

## Otley Town Council

- Meeting:** Environment & Sustainability
- Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- Venue:** Otley Core Resource Centre, Orchard Gate, Otley
- Committee Members Present:** Cllr M Bradley (Chair)  
Cllrs I Jackson, P Jackson, R Smith, C A Campbell, L Hoare
- In Attendance:** Dr J Knowles Community Development (Deputy Executive Officer)  
Mrs E Bradley (Admin Officer)
- Mr G Haycock, Mr S Lawson (Friends of Gallows Hill)  
Ms A Leathley, Mr J Raffo (Otley Conservation Task Force)
- Apologies:** It was resolved to accept the following apologies:  
Cllrs R Georgeson, M Vickers (substituted by Cllr R Smith)

### **160. Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs M Bradley and L Hoare declared a personal interest in Item 167 as allotment holders

### **161. Minutes for approval**

**Resolved:** **the minutes of the Environment & Sustainability Committee meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> October were approved for accuracy and signed by the Chair**

## **162. Navvies Memorial**

A presentation was received from Otley Conservation Task Force with regard to the necessary work on the Navvies Memorial.

Ms Leathley said that the memorial was in need of conservation work and the hope was that it could be restored so it would not need any further work for many years to come. The cost of the restoration work would be in the region of £15k, however, additional legacy and educational rewards would be necessary in relation to the Task Force applying for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The main issue outlined by Ms Leathley is that it is not clear who owns the memorial. The Memorial had some restoration work carried out in 1982 with funding from Otley Town Council and in conjunction with British Rail. From discussion with Network Rail it appears that ownership of the Memorial no longer resides with any rail body. The Conservation Task Force hoped that the Town Council would claim ownership so that they could proceed with their funding application. They also requested whether the Town Council would be able to contribute to the funding of the work in some way. Also, to consider whether the Town Council would be prepared to undertake any maintenance requirements during the length of the project and if they would be prepared to take on the long term maintenance costs following completion of the restoration works.

Cllr Campbell suggested that the Conservation Task Force contact Greg Mulholland MP to ask him to write to Network Rail or the Transport Minister to see if they could provide any information as to the ownership of the Memorial or make a contribution towards the restoration works.

**Resolved:**

- 1. that the Town Council in principle support the restoration project**
- 2. that the matter be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Committee on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

### **163. Gallows Hill Bio-diversity project**

A presentation on the Gallows Hill bio-diversity project was received from Mr G Haycock and Mr S Lawson, members of the Friends of Gallows Hill. Mr Haycock said that a programme of works for the next five years had been accepted by the Town Council in 2013. Work to be carried out included an events programme; leaflet dispenser; education/information boards; bird boxes, bat boxes; owl perches; management of trees and hedges; a wildflower meadow; a community orchard and the creation of more ponds for the toads. Mr Haycock identified that the Town Council would be needed to provide match funding over the next three years in order to undertake the project. Mr Haycock identified that this would amount to approximately £6,500 in the first year. A funding bid was being prepared to Green Leeds.

Cllr Campbell requested that the Friends of Gallows Hill identify the total cost to the Town Council over the next three years.

**Resolved:**

- 1. that this matter be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee to consider the funding request from Friends of Gallows Hill for a period of three years**
- 2. that the Friends of Gallows Hill provide details over three years of the work to be carried out, together with the costings**

### **164. Gallows Hill Maintenance and Insurance**

The Community Development (Deputy Executive Officer's) report is attached.

**Resolved:**

**that:**

- 1. the maintenance contractor be asked to clarify what the problems relating to the squirrels and mink are**

2. that a cost for the insurance for the events be sought

### **165. Wharfedale Greenway**

The Community Development (Deputy Executive Officer's) report is attached.

- Resolved:**                   **that the recommendations contained in the Community Development (Deputy Executive Officer's) report be approved, that:**
1. the report be noted
  2. Members approve the actions taken to date

### **166. Outdoor Gym**

The Community Development (Deputy Executive Officer's) report is attached.

The Executive Officer's report is attached.

- Resolved:**                   **1.that Hags SMP and Leeds City Council be asked to quote for reinforced concrete bases**
- 2. that Council have confirmation in writing from the Executive Officer that as the equipment does not involve working out at any height, the use of concrete would not be an issue from a safety point of view**
- 3. on receipt of quotes this item be referred to a future meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee to consider the payment to be made from reserves**

**167. Allotment Managers report**

The Allotment Manager's report is attached.

- Resolved:**
- 1. that the report be noted**
  - 2. that a rent increase be considered at the last Committee meeting prior to 1<sup>st</sup> December**

**Chair .....**