

**SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of a Meeting held on Tuesday 29th October 2024
at 7.30p.m.
at Champions Manor Hall

Present:

Councillor D Thompson Chair
Councillor S Wilson Vice Chair

Councillor G Piesse
Councillor P Ferry
Councillor I Roberts

Councillor M O'Brien
Councillor A Shearring
Councillor Sismey

In attendance: Town Clerk & Environment and Leisure Officer & two members of the public.

PE-24-86 Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence were **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** from Councillor J Birch, Councillor A John & Councillor P Price

PE-24-87 Dispensation Considerations

None received.

PE-24-88 Declarations of Interest

Councillor M Sismey declared a non-registrable interest on Agenda item 14 Garden of Remembrance regarding the roses.

Councillor M Sismey and Councillor P Ferry declared a non-registerable interest on item 14 Garden of Remembrance regarding the Rotary planting of bulbs.

PE-24-89 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Planning and Environment meeting held on 24th September 2024 were agreed as a true record of the meeting with an amendment to the absent record for councillor M O'Brien.

Proposed: Councillor Wilson

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

Vote: Carried

PE-24-90 Public Questions

No public questions raised

PE-24-91 Budgetary Position

The budgetary position as of 23rd October 2024 was **NOTED**.

PE-24-92 Previous Planning Decisions and Appeals

Committee **NOTED** the planning decisions difference from Chelmsford City Council.

PE-24-93 Planning Applications

24/05172/TPO 14 Middleton Row

T10 - Swedish White Beam (marked T1) - Full reduction of crown back to previous pruning points. Approx. 2 metres from top and 1 metre on laterals - Reason: Create space on driveway, which the tree is damaging.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

24/05210/TPO 4 Broughton Road

T1 Oak- Located in front garden- Crown reduction by 2-3m max. Reason: Clearance of property.

The Planning and Environment Committee has **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

PE-24-94 Committee Projects 2024/25

Committee considered future projects for the Planning & Environment Committee to be recommended to Finance & Projects Committee on 12th of November 2024.

It was **NOTED** Finance & Projects Committee on 12th November will consider a £5,000.00 budget request for a future project to install an interactive speed detector.

Proposal: To recommend to Finance and Projects Committee that £20,000.00 be allocated for the John Cox project 2025/6.

Proposed: Councillor O'Brien

Seconded: Councillor Wilson

Vote: All in Favour

PE-24-95 Budget 2025-26

Councillors considered the draft budget for Planning & Environment 2025-26. Information circulated prior to the meeting.

This will be recommended to Finance & Projects Committee on the 12th of November 2024.

Proposal: To recommend to Finance and Projects Committee the considered the draft budget for Planning & Environment 2025-26 with changes of the Garden of Remembrance income decrease to £10,000 and the tree works spend budget increase to £8,000.

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

Vote: All in Favour

The Town Clerk left the meeting 8.05pm

PE-24-96 The Fen

Committee **NOTED** Fenn report attached to agenda.

Committee considered the Hay Contract for the Fen attached to agenda.

Proposal: To accept the contract for the Hay contract commencing 2025 for a five-year period.

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor O Brien

Vote: **All in Favour**

PE-24-97 John Cox

Councillors received an update from the Environment Officer with regards to the completion of the installation of the new entrance gate and pathway.

PE-24-98 Items to Note

- **Woodville School ECO Committee**

It was **NOTED** the school have updated and have to move this event to the spring term to allow more time to organise. It was organically meant to be in the autumn term. Provisionally allocated to a Friday morning in Spring term. Councillors Wilson and Shearring to attend.

- **2024/2025 Tree Giveaway**

It was **NOTED** Chelmsford City Council is continuing a tree giveaway program for 2024-2025 as part of the ongoing tree planting campaign.

This year they are offering 1,400 trees of four species (350 of each species): Quercus ilex (Holm Oak), Corylus avellana (Hazel), Prunus avium (Cherry), and Carpinus betulus (Hornbeam).

The giveaway will start on **7 October 2024** and will continue until **7 November 2024** or until supplies last. Details will be accessible on the Love Your Chelmsford website or by following this link: <https://loveyourchelmsford.co.uk/tree-giveaway/>

- Chelmsford City Council Planning Notices. Information circulated at the meeting was **NOTED**.

PE-24-99 Garden of Remembrance

Committee considered options for the Garden of Remembrance project.

Council agreed a £6,000.00 budget from EMR Project Fund at Council on 22/8/2023 C523. To include the repainting of the Rotunda, maintenance of 12 benches, restore gold leaf/paint floor memorials and a Rose Bush adoption area as an alternative to tree adoption.

Proposal: To accept quote a quote of £875.00 for the painting of the rotunda from SLR Contractors

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor Roberts

Vote: **All in Favour**

Proposal: To accept quote A for the painting of the benches for £3000.00 from SLR Contractors

Proposed: Councillor Roberts

Seconded: Councillor O Brien

Vote: **All in Favour**

Proposal: To carry out remaining works including the replacement of the gates and posts where required on all accesses of the gardens and remaining proposed items of gold paints and replacement trees.

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor Roberts
Vote: **All in Favour**

Proposal: To the installation of 12 roses of mixed colours of the 4 options shown in the report.

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor Ferry

Vote: **Carried**

1 abstained

Proposal: The Roses to be sold with a memorial plaque on a 5-year licence at £330.00 Exc VAT without additional fee for memorial only.

Proposed: Councillor Roberts

Seconded: Councillor Wilson

Vote: **Carried**

Council considered a request from the Rotary to plant 2-3 thousand Crocus bulbs at the Garden of Remembrance. Information was circulated at the meeting.

Proposal: To accept the offer and to plant up to 3000 Crocus bulbs to be placed at the Garden of Remembrance subject to the Town Council contractor's recommendations.

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor Piesse

Vote: **Carried**

2 abstained

PE-24-100 Trees at Tanners Way

Following the tree felling works carried out adjacent to footpath 40 and Tanners Way, Committee considered an invite of the Chelmsford City Council Tree Officer to a future Planning & Environment meeting to explain to members the validity of the tree preservation order in place for this area. Councillor I Roberts and Environment Officer updated.

Proposal: Officers to write to Network Rail to enquire the reasons for cutting down the trees, the powers they used in order to carry the works without applying for permission to cut down trees with TPO protection and the future plans they have in place for the area. To also contact Chelmsford City Council to further clarify the reasoning behind permitting the works in the way it has been carried out.

Proposed: Councillor Thompson

Seconded: Councillor Roberts

Vote: **Carried**

PE-24-101 Report to Council

- Future works agreed on the Garden of Remembrance including the new gates and installation of a rose bed.
- Acceptance of the offer by the Rotary to plant up to 3000 bulbs in the Garden of Remembrance subject to the Town Council contractor's recommendations.

DS

PE-24-102 Media Coverage

- Completed Garden of Remembrance work.
- Concerns over the trees in Tanners Way/Station Approach when information is received.

PE-24-103 Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 26th of November 2024 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 9.14pm

Signed

Date: 26th November 2024