

30th June 2020

In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, this meeting was held virtually.

Minutes of the proceedings of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day, **VIRTUALLY** from 7:30pm to 8:29pm.

PRESENT

Cllrs: E Bishop, N Campbell-White (Chairman), P Dennis (Vice-Chairman), L Forbes, P Hornsby, T Lack (The Mayor) and M Malvern

IN ATTENDANCE

Amenities Officer (AO) – Fiona Sleaford
Buildings and Grounds Officer (B&GO) – Rob Vincent
Cllr I Shepherd-Dubey
Andrew Fletcher – Green Infrastructure Manager, WBC
Francesca Hobson – Service Manager – Community, Heritage, Green & Blue Infrastructure, WBC
Adam Matthews – Capital Projects Manager, WBC
Ethan Undrell – Emmbrook school student

The meeting began with one minute’s silence in respect for Cllr James Box, who died unexpectedly in his sleep the previous night.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Received and accepted from Cllr D Hinton

MEMBERS’ INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

No declarations

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC (Agenda Item 3)

No questions

WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL’S PROPOSED GREENWAY AT JOEL PARK (Agenda Item 4)

- a). Councillors received and discussed the Amenities Officer’s report 04/2020-21 dated 16th June 2020.
- b). Councillors asked questions of and considered responses from WBC staff.

Cllrs had concerns about:

- Route
- Removal of trees and vegetation along the route
- Safety
 - Crossing the A321 at Cantley Park
 - Exit from Mill Mead onto Reading Road
 - Traffic islands on the Reading Road
 - On street parking in Brook Close

CHAIRMAN’S INITIALS _____



- Consultation
- Path over WTC land
 - A time limited right of way only, 10 – 15 years
 - Details to be investigated with WTC solicitors

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

Andrew and Adam answered questions:

- Route
 - Proposal is to keep the route “green” and to avoid road use
 - A route that a novice cyclist is confident to use
- Trees and vegetation:
 - Route is envisaged as being through an avenue of trees
 - WBC do not want to remove any established trees unnecessarily
 - Topographical survey to measure all trees >75mm stem width
 - WBC try to provide “betterment” with replanting
 - Environmentally friendly design
- Safety
 - Crossings must be compliant with legislation
 - Crossings are independently assessed for safety
 - Traffic islands can be widened as per current hatched markings
 - On street parking reduces speed of drivers
 - Trying to provide the safest route that follows the “desire line” and does not pass through Joel Park
- Path over WTC land
 - Agreement needs to reflect the WBC investment

The chairman asked, if approved, what are the next stages:

- Ecological surveys
- Topographical surveys
- Detailed design
- Simultaneously:
 - Local consultation with residents and stakeholders
 - Investigate unregistered land and WBC land including crossing points
- Finalised design of whole route returned to WTC, with measurements and widths as required on WTC land for agreement

**RESOLVED
30148**

It was proposed by Cllr N Campbell-White and seconded by Cllr P Dennis and it was to agree in principle to support WBC in this proposal and allow WBC to move towards the detailed design stage.

Meeting closed at 8:29pm.

CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS _____

