



POLICY & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 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 November 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. **Minutes of the Last Policy & General Purposes Committee Meetings (4 November & 18 November 2020)**
- to consider, agree and approve the signature of the previously circulated Minutes by the Chairman as correct records of the meetings. (enclosed)
4. **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.)
5. **Local Government Ethical Standards Consultation**
- for discussion and agreement (enclosed)
6. Enclosed are the details of a consultation on Standards in Public Life. They were sent to the Clerk in mid-November by LALC and were circulated to members at the time of receipt. Members are invited to note that responses need to be forwarded to NALC this week and agree the best way forward.
(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)
7. **Community Engagement Strategy** – for approval (to follow)
8. **January Newsletter** - for agreement

Below is a list of items that have been suggested for inclusion in the next edition of the newsletter:

- Community Service & Good Neighbour awards
- Vicarage Lane Fields Community Building
- External Audit 2019-20
- Christmas Shop-Front award
- Christmas Decorations
- Obituaries for Veronica Maloney & Barry King
- Standard Items

Suggestions for further items are invited.

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

9. FSMP Survey – for information and agreement (enclosed)

In February 2019 the FSMP (at the request of the Parish Council) agreed to carry out a Parish-wide consultation. The consultation leaflet was approved by the Parish Council. However, the outcome was not shared with the Parish Council until now.

The consultation leaflet (8a) and the outcome (8b) are enclosed for members' information.

Enclosed is another document: 'The Memorial Park Project – Elements' (8c). This was put before the Parish Council on more than one occasion in 2018 and shared with the FSMP.

However, only a small number of the suggestions listed have so far been discussed by the Council. No formal Parish-wide consultation has taken place in relation to most of them.

Members are invited to discuss matters and agree the best way forward.

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

10. Agreement Between the FSMP & the Parish Council

– for discussion and agreement (enclosed)

The original Friends of Shevington Memorial Park group was formed in 2013 and reached an agreement with the Parish Council of the time about its role in relation to Memorial Park. The historical agreement (9a) is enclosed for members' information. When that FSMP was closed down by its members that agreement and the group's constitution ceased with the group's closure.

A new FSMP was formed in 2018 and discussion was entered into to reach a new agreement. The one approved by the Parish Council of the time is enclosed (9b). The FSMP requested changes to clauses 9 and 10. A document forwarded at the time by the FSMP containing the proposed amendments to the clauses is enclosed (9c).

The changes proposed in 2018 were not accepted by the Council and the agreement was never signed. Hence there is currently no agreement.

The Secretary of the FSMP has asked on behalf of the group that the amendments be reconsidered.

Members are invited to review and discuss the documents and agree the best way forward.

N.B.: During the Extra-Ordinary Committee meeting held earlier in November it was reported that an enquiry had been submitted by a District Councillor to the legal department at Wigan Council about elements of the Constitution of the FSMP. This has been confirmed by the legal department, who have written to the Clerk with this information. The legal department are looking into the enquiry and will write again once they have a reply. We do not have a copy of the current Constitution of the FSMP on file. The Clerk's advice is to defer decisions about the details of an agreement until more information has been received from the legal department.

11. British Citizen Award – for information and agreement

Any individual can be nominated for The British Citizen Award (BCA) provided that they have had a meaningful impact on those around them. Nominees come from all corners of the UK, all cultural backgrounds, and from all sectors of the community. The defining common aspect amongst nominees is that they have made life better for those around them. Non-British nationals will be considered if their contribution has positively impacted British society, communities or citizens.

Those recognised with a KBE, OBE or MBE are ineligible to be considered for a BCA.

Those with a BME or Queen's Award are eligible. Those awarded a CA are not exempt from the Queen's Honours system.

Nominations are free and all successful applicants are invited to a presentation day at the Palace of Westminster in London. Those who receive a BCA will be encouraged to use the post nominal after their name, thus enabling them to promote their achievement in perpetuity.

Nominations will require validation, the first level of which is the seconding of all individual submissions. The BCA Independent Assessment Panel will then require evidence that the achievements, commitment and dedication outlined in the application form has brought benefit to any given community or group. Finally the panel will need to ratify the application before an award will be made. Sometimes additional information will be sought and this can be supplied by post or email in most cases. The robust process ensures that the award becomes meaningful, sought-after and long-lasting.

At a recent meeting the Clerk was asked to investigate the availability of awards for which the individual responsible for saving the life of a local resident might be nominated. In carrying out the research the Clerk discovered this national award, which may or may not be suitable. If not suitable for this person, then there may be other notable residents who could be nominated. The award has a website and there are awards for different types of service. Members are encouraged to visit the website to get a flavour of this honours system.
(Co-opted Committee members may vote on this.)

12. 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.

13. Dates of Next Meetings: 16 December (Council); 6 January (Finance Committee).

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

K Pilkington

Clerk to the Parish Council