

NOTES of the **CUSTOMER SERVICES KEY AREA GROUP MEETING** held in the Council Chamber on **Tuesday 17 January 2023** at 19.00 hours.

Present: Robert Duggan Chairman
Joseph Foster* Vice Chairman
Lee Gibbs
Kathleen Willis*
Graham Allen*
Mustak Miah

Robert Eggleston
Ann Eves
Simon Hicks
Janice Henwood
Toffojul Hussein

Also present: Steve Cridland, Chief Executive Officer

** Denotes non-attendance*

(19:00 hours)

126. OPEN FORUM

Nil

127. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Joseph Foster & Kathleen Willis

128. SUBSTITUTES

Cllr Robert Eggleston for Cllr Joseph Foster

129. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

130. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Notes of the meeting of the Customer Services Key Area Group held on 24 July 2022, having been previously circulated, were **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

131. TIERED PLANTERS CHURCH WALK

While the council has storage space to accommodate the planters if purchased, it was agreed that a trial would be a good idea and purchase of the planters could be considered in the future.

RECOMMENDED:

That 2 X 3 tier flower planters with flowering plants be hired from Plantscape for summer 2023 to be suitably placed in Church Walk at a cost of £500 including delivery and removal. Funding to come from the Street Scene Reserve.

132. UPGRADE TO TAR SPACE: MARLE PLACE PARK

MSDC has provided for the resurfacing of the MUGA in Marle Place Open Space in its Service Plan for delivery in 23/24. The space could also accommodate other sports such as Pickleball. An interested party in the project is a previous basketball international who represented the UK. He is currently involved in youth projects and has shown that sport can change behaviour.

It is hoped that the refurbishment of the site would complement the plans for the Park Centre and that the facilities in the Park Centre could be used by the users of the MUGA. The hall in the Park Centre could be used for basketball during inclement weather.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That upgrading the existing tarmac area to create a MUGA be supported noting that it is in MSDC's Service Plan for delivery in 2023/24
2. The Council works with MSDC on the delivery of this project
3. That, if necessary, an application be made to Sport England to fund any shortfall.

133. CHURCH CLOCK REFURBISHMENT

The meeting acknowledged that to refurbish the clock was expensive but that it was a part of the Burgess Hill Heritage and should be conserved. It was asked that an additional quote be obtained and that the CEO seek grant funding if possible to assist with the work

RECOMMENDED:

1. That the sum of £26,000 be included on the Council's forward Capitol Plan to refurbish the 4 faces of the clock at St John's church.
2. That a further quote be obtained and the possibility of grant funding be investigated.

135. **REWILDING PROJECT**

The Meeting was pleased to note that the project had elicited a positive response from the public. Concern was expressed about the amount of additional work this might create. It is hoped that by doing the rewilding gradually, the maintenance team would be able to cope. The established sites need little maintenance with an annual mow and rake being the most work needed at any one time.

The verge on the eastern side of Fairbridge roundabout might also be a suitable area for rewilding and should be considered at a later stage.

RECOMMENDED:

That the town council add the following sites to its rewilding project and review the remainder next year:

- Sussex Way near Jane Murray Way roundabout
- Meadow Lane either side of Grovelands Close
- Outside 21 Priory Road
- Eastdale Road verge outside 17-39
- Parts of Howard Ave if identified

136. **BATCHELORS FARM COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

The meeting agreed that the project would be beneficial. Trees rather than whips should be planted and deer proofed. The fence would not be closed board fencing but probably wire. The fruit produced could be considered as something for the public to enjoy or could be harvested and sold. This would be considered at a later date.

RECOMMENDED:

That £9,500 be made available over the coming 2 financial years to create the orchard and plant ½ the trees each financial year.

137 **FOLDERS MEADOW REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT**

The CEO reported that the piece of equipment that had broken might be able to be repaired and this was being investigated. Two suppliers

had provided quotes for an inclusive roundabout. The cost would be £12,000 and it was considered that this was too much at this stage.

If the item could not be repaired then it should be replaced with the “Dizzy” roundabout. If there are any funds remaining then the Four in a Row item could be installed.

RECOMMENDED:

1. That further investigation be carried out to establish whether the broken piece of equipment could be repaired
2. That if the piece of equipment cannot be repaired then a “Dizzy” roundabout be installed at a cost of £3035 plus installation and delivery and that application be made for section 106 funding to cover the cost.
3. That if there is any section 106 funding remaining, the “4 in a row” piece of equipment be purchased and installed at a cost of £1,625 plus delivery.

138. **ILLUMINATING A PATH FROM YORK ROAD TO SKYLARK WAY, NEXT TO KIDDI CARU DAY NURSERY AND PRESCHOOL**

The meeting considered the cost and the precedent that would be created and that there was an alternative route.

RECOMMENDED:

That the request from a member of the public to illuminate a path from York Road to Skylark way next to Kiddi Caru Day Nursery and Preschool not be acceded to as there is an illuminated alternative route nearby.

139. **GRIT BINS**

Following the recent cold snap and snow, various requests had been received from members of the public asking that additional grit bins be installed around town as follows:

South Lodge Close
Leylands Road at junction with Freeks Lane
Church Walk by Post Office
Cleveland Gardens at junction with Junction Road
St Andrews Church
Forge Way
Cornford Close

In addition, the members felt that bins should be installed on Howard Ave, Silverdale Road and Noel Green

RECOMMENDED:

That 10 grit bins be purchased and installed at a cost of £2475 subject to approval from WSCC.

Meeting ended 20.05.