UPTON BY CHESTER AND DISTRICT

 PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Upton by Chester and District Parish Council’s General Purposes Committee, held on Monday 11 November 2019, 7.30pm, at Upton Pavilion, Upton, Chester.

Present: Cllr Carter, Cllr Evans, Cllr Houlbrook, Cllr Hulmes, Cllr Samuel and Cllr Walker.

In attendance: Suzi Bull (Clerk).

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bennion and Cllr Southward.

**Resolved: noted.**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No declarations of interest were made.

**3. MINUTES.**

**Resolved: the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 30 September 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**Proposed by Cllr Hulmes, seconded by Cllr Carter.**

**4. CLERK’S REPORT.**

It was further reported that maintenance work at Lodge Gardens will be continued. Plants and shrubs within the borders are to be removed; however work is to proceed with caution due to the potential to damage the sandstone wall.

It is suggested that the border will be re-planted as a ‘community kitchen’ garden.

**Resolved: this item will be included on the next full Parish Council meeting for further consideration.**

**The remainder of the Clerk’s report was noted.**

**5. CHRISTMAS MARKET.**

The Clerk reported on progress made in organising the Christmas Market.

**Resolved: noted.**

**6. CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING EVENT.**

The Clerk reported on progress made in organising the Christmas Carol Singing event.

**7. COMMERCIAL AREA FUNDING.**

Proposed: to include an additional budget line in the 2020/21 budget with a value of £500, for improvements to Upton’s commercial areas.

Proposed by Cllr Samuel, seconded by Cllr Hulmes.

Withdrawn.

Proposed: to make a request to the Borough Councillor for £200 from the Upton area fund, for the purchase of hanging baskets. To be placed on existing wall mounted brackets. On the understanding that business/shop owners water and care for the plants.

Proposed by Cllr Samuel, seconded by Cllr Hulmes.

**Resolved: second proposal carried.**

**Cllr Hulmes will hang the baskets and organise their purchase.**

**Cllr Samuel will liaise with business owners.**

**8. BUSINESS DIRECTORY.**

Proposed to create a printed directory of all Upton-by-Chester businesses, to be distributed via the community newsletter.

**Resolved: a recommendation will be put to the full Parish Council for Cllr Walker and Cllr Samuel to draft a short questionnaire for the purpose of gaining an understanding of the needs of Upton businesses and will collate the directory information to be included on the Parish Council website.**

**9. LITTER PICKING.**

**Resolved: the date for the next community litter picking event will be on Sunday 17th November, 11.00am to 1.00pm.**

**The Weston Grove area will be targeted this time.**

**10. CW&C STREET CARE AND HIGHWAYS MEETING.**

It was reported that the CW&C Council Highways and Streetcare Presentation meeting was disappointing largely due to the lack of senior CW&C Council officers and managers and the inability of those present to answer questions about the unsatisfactory basic service provided.

**Resolved: a letter will be sent to CW&C to express the dissatisfaction with the meeting and the services.**

**An invitation will be extended to Highways and Streetcare managers, to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the matter further.**

**11. BUDGET.**

A draft budget of expenditure devolved to this committee was provided by the Clerk.

**Resolved: the draft budget was approved; Members have the opportunity to make further comment to the Clerk before the Finance Committee meeting on 9th December.**

**12. HIGHWAYS.**

**Resolved: the following highways issues will be reported by the Clerk:**

**Potholes in the road at the junction of Mill Lane and Egerton Drive.**

**Lamp post not working at the junction of Upton Park and Wealstone Lane.**

**13. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

**Resolved: the date and time of the next meeting will be on Monday 16 March 2020.**