with the FHDC Horticultural Manager to ascertain a timeframe for the delivery of the agreed renewal of all FTC sponsored shrub beds.

**22. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**

The committee were asked to note the additions to the attached Climate Action Plan.

**RESOLVED: That this item be deferred to the next meeting to facilitate additional information being provided for Members to comprehensively consider the Climate Action Plan and all additions.**

Proposed: Councillor Jackie Meade

Seconded: Councillor David Horton

Voting: F:9, Ag:0, Ab:0

**23. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 @ 7.00pm

The meeting concluded at 8.30pm.

**Chairman** .....

**Date** .....