

MINUTES of a meeting of the COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY held in the Board Room, Council Offices, Coalville on TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2017

Present: Councillor J Geary (Chairman)

Councillors R Adams, N Clarke, J Cotterill, D Everitt, J Legrys, P Purver, M Specht and M B Wyatt

In Attendance: Councillors

Officers: Mr J Knight, Ms K Greenbank and Mrs R Wallace

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR ENSUING YEAR

Councillor R Adams moved that Councillor J Geary be appointed as Chairman for the ensuing year. It was seconded by Councillor M Specht

RESOVLED THAT:

Councillor J Geary be appointed as the Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN FOR ENSUING YEAR

Councillor J Legrys moved that Councillor R Adams be appointed as Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year. It was seconded by Councillor D Everitt.

RESOVLED THAT:

Councillor R Adams be appointed as the Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M B Wyatt declared a non pecuniary interest in any reference to Coalville Town Centre as a business owner.

Councillor J Geary declared a non pecuniary interest in item 7 – Capital Projects Update as a regular supporter of Coalville Town FC and a founder member of Mantle Lane Arts.

Councillor J Legrys declared a non pecuniary interest in any reference to Hermitage FM due to his voluntary involvement with the organisation.

Councillor D Everitt declared a non pecuniary interest in item 7 – Capital Projects Update as an affiliated member of Friends of Thringstone.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2017.

Regarding the Thringstone Miners Social Centre training pitch under the Capital Project Update item at minute number 26, the Chairman asked that the Chair of the group be referred to as the Chair of Trustees in the future to avoid any confusion.

Chairman's initials

Regarding the Coalville Forest Adventure Park under the Capital Project Update item at minute number 26, the Chairman asked if the insurance had been purchased for the memorial. The Leisure Services Team Manager explained that as it was currently with Property Services, he would check and report back to Members.

Regarding the Scotlands Play Hub Development under the Capital Project Update item at minute number 26, Councillor J Legrys asked for an update on the Lillehammer Drive MUGA. The Leisure Services Team Manager explained that the issue was currently with Legal Services. He also reported that he had been made aware of a further implication as the slide at the play area had been damaged, he agreed to update Members as soon as possible. Councillor J Legrys expressed his disappointment that this had been in the pipeline for five years and even after reporting that Legal Services had been instructed in April, it was still no further forward. The Chairman requested that a response be provided by Legal Services to update Members.

It was moved by Councillor R Adams, seconded by Councillor J Legrys and

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. 2017/18 EVENTS UPDATE

The Head of Economic Development presented the report to Members and provided an update on each event.

Proms and Picnic in the Park

It was confirmed that the running cost of the event was under budget and had been very well received. Also after making contact with the local charities that were in attendance at the event it had been confirmed that £2,637 had been raised. Members were asked to consider the proposed dates of Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June for the event in 2018. Members agreed.

Councillor M B Wyatt reported that he had received some good feedback regarding the event and much preferred the positioning of the stage to previous years. However, he felt that the flowerbeds were very overgrown, needed watering and were full of weeds, he asked for this to be considered in future years. He had also received comments regarding the stall advertising funeral services as people felt that it was inappropriate. He concluded that in his opinion, the Miner's Gala was overplayed and it was advertised as a big event when in reality it was very poor. Overall he had enjoyed the event.

Members were in agreement that a stall for funeral services was not appropriate for the event in future.

Councillor M Specht concurred with Councillor M B Wyatt with regards to the Miner's Gala as it was disappointing. He commented that the turnout for the Saturday evening was lower than usual and that the title of 'Proms in the Park' may have contributed to that as it could be seen as 'highbrow'. He suggested a more generic title like 'Music in the Park' for next year as this could incorporate a mixture of music and encourage a wider attendance. Members were all in agreement with the suggestion. The Head of Economic Development reported that it was possible to change the feel of the whole weekend and the scheduling to start the music earlier as there was lots of time to make plans.

Councillor M Specht thanked all of the officers involved in the organisation of the weekend for their hard work as it was once again, a very successful event.

Chairman's initials

Councillor P Purver felt that the park looked great with the bunting and flag decorations. She also commented that in her opinion, it would have been better if the Saturday night music started earlier so that younger children could attend.

Councillor M B Wyatt requested that something be put onto the Council's website asking for feedback on the events as he felt further opinions would be useful. Officers agreed to look into this further.

Coalville by the Sea

The event was planned for Friday 4 August at Needhams Walk. It was currently due to be under budget mainly due to sponsorship from a building supplier for the sand.

Christmas lights

Further to a meeting with a Christmas light contractor, three options were presented to the group for 2017. Officers recommended option three which was the installation of existing decorations and an investment in new complimentary decorations. If it was agreed, the Head of Economic Development would request that the Coalville Project fund the one off purchase costs for the lights and then Coalville Special Expenses would be required to continue to fund the ongoing costs in the future.

The Chairman was disappointed that the bagatelle lights were no longer suitable to use as they are not that old. The Head of Economic Development explained that the professionals had assessed them and in their opinion the bagatelle lights did have a short life span and were therefore no longer suitable.

Councillor M B Wyatt moved that option three be the preferred option, it was seconded by Councillor N Clarke. Members agreed.

Councillor P Purver referred to a leaflet aimed at businesses, seeking sponsorship for the Coalville Colour Run and asked if the same could be done at Christmas time to sponsor a tree and decorations to be placed in the empty shop units. The Chairman commented that business owners tended to not fund the decorations for their own units so therefore it may not be popular, however he would be happy to ask.

Coalville commemorates

Initial concept designs were provided within the report for comments. Members were informed that there would be further development of the area in the near future as part of the Coalville Project.

Councillor D Everitt was not pleased with the design sketches as they were not very detailed.

Councillor M Specht suggested box planting in the area so it did not have to be dealt with each year. The Chairman agreed that they needed to be conscious of maintenance requirements and possible vandalism. He also did not agree with the initial sketches and felt that the design cut across the clock tower which was not complimentary.

Councillor P Purver no longer supported the idea of a footpath as it did not have anywhere to lead to. The Chairman felt that the cross itself would make a good mosaic instead of a footpath.

Councillor J Legrys was also disappointed with the sketches. He commented that another issue with the area was older children on scooters and skateboards, he felt this needed to be considered when designing the area. He also requested that Ward Members be consulted on the designs as well as local businesses.

The Chairman reported that the Coalville sub Group would be meeting on 13 September and suggested meeting at the clock tower to discuss ideas with officers at the start of the meeting. Members agreed.

Councillor M B Wyatt reported that he had been in discussion with Hermitage FM regarding installing a chain barrier around the clock tower with signs requesting people to respect the monument. The Head of Economic Development commented that this would be looked at as part of the bigger scheme for the area.

RESOLVED THAT:

- a) The progress update on 2017/18 events and commemorative mosaic be noted.
- b) Members to convene at 5pm at the Clock Tower prior to the Coalville Sub Group meeting on 13 September to discuss the options for the commemorative mosaic.

RECOMMEND THAT:

- c) The date for the Proms and Picnic in the Park for 2018 confirmed as Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June.
- d) The preferred option for Coalville lights be option three as detailed within the report.

7. CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

The Leisure Services Team Manager presented the report to Members and provided an update on the ongoing projects.

Owen Street Recreation Ground

The report from the independent contractor had now been received and the Leisure Services Team Manager would supply Members with all options and associated costs at the next meeting.

Thringstone Minors Social Centre Training Pitch

Planning approval had been given for both the fencing and the footpath diversion, also the board of trustees had been revitalised by the addition of three new trustees and a new chair. The football club were continuing to not be represented at trustee meetings despite the attempts to engage them. The training pitch project has been identified as a priority action for the forthcoming year and once the issues with the football club had been resolved the project would commence.

Coalville Forest Adventure Park

The proposals put forward at the previous meeting for funding had been considered by Cabinet and subsequently deferred for further investigation.

Councillor M B Wyatt reported that there was an opportunity to apply for funding through Bardon Quarry as it was an environmental project, they could fund up to 90 percent of a project in the Coalville area. He would be happy to provide the application forms if required.

Mobile Vehicle Activated Signage

It was reported that Leicestershire County Council had still not responded to Members request for a further site visit but the Leisure Services Team Manager would chase the matter. He added that contact had been made with Members outside of the meeting regarding the preferred sites for the signs and the officer was still waiting for all responses. The Chairman asked the officers to contact Members again to encourage a response and express the importance.

Chairman's initials

Councillor R Adams reiterated the need for a sign at Warren Hills Road as there had been more accidents recently as it was very dangerous. In his opinion it was a road safety issue and therefore a County Highways issue.

The Leisure Services Team Manager asked Members if they would prefer to proceed with the other sites to progress the project and deal with the Warren Hills Road site as a separate issue. Members agreed.

The Chairman felt that the county highways were disgraceful as the road signs were often dirty, damaged or knocked down, and as the number of deaths on roads in the District was one of the worst in the Country, it was not good enough. Councillor M B Wyatt felt that a letter should be written to the Leader of Leicestershire County Council expressing the groups disappointment as a better service was required.

Melrose Road Recreation Ground Park Development

Orders had been placed for the improvement works, including the installation of seating and a planting scheme. The seats would be in situ over the summer and planting would take place in Autumn.

Melrose Road Play Hub

Once permission had been obtained from the land owner, the work would be undertaken for the proposed footpath and steps.

By affirmation of the meeting it was

RESOLVED THAT:

The progress update on 2017/18 Capital Projects be noted.

8. COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES 2016/17 OUT TURN

The Leisure Services Team Manager presented the report to Members, highlighting the end of year balance and ear marked reserves.

Councillor M B Wyatt reported that progress was being made with a potential fair for Coalville, he was in discussions with a provider and there was support in principle. The Leader was also involved with the discussions and it could be a potential project to fund in the future.

At this point discussion was had regarding Mantle Lane Arts and therefore due to his non procuniary interest, Councillor J Geary left the meeting. Councillor R Adams took the Chair during discussion.

Councillor P Purver referred to a recent meeting of Mantle Lane Arts at which the Writing Festival was discussed. She explained that the group had already received some funding but asked if there would be some funding available through Coalville Special Expenses. It was suggested that the Community Chest Fund was available for events such as these and it was run by the Council, the application form was available on line. Councillor P Purver agreed to feed this back to the group.

Councillor J Geary returned to the meeting and to the Chair.

It was moved by Councillor J Legrys, seconded by Councillor R Adams and

RESOLVED THAT:

Chairman's initials

- a) The 2016/17 out turn be noted
- b) The use of reserves for Capital Schemes in 2017/18 be noted.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOVLED THAT:

The following future dates be noted –

Tuesday, 10 October 2017
Thursday, 11 January 2018
Tuesday, 24 April 2018

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.43 pm