



POLICY & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2020 ~ 7:00 P.M. ~ TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY

Please let the Clerk know if you intend to join the meeting by emailing clerk.shevingtonpc@yahoo.co.uk by Monday, 30 August so that you can be sent an invitation and joining instructions.

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies** – to receive apologies from Committee members.
- 2. Declaration of Interests** - to receive any declarations of interest (personal and/or prejudicial) with regard to items on the Agenda.
Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest, (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest), they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 28 June 2012 and amended on 25 October 2012. Members are reminded that if they have any personal interests of a prejudicial nature or a disclosable pecuniary interest they must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room. Any member needing clarification must contact the Clerk.
- 3. Ant-Social Behaviour at East Quarry** – *for information and discussion*
Please welcome Cllr Katie Jukes of Wrightington Parish Council, who will, hopefully, be joining the Committee to talk about anti-social behaviour at the Quarry and other issues.
- 4. Minutes of the Last Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting (4 March 2020)**
- to consider, agree and approve the signature of the previously circulated Minutes by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting. (enclosed)
- 5. Village Issues** – *for information only*
To receive reports relating to the legitimate business of the Council from Committee members and Council officers (Councillors are asked to advise the Clerk in advance of any reports – including the subject matter - they wish to make.)
- 6. Memorial for Resident** – *for consideration and agreement*
A resident whose mother sadly passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at the end of July has written to the Council to ask if the family could do something in the Memorial Park and Garden to commemorate her. She worked at WoodFold School in Standish for 25 years and there was a huge outpouring of memories and personal stories about her from past students, parents and staff - over 200 messages and rising. This culminated in a just giving

page being set up for a memorial tree and bench in her mother's name. At the time of writing the fund stood at almost £700 raised.

A number of people have asked whether it might be possible to plant a tree and a bench in the Memorial Garden. The Memorial Garden was a special place for her mother after her father passed away a couple of years ago and it is a special place for the resident also. The resident appreciates that it might not be possible to plant a tree and house a bench in the Memorial garden, but members may wish to consider allowing the planting of a tree in the Memorial Garden and siting a bench in the main body of the park. A couple of years ago two beech trees were planted in the Memorial Garden on two occasions to replace two mature trees that had to be removed. On both occasions both trees died – the first time they were killed by extreme flooding and the second time they died because of draught. The resident has asked if a Tibetan cherry tree would be acceptable to the Committee. The one in the sensory garden was her favourite tree and so this is the type tree they would like to buy and there could be a matching type of tree for people to enjoy in the Memorial Garden as well.

Members are invited to consider the request and agree the best way forward.

(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

7. Play Area Sand – for discussion and agreement

A resident has asked if extra sand stop the problem of puddles occurring in the play area in Memorial Park and has forwarded the photographs below.



Unfortunately, we have had a great deal of heavy rain recently and the sand surface has responded in the same way as it would if it were on a beach and the tide were coming in and going out daily. Under the Council's contract with Wigan Council additional 10 ton of sand is added each year. Because the play area was closed until fairly recently the sand has not so far been topped up.

Members are invited to discuss the above and agree the best way forward. Cllr I Whiteley will lead on this.

(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

8. Vehicles Mounting Pavements in Broad O'th Lane - for discussion and agreement

Earlier in August a resident contacted the Clerk asking if he could raise a matter of a very serious nature. He had just witnessed a near fatal accident at the front of the shops in Broad O'th Lane. As someone was waiting to cross the pedestrian crossing a car drove up and over the kerb that has been lowered for people to cross. The car was then parked at the side of the seat with the olive tree on the parade in front of the shops. When the resident challenged the driver he was met with a lot of expletives and was told by the driver that he could park anywhere he wished.

The resident has asked if I think if bollards could be introduced to prevent cars from parking at the front of these shops. The introduction of some planters would be helpful. Someone is going to be killed if something is not done, as cars are often driven onto the pavement in this area.



Members are invited to discuss this and agree the best way forward.
(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

9. September Newsletter – *for approval* (to follow)

Text for the September edition of the newsletter is in the process of being compiled. Some items are still awaited. This enclosure will follow early in the week.
(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

10. Community Engagement Strategy – *for agreement* (enclosed)

The Parish Council engage with the community in many different ways. For the benefit of residents many councils have an agreed Community Engagement Strategy which they publish on their website. Enclosed are three such examples.
 Members are invited to discuss the possibility of preparing and agreeing a published strategy.

11. Virtual Meeting Etiquette – *for information and approval* (enclosed)

Wigan Council have produced an etiquette for virtual Council meetings to help their members when taking part. An adaptation more appropriate to parish councils is enclosed.
 Members are invited to consider the document and approve it.

12. Review of Standing Orders – *for recommendation* (enclosed)

Relevant changes brought in by the 2020 Coronavirus Regulations need to be inserted into the Council's Standing Orders on P.15. The last edition was approved in September 2019 and P.15 with the proposed insertions is enclosed. The insertions are highlighted.
 Members are invited to approve the insertions for recommendation to full Council.

13. Annual Inspection of Property – *for discussion and agreement*

The Annual Inspection of Property was scheduled to take place in early August, but was postponed.
 Members are invited to agree a new date and time.

14. Changes to the Current Planning System – *for agreement* (enclosed)

NALC has drawn parish and town councils' attention to this consultation on the current Planning system. Two documents are enclosed. One is a briefing from NALC and the other is the consultation document. NALC propose to respond to the consultation on behalf of the sector and are inviting local councils to forward their responses to them by 17 September.

Members are invited to discuss the above and agree the best way forward.
(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

15. Planning Applications – *to consider for comment*

At the time of the preparation of this agenda there were no relevant planning applications to bring to the attention of the Committee.

16. Dates of Next Meetings: 30 September (Council); 7 October (Policy & GP Committee).

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

K Pilkington

Clerk to the Parish Council