Runnymede Borough Council

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

13 June 2019 at 7.30 pm

Members of the

Committee Present: Councillors N King (Chairman), S Lewis (Vice-Chairman), M Adams,

T Burton, D Clarke, M Harnden, A Neathey, J Olorenshaw and S Walsh

Members of the

M Kusneraitis

Committee absent:

Councillor L Gillham also attended the meeting.

57 FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Chairman read out the Fire Precautions.

58 PRESENTATION – THE ORCHARD DEMENTIA CENTRE

The Committee received an informative presentation by the Chair of the Trustees, Centre Manager and Deputy Manager of the Orchard Dementia Centre in Chertsey.

The Council had granted a 3 year lease to the centre in 2016 when, after a very short period of preparation, they took over running the Dementia Centre following the decision made to close it down by the Alzheimer's Society. The centre's trustees quickly established a charity to run the centre and provide continuity of service provision to the clients and their families. In the three years of operation the centre had been improved both in staffing, with an increased ratio of staff to clients, and the physical environment. Clients enjoyed a comfortable, inclusive atmosphere with a range of practical activities, quiet space and outdoor facilities as well as being taken on a variety of outings which they found stimulating and positive. The trustees had exciting plans for the future if the Council agreed to renew their lease which was shortly coming to an end. These included opening the centre for longer and at weekends to accommodate more clients, organising more trips and making enhancements to the centre itself. The centre enjoyed strong links within the local community and had also been Eagle Radio's charity of the year.

Members were very impressed and supportive of the centre and the Chairman urged the Committee to take up their offer of a visit to see how well the centre was run and appreciated by the clients. Members asked if Officers could promote the centre through the Council's magazine; this would be fed back to the Communications team.

The Chairman asked the Committee to bring to his attention any local organisations of whom they were aware who could present to future meetings of the Committee. It was noted that the September slot would hopefully be a presentation by the Council's Wellbeing Advisor based in Community Development.

59 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14 March 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

60 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - ADDLESTONE

The Committee's approval was sought to purchase a new set of Christmas lights for Addlestone to complement the joint arrangements for a Christmas event with Addlestone One.

Officers advised that the existing Christmas decorations needed to be replaced; including the little Christmas trees that were affixed to some of the shop fronts but which were no longer fit for purpose. This had until recently been managed by Addlestone Chamber of Commerce who were unable to continue but who the Committee were keen to thank for their efforts for many years, including existing and former Addlestone Councillors. It was noted that the Council's DSO would maintain the new decorations until such time as alternative arrangements could be put in place.

When preparing the Corporate Business Plan a series of residents' panels had been consulted; one of the issues arising specific to Addlestone was that the town's appearance could be improved and that Addlestone One should be inclusive of the whole town because some of the retailers felt unconnected with the development. Officers had also received feedback direct from some of the traders when discussing the Christmas trees. Officers agreed to provide Councillor Lewis with a copy of the report which had informed the proposals.

As it was confirmed that Christmas decorations had not been originally budgeted for in relation to the rest of Addlestone, Members suggested that they should be included in the budgetary provision for new developments in the borough, particularly Egham and Chertsey whose Chambers of Commerce currently organised decorations for their areas without assistance from the Council.

The Committee was advised that the relevant Chief Officers had authorised Contract Standing Order 2.6 to be waived to procure the Lamp Post Motifs/lights.

Whilst supportive of the proposals, the specific designs of which were available on request, Members asked Officers to feedback to the Chief Executive their request for similar attention for the other town centres in the borough and for this topic to be discussed by the Community Development Member Working Group. Officers confirmed that it was part of the Chief Executive's vision that renewing the vibrancy of the borough would extend to other areas and this was just the start, taking advantage of the fact that Addlestone One was the first development to 'open' so far. The Mayor would be invited to the Christmas event and it was planned to have some funded entertainment and music as part of the launch.

RESOLVED that -

the sum of £10,351 for purchase of Christmas lights be approved to be met through the CE's community funds

61 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND SAFER RUNNYMEDE ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

The Committee received the annual report on Community Safety and Safer Runnymede which was supplemented, at the request of the Chairman, by a presentation which had been given by the Police at the meeting of the Crime and Disorder Committee in April.

Members reviewed the work of the Community Safety Partnership; its main areas being participation in the Government's Prevent Strategy, work around domestic abuse, child exploitation, alcohol awareness, Junior Citizen, Respect the Water, domestic burglary, serious organised crime and anti-social behaviour.

Some Members raised concerns about the Prevent Strategy and whether it had kept pace with the changing nature of crime. In particular, Officers were asked to consider a review of risk assessments under the Prevent Strategy to ensure its relevance to addressing hate crime.

In the context of providing diversionary activities to combat anti-social behaviour, the issue of relevant youth provision over the next 2-5 years, as a result of the County Council's review of Children's Services, would be discussed by the Community Development Member Working Group.

The Safer Runnymede side of the report included CCTV and directed surveillance and Officers supplemented this information with some examples of how Safer Runnymede benefited the Council, borough and Community as well as generating income. The Committee was very supportive and suggested that securing additional resources to market Safer Runnymede and promote its work through the Council's communications channels would be beneficial. Officers were asked if it was possible to provide details of ward based information regarding anti-social behaviour and the effectiveness of CCTV in tackling crime with feedback from the Police. Officers confirmed that there had not been any discernible increase in crime as a result of the County Council's decision to turn off selected street lights in the borough as most burglaries took place during the day. Officers confirmed that Safer Runnymede also had an integral role in dealing with emergencies such as flooding with active flood monitoring for the Environment Agency.

62 PROMOTING WELLBEING IN OLDER PEOPLE STRATEGY – UPDATE

The Committee received an update on the promoting wellbeing in older people strategy, introduced to see how existing and new services can be delivered to complement the statutory services such as Adult Social Care as well as developing closer working with the voluntary sector.

The Strategy included a comprehensive action plan which had been updated to reflect the outcomes achieved in the last year. For example extension of funding for the wellbeing prescription service and work towards a new Home Improvement Agency policy and the completion of a new Safeguarding policy. The action plan looked at all aspects of improving services for older people, promoting independence and healthy living as well as looking after their carer's needs ensuring a better quality of life.

The Committee was pleased to note the positive effects of the strategy and the productive relationship with other bodies such as the Clinical Commissioning Group and Adult Social Care. The action plan was fully endorsed.

RESOLVED that -

- i) Progress on the original plan be noted; and
- ii) The action plan for 2019/20 be adopted

63 <u>FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMME – UPDATE</u>

The Committee reviewed the Family Support Programme which had been delivered jointly with Surrey Heath Borough Council since 2013 and was provided with an update on the funding position in the light of the County Council's review of Children's Services and the delivery of family services across the County.

Members recalled that the Family Support Programme had started life as the troubled family initiative and was introduced to change the repeating generational patterns of poor parenting, abuse, violence, drug use, anti-social behaviour and crime in the most troubled

families in the UK. In Surrey the initiative was rolled out across the districts and boroughs and has been known as the Family Support Programme (FSP). The Councils had worked with a number of families across both boroughs. The Criteria remained the same but a new Service Level Agreement had been drafted which would be scrutinised by Legal Services when in final form.

Members learned that whilst the programme itself was successful, working with 55 families across the two boroughs in 2017/18; and achieving many positive outcomes as illustrated by the outcome 'star' in the report, the future funding of the programme was uncertain following a significant restructure of the County Council's Children's Services and the fact that the Government up front and payment by results funding would cease in March 2020.

When the Committee considered the FSP at its meeting in January 2019 it appeared that Surrey County Council (SCC) would be looking for Boroughs and Districts to find half of the programme costs currently received from the Government. Fortunately, this had not proven to be the case with SCC agreeing to mainstream the budget for the FSP currently received from the Government. However, even though SCC had agreed to provide half of the programme costs, this still left a funding gap of £178,000 which had, over the years, been covered by Surrey Heath. Unfortunately, they were unable to continue doing this from April 2020. Therefore, there would be a requirement for Runnymede to make a contribution of £89,000 in 2020/21 to cover half of the additional budget costs for the next financial year. The other half of the additional budget costs would be met by Surrey Heath.

The Committee was advised that no budget had yet been approved for 2020/21 and the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) did not contain a provision for this service. Members wanted to carry on providing this scheme, and agreed that Corporate Management Committee would be asked to include £89,000 in the MTFS for the start of the financial year 2020/21 to cover the cost of maintaining the FSP each year.

It was noted that the Community Development Business Plan contained an objective to review the future funding needs of the FSP in conjunction with Surrey Heath Borough Council and Surrey County Council.

Members were also minded that one of the key priorities of the Corporate Business Plan 2016-2020 was supporting local people and in particular improving the quality of life for those who are vulnerable or deprived.

The Committee noted that the Early Help Hub, which was still in its infancy, provided a more co-ordinated approach. However, Officers were asked to assess the Hub's effectiveness and whether the adopted criteria could be an obstacle to assisting families in need. Officers agreed to provide the Committee with details of how referrals to the FSP were made.

Members were advised that workload was likely to increase, which in turn might mean a need for additional resources. Some Members were also concerned about the concept and suitability of the proposed waiting list system. Officers were asked to keep this under review.

In terms of funding the combination of a lump sum and payment by results was noted. However, Officers were asked to investigate measuring the social value of the programme in monetary terms.

RESOLVED that -

i) signing the Service Level Agreement for delivery of the Family Support Programme in Runnymede and Surrey Heath be approved;

- ii) the provision of the additional funding required to finance the Family Support Programme in Runnymede from April 2020 be approved; and
- iii) Corporate Management Committee be requested to approve the inclusion of £89,000 in the Medium Term Financial Strategy for the start of the financial year 2020/21 to cover the cost of maintaining the Family Support Programme each year.

64 <u>KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2018/19 - RESULTS</u>

The Committee noted the results of the key performance indicators for 2018/19 of the services being monitored in Community Development and Community Services.

Members noted that all parts of the services were either on target or in the case of the Community Transport service and the percentage of Careline calls answered within 60 seconds, exceeding their target. The number of Community meals delivered had also increased slightly.

Officers advised that following the division of Community Development and Community Services there would be separate KPI reports from September 2019.

Officers offered to present an annual report on the Careline Service to the meeting of the Committee in September 2019 which Members welcomed.

65 <u>CHERTSEY MEADS MANAGEMENT LIAISON GROUP – MINUTES – 26 FEBRUARY</u> 2019

The Minutes of the Liaison Group held on 26 February 2019, as attached at Appendix 'A' were received and noted.

66 RENT GRANT AID APPLICATIONS – EGHAM HOLLOWEGIANS RUGBY CLUB AND RUNNYMEDE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

By resolution of the Committee, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

The Committee considered two applications for rent grant aid following a review of their rents by Commercial Services and in the light of the new rent grant aid policy which was approved by the Committee at its last meeting in March 2019.

Both organisations leased land and/or premises from the Council and faced a significant increase in rent now that Commercial Services had undertaken a review. Officers had assessed the organisations against the agreed criteria and their scores had each made them eligible to receive rent grant aid of 50% of the new rental cost.

With regard to Egham Hollowegians Rugby Club the position with regard to youth provision needed to be addressed and the Chairman of the Committee confirmed that he would be writing to the club personally. It was agreed that the club should be directed towards training in business planning and in the light of both these matters Members considered that the rent grant aid be awarded for 12 months only which would then be reviewed. The exact terms of the lease would be settled with Commercial Services.

The Committee considered that it would be appropriate for Officers to promote training provided by Voluntary Support North Surrey to local organisations with capacity for skills boosting. It was understood that courses were available on relevant legal and financial skills needed by charities to develop and comply with their various obligations. Officers

also agreed to contact Active Surrey and Rugby England with regard to potential assistance to the rugby club.

With regard to the Runnymede Christian Fellowship, Officers were asked to confirm that the lease required the organisation to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Equality Act and that Commercial Services must add such a clause if it was not already included.

The Committee was advised that as more organisations underwent rent reviews it was likely that more applications for rent grant aid would be received. This would have a financial impact on the budget. Therefore, Officers were instructed to provide the Committee with details of how many more likely applications for rent grant aid might be arising from the review of Commercial rents.

The Committee acknowledged that as the new policy was being applied it would be sensible to review the scoring matrix. Members were particularly keen for organisations to demonstrate their support for youth groups.

RESOLVED that -

- i) Egham Hollowegians Rugby Club's request for rent grant aid be approved at 50% of the new rental cost for 1 year;
- ii) Runnymede Christian Fellowship's request for rent grant aid be approved at 50% of the new rental costs; and;
- iii the effects on the 2019/20 budget be noted

67 URGENT ACTION – STANDING ORDER 42

By resolution of the Committee, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

A copy of proforma number 938 detailing action taken after consultation with the former Chairman of the Committee under Standing Order 42 was reported.

68 SEND TRANSPORT SERVICES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

By resolution of the Committee, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

The Committee was appraised of an opportunity to work in partnership with Surrey County Council to deliver transport for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) pupils aged 5 – 16 years of age. The details of the routes and the value of the contract were discussed and the potential for more work to follow if this venture was successful were noted

The Committee was fully supportive but a number of Members wanted the Council to actively consider the introduction of an electric fleet to promote the green agenda and felt this was an ideal opportunity. It was acknowledged that electric vehicles were much more expensive and had a shorter life than a traditional fleet but it was thought that funding opportunities could be explored further.

Officers confirmed that a wider review of the Council's Transport service would be taking place in which all the environmental considerations would be included.

Owing to the timing of the likely start of the contract the Committee agreed that Corporate Management Committee should be asked for their approval to delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Committee to realise the project and procure the necessary vehicles and recruit staff accordingly.

RESOLVED that -

- the continuation of discussions with Surrey County Council in regards to a long term partnership/contract arrangement for the provision of SEND transport be supported; and
- ii) Corporate Management Committee be requested to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Community Services Committee, to procure vehicles and recruit staff as appropriate, in the event of needing to mobilise any contract prior to the next meeting of the Community Services Committee.

69 SOCIAL PRESCRIBING IN NORTH WEST SURREY

By resolution of the Committee, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

The Committee was given an overview of the Social Prescribing Service in North West Surrey, Primary Care Networks and the proposed model of care Officers had prepared to deliver the service in the future subject to it being cost neutral to the Council.

Officers explained how Social Prescribing was organised in North West Surrey through an Integrated Care Partnership (ICP). The ICP had asked the Head of Community Services to lead on one of the Model of Care work streams and as a result a project proposal had been developed to deliver Social Prescribing in North West Surrey. This was the first project to emerge and Members were keen to lend their support. The Committee recognised this was an opportunity for this Council and the NW Surrey boroughs collectively to demonstrate their capability in supporting the wider Health and Social Care agenda, whilst also being viewed as recognition of the role the Council have played in supporting the establishment of the NW Surrey ICP over the last two years

The financial implications of the project were noted and the proposed method of funding was approved to be recommended to Corporate Management Committee, subject to there being no cost to the Council, with in kind support only being given to the project.

The Committee also approved the proposed geographical groups and associated work streams and staffing arrangements and recognised this as a good opportunity for the Council to support residents with social and other non-medical needs which was in line with many of the strategic objectives of the Council.

It was noted that the Council's Wellbeing Advisor would be invited to address the Committee at its next scheduled meeting in September 2019.

RESOLVED that

Corporate Management Committee be requested to approve RBC's participation in delivering the Social Prescribing service for Primary Care in North West Surrey in the event of the Integrated Care Partnership agreeing the projects at no cost to the Council

70 SURREY HEATH PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

By resolution of the Committee, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

The Committee was advised that discussions were in progress with Surrey Heath Borough Council's Chief Executive and an update would be emailed to Members prior to a report being submitted to the Committee at a later date.

Chairman

(The meeting finished at 10.14pm)

Runnymede Borough Council

CHERTSEY MEADS MANAGEMENT LIAISON GROUP

26 February 2019 at 7.30pm

Members of the

Group present: Councillor D A Cotty Runnymede Borough Council

Councillor M G Nuti Runnymede Borough Council

Mr R Deacock St George's College Mr G Drake Chertsey Society

Mrs K Drury Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative

Mr H W Evans Surrey Bird Club

Mr N Johnson Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative Mrs C Longman Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative

Mr D Mead Chertsey Agricultural Association

Mrs M Nichols Chertsey Society

Mrs C Noakes Hamm Court Residents' Representative Mr J O'Gorman Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative

Mr B Phillips Surrey Botanical Society
Mrs S Ritchie Dog Walkers Representative

Mrs T A Stevens Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative
Mrs A Teasdale Hamm Court Residents' Representative
Mr D Turner Chertsey Agricultural Association

Members of the

Group absent: Dr J Denton Invertebrates Expert

Ms I Girvan Surrey Wildlife Trust

Mrs F Harmer Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative
Mrs J Hearne Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative

Mr G James Sustrans

Mrs H Lane Surrey Wildlife Trust

Mr C J Norman Chertsey Meads Residents' Representative

Advisory members of

the Group present: Mr C Dulley Open Space and Allotments Manager,

Runnymede Borough Council

Advisory members of

the Group absent: Mr P Winfield Community Services Manager, Green Space

Runnymede Borough Council

Action

1. The Chairman read out the Fire Precautions which set out the procedures to be followed in the event of fire or other emergency.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the group, held on 4 September 2018, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ms F Harmer, Mrs J Hearne, Mrs H Lane, Mr C J Norman and Mr P Winfield.

4. <u>MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHERTSEY MEADS MANAGEMENT</u> LIAISON GROUP

Mrs Noakes was welcomed to the Group.

The vacancies for a representative for the Conservation Volunteers and the Environment Agency were noted.

5. <u>ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING</u>

Commercial Dog Walkers

The group noted that following a presentation by the Horsell Common Preservation Society, Officers had concluded that the scale of the problem at Chertsey Meads was not sufficient to justify the amount of time it would take to draw up a scheme for licensing commercial dog walkers. Officers were also concerned about displacement so a licensing scheme would have to cover all the Council's parks and open spaces. There was also not enough capacity in Green Space for Officers to undertake the necessary work or to monitor the situation on a daily basis which is what would be needed. The group appreciated this point but asked if Officers could write to the commercial businesses warning them of the need to exercise better control otherwise licensing would be an option. It was reported that one of the dog bins near the bridge at Brackendene was not being emptied by the DSO often enough and it was suggested that another bin near the second car park could be re-sited to a safer location. Mr Dulley said he would look into both these matters. There was a discussion about safety generally and it was agreed that an additional notice in the vicinity of the height barrier advising motorists to beware of deer might be useful.

Reed Beds

After the last meeting, staff in the Council's Green Space team had looked at a series of aerial photographs of the Meads which confirmed that despite people perceiving otherwise, the reed beds had not encroached. However, the reed beds would be cut more tightly to ensure they did not spread any further. The Group was invited to look at the Council's 'Rmaps' which contained historical data.

Mown Paths

The Group was asked to advise staff in Green Space if any of the mown paths were becoming obscured over the summer months. The

Mr Dulley

Action

issue had been raised at Community Services Committee recently.

6. Management and Maintenance of the Meads

COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP

The Group was pleased to learn that the Council's application to Natural England for a new 5 year countryside stewardship agreement had been successful and a copy was appended to the agenda. Funding of £6,870 per annum would be made up to the £10,200 received under the old agreement by the Council.

<u>SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE NATURAL GREEN SPACE (SANG)</u> <u>STATUS</u>

The group noted that the Council's Community Services Committee had now approved the Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANG) Management Plan for Chertsey Meads and a copy was appended to the agenda for information. Members were advised that formal designation of the site would happen once the Council's Local Plan had been approved by the Planning Inspector. At this point, Officers could start implementing the management plan which contained a number of measures to attract visitors and make improvements to the Meads, subject to funding and in consultation with the Group. A query was raised with regard to point 32 of the SANG Management plan, where reference was made to a 'central pot' for the collection of SANG monies. There was some uncertainty as to whether this pot was ring-fenced for SANG related expenditure only or whether monies from it could be used for wider Council spending. [Since the meeting, Mr Dulley has confirmed that the pot is ring-fenced for SANG related works only.]

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME

A revised programme was presented and Members considered that outstanding work should be prioritised and costed so that funding could be applied for as soon as possible.

ESSO SOUTHAMPTON TO LONDON PIPELINE (SLP) PROPOSALS

The Group was advised that a site meeting had taken place in September, after which a preferred route and methodology had been submitted to ESSO which it was hoped would be implemented following the latest round of consultation. It was thought that the works would take between 3 and 6 months and would happen in 2020. Officers had re-iterated all the points raised at the site meeting to preserve and protect the more sensitive areas on the proposed route.

<u>UK POWER NETWORKS (UKPN) UPGRADE OF POWER SUPPLY</u> <u>TO DUMSEY STUMP PROPOSALS</u>

The Group was advised that a site meeting had taken place in November with UKPN to discuss the upgrade by means of an agreed route across the Meads as identified at the meeting. In mitigation, Officers had negotiated a route that would make it possible to have an electrical supply at the second car park which could facilitate security improvements at a later date. The Council could only give permission

Mr Dulley/ Mr Phillips for works on Council land and residents were advised to contact UKPN if they had concerns about the route if it came near to their properties. A further site meeting would be arranged for to discuss some of the technical aspects and how the site should be 'made good' afterwards.

Action

Mr Dulley

MOORINGS

Members were informed that the one remaining overstay moorer was being dealt with through the courts. The Group was also informed about a potential tri-borough Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) designed to deal with the problem of overstaying moorers more simply in the future. The Group supported the joint approach suggested and agreed that some signage deterring people from mooring their boats would be acceptable in order to assist Officers with enforcement. Various options for the wording on signs and suitable locations would be confirmed at a later date. The need to have them in place before the summer was noted. Mr Dulley was asked to check whether the Council was obliged to provide moorings at Chertsey Meads or not. The Environment Agency were pursuing some of the licensing issues that had been reported to them.

Resolved that signage on the banks of the River Thames prohibiting mooring be erected, the location and wording to be confirmed

7. EVENTS

Litter Pick

Members noted that the annual litter pick, under the umbrella of the Great British Spring Clean would take place on Sunday 7 April 2019 at 10am, meeting in the first car park on the Meads. Posters and social media were being used to advertise the event. A photograph of some recent fly tipping in the river Bourne was given to Mr Dulley to investigate and assess how it could be safely removed. Mrs Stevens offered the use of a canoe.

Mr Dulley

Annual Site Visit

Members noted that the annual site visit would take place on Tuesday 18 June 2019, meeting in the second car park at 7pm. The visit would assess the numbers of Downy-fruited Sedge, Greater Dodder and Common Adder's-tongue, the monitoring of which was part of the Work Programme. Mr Phillips would provide those attending with maps and ID sheets.

Mr Phillips

Chertsey Show

The Group noted 10 and 11 August 2019 for this year's Chertsey Show. Mr Turner advised that tickets would be distributed to the usual local accessible residential properties. He also said that this year's show would include camels.

8. Any Other Business

It was asked whether it would be possible to do another insect identification session. Dr Denton could be approached as he did the

last event.

The Group discussed whether an improved toilet block should be pursued as there was an identified need for better facilities to encourage families to use the play area and for visitors to the Meads generally. Funding could potentially be secured if this fitted the SANGs criteria and it was formally added to the SANG management plan. However, maintenance and vandalism would need to be considered. It was noted that although not well advertised, the toilets at the Bridge hotel were supposed to be available for use by the general public. However, the hotel was currently being re-furbished so were closed. The group commented on the lack of skylarks on the Meads and it was thought they might be being predated by the Red Kites and others. Mr Evans added that skylarks were under threat nationally and Meadow Pipits were reducing in number as well.

Action

9. <u>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u>

Members noted that the next two meetings were scheduled to take place on Tuesday 3 September 2019 and Tuesday 3 March 2020 (note change of date) both at 7.30pm, to be held at the Civic Centre in Addlestone.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 8.53 pm