



Public Services Committee
Thursday 31 March 2016 - 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors R G Heseltine [Chairman], Mrs W Clark, J Dawson, Mrs P Heseltine, E Jaquin, P Madeley and Mrs K McIntyre

In attendance: Councillor J Kerr

Officers: Dave Parker [Chief Officer] and Brett Butler [Town Centre Manager]

1. To accept representations from the Public between 7.00 pm and 7.15 pm.

Mr Steve and Mrs Ginny Wilkinson were in attendance and spoke to members regarding Item 8 (Black Walk).

Mr Wilkinson stated the footpath was in a bad state of repair with no lights working which had been causing Mrs Wilkinson some issues recently as a result of illness.

He added that they have investigated ownership of the land and no further information has been forthcoming. Mr Wilkinson stated they had no idea how to progress their issue further and hoped the Town Council would help them.

2. To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were accepted from Cllr C Dow (work commitments).

3. To record declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda.

None.

4. To consider the recommendations of the Chief Officer relating to requests for dispensations to Members on items requiring a declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

None.

5. To approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on 3 March 2016.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2016 were accepted as a true and fair record of what transpired at that meeting.

6. To report and receive information arising from the minutes of items not on the Agenda from Members and the Chief Officer.

Members were updated by the Chief Officer on two accolades recently received. The first was a poll by National Express which put Skipton Sheep Day as number five of the 'UK's quirkiest festivals', the second was that Skipton Christmas Market once again has been voted in the top ten best Christmas Markets in Britain by christmasmarkets.com.

8. To consider matters relating to the condition of the 'Black Walk' footpath linking Skipton Station to Craven Street.

Members **RESOLVED** to bring Item 8 forward as Mr and Mrs Wilkinson were in attendance.

Members discussed the issue and condition of the 'Black Walk' footpath. One member advised that this was previously discussed at a Craven District Council meeting. Central Government funding was being sought. The same member added that it was initiated by Sustrans and a report was written by CDC Officer Andrew Laycock. They added that there were plans to widen the footpath in the report and also to add new lighting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should act as an honest broker and liaise with any local stakeholders (to include Network Rail, North Yorkshire County Council, Craven District Council, Sustrans, the Police, Arriva Rail North, Tesco, Morrisons, rail users and local residents) to address any issues relating to 'Black Walk'.

It was also **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should ask Craven District Council for a copy of the earlier report and details of the outcome of the CDC meeting where the report was discussed.

7. To receive an update on progress and to note a request for assistance from the Skipton & East Lancashire Rail Action Partnership (SELRAP).

David Walsh (Chairman of SELRAP) gave members a brief update about the current position of SELRAP.

Mr Walsh stated he would like some advice and ideas with regards to an event that Skipton Station will be running to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday over the weekend of Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June 2016.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Centre Manager can be asked to assist in providing advice and possibly providing help with the event on the day, if necessary, bearing in mind Skipton Gala takes place on the same Saturday (and therefore the Town Centre Manager will be unavailable due to prior commitments with that event).

9. To consider the potential installation of play equipment at Middletown Recreation Ground.

Members discussed the item and were mindful that should any play equipment be installed that it is correctly sited as there have been issues in the past with vandalism to play equipment at this location which led to its removal.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council should ask Craven District Council to secure the installation of children's play equipment at Middletown Recreation Ground by Candelisa Limited in conjunction with its development of Firth Street Mill subject to Candelisa agreeing a plan to cover the ongoing maintenance cost.

10. To receive any updates regarding:

- The perimeter wall at Holy Trinity Church
- Project and Initiatives being supported by the Skipton Town Partnership
- The Markets Management Group

There was no further information to report on the perimeter wall.

The Chief Officer updated members with regards to a section of The One Show (TV programme on the BBC) which was filmed in Skipton featuring the Town Partnership soon to be aired.

The Chief Officer updated members that a meeting of the Markets Management Group is to be arranged for mid-April and any feedback will be brought back to Public Services in April.

11. To consider excluding press and public for consideration of item 12 on the grounds that it relates to confidential matters.

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude all press and public.

12. To consider a confidential request for financial assistance.

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13. To receive notification on matters that members would like included on a future agenda.

None.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.