

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation & Environment Committee of the Town Council, held in the Council Chamber, Stocksbridge Town Hall, The ARC, on Tuesday, 2nd July 2019

PRESENT:- Cllr. R Crowther (Chair), Cllrs. C Ward, J Staniforth, A Law, J Grocutt, M Whittaker

IN ATTENDANCE: C Bell, Don Valley Railway – Item 4
2 Members of the Public – Item 4

1. Chairman's Remarks and Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S Abrahams and M Milton.
2. Exclusion of Press and Public
Cllr J Grocutt noted she wished to raise an item in part 2 of the meeting.
3. Declarations of Interest
Cllr A Law declared an interest in item 5 – Bloor Homes.
4. Don Valley Railway (DVR)
The Chairman welcomed C Bell, Don Valley Railway to the meeting who had been invited in order to provide an update to members. CB noted that a meeting was to be arranged for the Transport Minister, Andrew Jones, to meet with representatives from DVR to discuss the possibility of the railway link to the Town Council area. CB felt it appropriate that a representative from the Town Council also attend. Cllr J Staniforth as the Town Council's transport representative indicated he would attend. Cllr Grocutt noted that Dan Jarvis' office is also carrying out some work on this issue.
CB noted that the Sheffield City Region is taking a broader view of the railway line proposals to Stocksbridge and considering all options available. He also noted that DVR had submitted an objection to the new planning application at the Bloor development site due to the proposed siting of the additional housing limiting access to a potential future rail hub.
CB also informed that DVR had been involved in a consortium to bid for the vacant building of St Matthias Church but had not heard of any outcome of the process.
The Chairman thanked CB for his attendance and update.
5. Bloor Homes
Cllr. Grocutt had written to Bloors inviting a representative attend a meeting to discuss the recently submitted application but this had been declined once again. A further amended planning application had been received in the office today requesting comments by 19th July. Councillors noted issues with the application. Cllr Crowther undertook to consolidate the comments noted and to draft an objection to the application for final approval at the Town Council on 11th July.
6. Sheffield City Council Consultations
Cllr Grocutt informed of 2 ongoing consultations by the City Council that may be of interest to members together with one initiative the City Council are promoting:-
 - Sheffield Better Parks - sheffield.citizenspace.com/place-planning-1/parks-countryside-customer-satisfaction-survey-201/
 - Climate Change:Clean Air Zone - www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/campaigns/clean-air-sheffield
 - Plastic Free July - www.plasticfreejuly.org

7. Parking Around Stocksbridge Infant School
Cllr Grocutt noted complaints received from parents walking their children to the school who are impeded by cars being parked on the pavement, as other parents drop their children off. This was causing a safety issue and not encouraging people to walk safely to school. Cllr Grocutt had informed Enforcement and was also to speak to the local PCSO's. The Clerk undertook to write to the school requesting that they highlight the issues to parents.
8. Sustrans Update
Cllr Grocutt noted a meeting been arranged for 9th July for an update from Sustrans for the feasibility study they are undertaking on behalf of Stocksbridge Town and Bradfield Parish Councils. The outcome would be reported to the next Town Council.
9. Bus Service 57
Cllr Grocutt informed that Stagecoach have lost the tender for the evening bus provision on service 57, with it being awarded to First. The change to take effect from 31st August 2019.

Proposed by Cllr Grocutt, seconded by Cllr Law and
RESOLVED:- That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, members of the press and public are excluded for the following item(s) of business as the Committee considers that the nature of business to be transacted is prejudicial to the public interest.
10. Local Facilities
Cllr Grocutt informed of separate meetings attended with Cllr Crowther with regard to the Stubbin Community Centre and the Stocksbridge Cricket Club.
11. St Matthias Church
The Clerk noted correspondence and a phone call received that day regarding the sale of St Matthias Church. Following discussion it was noted any further information would be reported to the next Town Council.

There being no further business the meeting closed.