

NOTES of the **CUSTOMER SERVICES KEY AREA GROUP MEETING** held in the Council Chamber on **Monday 24 July 2023** at 19.00 hours.

Present: Chris Cherry Chairman
Diane Black
Matthew Goldsmith*
Tofojjul Hussein
Simon Hicks
Adam White
Bob Foster

Robert Eggleston
Brenda Williams
Janice Henwood
Anne Eves

Also present: Steve Cridland, Chief Executive Officer

** Denotes non-attendance*

(19:00 hours)

1. **OPEN FORUM**
Nil
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr Matthew Goldsmith
3. **SUBSTITUTES**
Cllr Williams for Cllr Goldsmith
4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
Simon Hicks declared an interest in item 10 as he is an allotment tenant.
5. **NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Notes of the meeting of the Customer Services Key Area Group held on 17 January 2023, having been previously circulated, were AGREED and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

6. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

RECOMMENDED:

That Cllr Adam White be appointed as Deputy Chairman of the group.

7. CHURCH CLOCK REFURBISHMENT.

The meeting heard that sufficient funds were available. The CEO is in discussion with MSDC to establish whether Section 106 or LCI funding might be available

RECOMMENDED:

That the refurbishment of St Johns Church clock be carried out during the current financial year but that the CEO first establish whether section 106 or LCI funding might be available for this.

8 FOLDERS MEADOW REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Head of Projects proceed with applying to MSDC to release Section 106 funds to the Town Council to install a wheelchair accessible roundabout and other accessible play equipment, and replace the existing football goalposts.

9. 2 X NEW TREES FOR LEYLANDS ROAD

Cllr Eves reported that she had consulted with the residents in the area and everyone was in favour with two saying they would water the tree.

RECOMMENDED:

That two street trees (either Acer platanoides Cleveland [an oval-crowned Norway Maple variety with an upright habit], or a Sorbus aria [any of the Whitebeam variety] be purchased from WSCC to be planted near the junction of Leylands and Wyberle roads at a cost of £472.40

10. REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENT REGARDING PONDS

The allotment tenancy agreement prohibits the creation of a pond on an allotment unless it is a raised pond. A tenant has established a pond on their allotment and on being asked to fill it in asked that the allotment regulations be amended to allow ponds. Allotments are primarily for the

growing and cultivation of fruit, flowers and vegetables and not to promote wildlife per se. If the allotment tenant were to leave their plot it will fall on the council to rehabilitate the plot before a new tenant would be interested in it. The establishment of a sanctuary for great crested newts brings all sorts of other restrictions. The group discussed the pros and cons of ponds generally. The group further asked that access routes be cut in the fences for hedgehogs and that other projects for biodiversity be considered such as initiating wild flower plots on the perimeter of the allotment area.

RECOMMENDED:

That the request for the allotment tenancy agreement to be changed to allow ponds not be agreed

11 ADDITIONAL SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE

Section 106 funding had become available for the purchase of a speed indicator device. The group asked that data from the device be shared with them.

RECOMMENDED:

That an additional Speed Indicator Device be purchased and funded from section 106 funds.

Post Meeting Cllr Eves confirmed that solar powered SIDs are available which would be good for the environment and cheaper in terms of not having to buy batteries. The Town Council already has batteries. This will be further investigated.

12. ADDITIONAL TIERED PLANTERS FOR CHURCH WALK

Two tiered planters had been installed along Church Walk and had been well received by the public. It was therefore suggested that provision for a further four be made in the 2024/25 budget

RECOMMENDED:

That provision for a further four tiered planters for Church Walk be made in the 2024/25 budget

Meeting ended 19.55.