



# **POLICY & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2019 - 7 P.M.  
SHEVINGTON LIBRARY**

## **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 Meeting (7 February 2019)**  
- to consider, agree and approve the signature of the previously circulated Minutes by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting. (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. Consultation on the Revised Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework**  
– *for discussion and agreement* (documents circulated by email for the previous meeting and available online or in hard copy in Shevington Library – a document containing questions in sections relevant to the residents of Shevington Parish is enclosed)  
The consultation on the revised Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) is still open and will close on Monday, 18 March 2019.  
An Officer from the LA gave a presentation on the GMSF to the Parish Council last week.  
**We are also being invited to comment on transport proposals. Transport for Greater Manchester is seeking views on its plan to support the city-region's vision to be one of the best places in the world to live, work, grow up and grow old.**  
The Greater Manchester Draft Delivery Plan 2020-2025 sets out more than 65 transport projects and improvements that will be delivered in the next five years. It has been

developed closely alongside the Plan for Jobs, Homes and the Environment to ensure transport, housing and economic growth align and support each other.

The projects include the Metrolink Trafford Park Line, the purchase of 27 new tram, £160m for new walking and cycling infrastructure across all ten districts; expanding the city-region's electric vehicle charging network and new interchanges in Tameside and Stockport. The Draft Delivery Plan also outlines other projects Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) is making the business case for or exploring for future development.

**Section 10 of the GMSF consultation document incorporates questions on TfGM's Plan.**

Members are invited to consider and agree responses.

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

**6. The Great Spring Clean – for discussion and agreement**

The Keep Britain Tidy campaign is encouraging everyone to contribute to the Great British Spring Clean – due to take place on 22 and 23 March. A couple of groups, including Appley Bridge in Bloom, are already mobilised. It was suggested at last month's Council meeting that perhaps the Parish Council could get involved.

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

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

**7. Column Christmas Trees - for discussion and agreement (enclosed)**

Members may recently have seen an advertisement in a recent edition of a publication for parish councillors for artificial Christmas trees bearing solar powered lights. The trees come in two versions: one for hanging from sturdy brackets attached either to buildings or columns that are intended for flower baskets and the other for attachment to street lighting columns. The latter version comes in two sections. Either both sections may be attached to the column (as shown in the enclosed brochure) or only one may be used.

Both versions are available on annual hire.

The hire cost for a unit includes attachment of the tree to the column via a bracket, 24/7 support service by the company that installs them and removal afterwards. In the case of the column tree a unit refers to one section, i.e. half a tree.

In the case of the hanging tree a unit refers to a whole tree. The company does not fit brackets to buildings and the cost of hiring a hanging tree is less than that of one section intended for a lighting column.

In both cases the hire cost per unit is less than £100.

It has been suggested that these could perhaps be used in some of the areas for which the Council are trying to identify suitable decorations. The specifications have been forwarded to Street Lighting to establish whether our columns are suitable to take these trees. A response is awaited.

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

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

**8. March Newsletter – for discussion and agreement (to follow)**

The text for the March newsletter is currently under preparation. It will follow on Tuesday.

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

**9. Strengthening Ethical Standards – for information (enclosed)**

In early February the SLCC circulated information about a recently published report to Government which recommended steps that should be taken to improve ethical standards in local government. The Independent Committee on Standards in Public Life (who prepared the report) not only recommended several of the measures the SLCC had suggested in their representations, but also acknowledged the SLCC directly in the report and recognised its role as the sector's professional body and as a provider of training and education. The SLCC views this as a major step forward and looks forward to joining with other sector partners to press for the implementation of the report's recommendations, which go some way to addressing continuing concerns within the sector at the level of bullying still prevalent in many local councils.

Similar information was sent to the Parish Council by the Deputy Monitoring Officer at Wigan Council.

The above information is enclosed. The 110 page report (entitled 'Local Government Ethical Standards') is being circulated by email only. Members who are not on email may access the report online at Shevington Library.

Members are invited to note the information.

**10. GDPR: Retention of Records Schedule – for information and approval (to follow)**

This document is still being finalised and will follow on Tuesday.

**11. 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.

- 12. Dates of Next Meetings:** 20 March (Annual Parish Meeting);  
4 April (Policy & General Purposes Committee).

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*K Pilkington*

Clerk to the Parish Council