MORECAMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Agenda for Planning Development and Environment Committee

Tuesday 5th December 2017 at 7.00 p.m. at Morecambe War Memorial Hall Cafe, Morecambe

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declaration of Interests

To receive declarations by Members of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting). Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Members should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting. In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code of Conduct, Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2017

To consider the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2017 (page 3)

4. Planning Applications

To consider the report of the Clerk (page 9)

5. Morecambe in Bloom

To consider the report of the Clerk (page 13)

6. Petition re Poulton Park

To consider the report of the Clerk (page 18)

7. Disposal of Recycled Waste

To consider the report of the Clerk (page 20)

8. Consultation re Open Spaces

To consider the report of the Clerk (page 22)

Committee Membership:

Councillors: D. Whitaker (Chairman), J. Bates (Vice-Chairman), P. A. Heath, John Hanson, L. Hughes, L. Page and M. Pattison

Substitute Members: Councillors C. Cozler, L. Davies and G. Dennison

Note:
Committee memberships are currently under review since the Heysham North Ward By-Election on 23rd November, the effects of which changed the PR calculation.

David Croxall - Town Clerk
30th November 2017
MORECAMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes from the Planning, Development and Environment Committee
Meeting held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 8th November, 2017

Councillors Present: D. Whitaker (Chairman), R. Dennison, G. Dennison and John Hanson

Officers in attendance – David Croxall (Clerk)

34. Apologies for Absence
Councillors J. Bates, P. Heath, L. Page and M. Pattison

35. Declarations of Interest
There were no Declarations of Interest

36. Minutes of Meeting of Planning Development and Environment Committee held on 2nd October, 2017

Resolved:
That the minutes of the Planning Development and Environment Committee held on 2nd October 2017, be signed as a correct record.

37. Planning Applications

The Clerk brought to the attention of the Committee a letter of objection received from a resident regarding how the Council had dealt with the Broadway Hotel application in 2016.

The Clerk advised the Committee that following receipt of the letter he had researched what had occurred.

The Clerk had received an email from the Developer on 24th June, 2016 inviting members to a public briefing on 1st July. The Clerk was on Annual Leave from 20th June to 4th July and hence the email had not been forwarded to members.

This Committee had considered the application at its meeting on 3rd October, 2016 and recommended to Council that objections be made. The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October, 2016 had not been considered by Council due to the Clerk being off sick from mid October to early December, 2016, resulting in the minutes not being reported to the meeting of Council in November. This required the Council to reconsider its internal management processes particularly at the time of staff absence. The Committee discussed the request that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October, 2016 be referred to Council on 16th November, 2017, but thought that this was not appropriate as the Planning Application had been approved by the City Council on 14th November, 2016 and work had commenced on site.

The Committee considered the Planning Applications set out below which had been notified to the Town Council since the last meeting of the Committee held on 2nd October 2017:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Number</th>
<th>Proposal Details</th>
<th>Site Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17/01241/CU</td>
<td>Change of use of 2 houses in multiple occupation (C4) to create 4 2-bed and 2 3-bed apartments (C3)</td>
<td>55-57 Balmoral Road, Morecambe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01334/FUL</td>
<td>Erection of a single storey side extension</td>
<td>12 Woodrush, Morecambe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01297/FUL</td>
<td>Erection of a detached garage to replace existing</td>
<td>10 Windermere Avenue, Morecambe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/00867/FUL</td>
<td>Demolition of existing building and erection of 6 dwellings with associated access and landscaping</td>
<td>1 - 3 Osborne Grove, Morecambe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01178/FUL</td>
<td>Construction of dormer extensions to the front and rear elevations</td>
<td>16 Gaisgill Avenue, Morecambe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01200/FUL</td>
<td>Demolition of existing conservatory and garage and erection of a single storey rear extension</td>
<td>11 Selside Drive, Morecambe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01205/CU</td>
<td>Retrospective application for the change of use from a dwelling (C3) to a residential institution (C2) for 3 young persons in receipt of care</td>
<td>20 Warley Avenue, Morecambe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resolved:

That Council be recommended to:

(a) Make the following objection to Application No. 17/01205/CU re: Retrospective application for the change of use from a dwelling (C3) to a residential institution (C2) for 3 young persons in receipt of care at 20 Warley Drive, Morecambe and to request the City Councillor for the Torrisholme Ward to refer the matter to the City Council’s Planning Committee for determination:

The Town Council remains very concerned that this was a retrospective application and was insensitive to the local neighbourhood and therefore
believed the application to be inappropriate and should be refused for the following reasons:

- The application makes no statement or consideration of the City Council’s Policy requiring the prevention of nuisance to adjoining properties;

- Given the nature of resident complaints there should be a management plan to deal with these unsatisfactory issues – there was no evidence of such a Plan being in place;

- The Town Council understands the Police had been called on several occasions to the address, which raised concerns around the lack of effective management. No significant Management Plan was in place to ensure neighbours were not disturbed; and

- There was no satisfactory sound proofing/insulation in place at the property or plans to do so within the application.

(b) Make the following objection to Application No. 17/01200/FUL for the demolition of existing conservatory and garage and erection of a single storey rear extension at 11 Selside Drive, Morecambe:

The Town Council notes the concerns of residents and request Lancaster City Council to consider the effect of the proposed development on the local townscape and intrusiveness of the proposed development on the local neighbourhood.

(c) Make no comments in respect of the other applications listed in the Table above.

(d) Note the position regarding how the Broadway Hotel application had been dealt with and procedures be put in place to ensure this situation could not occur in the future.

38. Morecambe in Bloom

The annual presentation night for Morecambe in Bloom had taken place on 6th October.

The presentation for North West in Bloom took place in Southport on Friday 3rd November 2017 and for the first time Morecambe achieved gold medal status.

These two events completed the annual cycle for Morecambe in Bloom.

The purpose of the report was to commence a review of the process in preparation for 2018 with a view to determining how the Council evolved Morecambe in Bloom further in 2018.

Currently work around Morecambe in Bloom remained a priority within the Council’s Strategic Vision.
At the last meeting of the Committee, the following recommendations were made to Council:

- “Agree to work with Morecambe BID further with a view to focusing on two central streets within town becoming more involved in Morecambe in Bloom.

- Move towards the production of a list of projects and a volunteer/community group database with a view to enhancing Morecambe in Bloom further instead of proceeding via the Morecambe Bloomer’s Group.

- Agree that seeds, bulbs and equipment to a maximum value of £25 per school be purchased and presented to all schools who had entered the Morecambe in Bloom 2017 to be funded from the Morecambe in Bloom budget.”

These would be considered on 16\textsuperscript{th} November. The Morecambe Bloomers Group had met on 25\textsuperscript{th} October and the first bullet point above was discussed. To recruit volunteers for our community volunteers for the future, a planting and tidying up day was agreed, and this would take place on Sunday 19\textsuperscript{th} November between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Railway Station and around the planters on Victoria Street. This had been advertised online and via social media.

In addition to the above the Committee were asked to consider the following:

- What is the Council’s vision going forward for Morecambe in Bloom?

- Use of Town Council Morecambe in Bloom budget to enhance community aspects of Morecambe in Bloom

- How much funding would this Committee required in the 2018/19 budget to drive Morecambe in Bloom and the town’s entry in NW in Bloom. this requires consideration as the Council will shortly be within the budget cycle for 2018/19.

- The theme for the Morecambe in Bloom themed category in 2018?

- Influencing the enhancement of the public planting and appropriate projects to enhance the business involvement in conjunction with Morecambe BID

- The request attached at Appendix A has been received from the Royal Air Force regarding their proposal for an RAF in Bloom in 1918 as part of their centenary celebrations. Is this something the Committee believes the Council should work towards with partners and the community as part of Morecambe in Bloom?

Resolved:

That Council be recommended to:

(a) Note the attainment of gold medal status for the town with pleasure and thank all those involved in helping Morecambe to achieve Gold medal status in North West in Bloom 2017.
(b) Agree that the focus of the Council’s vision should be to work with all partners, stakeholders and residents to improve year on year the appearance of the town.

(c) The Morecambe in Bloom themed category for 2018 to be “Commemorating the Centenary of the end of World War One”.

(d) Request the Clerk to engage as many community groups as possible with the view to several community projects taking place in the town to commemorate the centenary of the end of WW1, including the creation of commemorative flower beds, and to engage the local Air Cadets in a flower bed project to commemorate the centenary of the formation of the Royal Air Force.

39. Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk updated the Committee on progress. Planning Aid had agreed to assist the Council in developing the Plan and undertake the initial training of the Steering Group members.

Further members of the Steering Group had been recruited and the aim was to have the first meeting of the Steering Group prior to Christmas. This was paramount as the City Council had recently suggested that Neighbourhood Plans needs to be in place by mid 2018 to align to the forthcoming Local Plan.

Resolved:

That Council be recommended to note the report.

40. Community Improvement Fund

Further to Minute No. 31, the Clerk submitted the response from Lancaster City regarding the community improvement fund suggestions and how the City Council proposed to deal with the issues raised.

The responses are set out below:

(a) Land behind Coastal Medical Practise, west End Road:

City Council response: - “The alley way behind the surgery is adopted highway and therefore we look after it in regard to sweeping, litter and fly tipping. I have asked property group for confirmation of ownership of the area behind the surgery.”

(b) Alleyway between the job centre and block of flats on Euston Road for improvement.

City Council response: - “Again, adopted highway so would fall under the remit of street cleansing through the County Council agreement. We visit this alley multiple times daily to collect waste and sweep. We are in the process on monitoring the alley to try and improve the issue of side waste/ fly tipping. We have received requests regarding a mural on the wall of the flats which I would support, however this would need to be signposted through to Regeneration & Planning team.”
(c) Two roundabouts, Central Drive.
   City Council response: - “These roundabouts received an overhaul in July 2017 as part of the preparations for North West In Bloom 2017. Vegetation was removed, and slate chippings were placed on the roundabouts to highlight the artwork and increase visibility to traffic. These will be regularly sprayed to keep weeds down throughout the spring/summer.

(d) Church Walk blighted with litter, overgrown areas and damage to the old stone wall.
   City Council response: - “This isn’t adopted highway so unsure as to the ownership of the land, County may be able to assist. We do however, litter pick and empty the bins at either end every 2 days.

(e) Fisherman’s Square – untrimmed planting is overgrown with grasses concealing litter.
   City Council response: - “This area is strimmed on ad hoc basis and bins are emptied. Happy to review and improve the street furniture and grounds maintenance moving forward.

(f) Poulton Park – abandoned to Anti Social Behavioural elements and in need of smartening up.
   City Council response: - “The Park is litter picked and bins emptied on a circuit. Play Area is inspected regularly to comply with ROSPA regulations. Grounds Maintenance is undertaken between April – October. We are aware that there are anti-social behaviour issues here but this would need signposting to Environmental Health.

(g) Trim grassed areas between Lord Street and Green Street and near Midland Hotel.
   City Council response: - “More than happy to pass this on to the team and look to improve edges on the public open space.

(h) Consider planting of tress in the town in association with Woodland Trust.
   City Council response: - “This is something I wouldn’t necessary support without further consultation or advice. Trees in urban areas can be problematic dependant on species etc. Would need to be part of consultation with Regeneration & Planning. As we have previously in the district, happy to consider planting trees in the right location through partners such as Woodland Trust.

(i) Poulton Park and surrounding alley ways behind Townley Street.
   City Council response: - “The Park is visited regularly each week.

(j) Alley between B&M Bargains and DK Warehouse.
   City Council response: “This isn’t an alleyway under our ownership. My understanding is it is owned by the proprietor of Pleasureland. Would be happy to support street cleansing should the owner look to cover costs.

(k) Back alleys behind Euston Grove.
City Council response: “This is monitored daily, sometimes more than once a day, and side waste / fly tipping is collected.”

Resolved:
That Council be recommended to:

(a) Thank the City Council for their response and monitor progress by the City Council on the actions they propose to take;

(b) Note that position about the alleyway between B and M Bargains and DK Warehouse and request the City Council Planning Department to consider taking appropriate action against the owner of the alleyway; and

(c) Agree to use the Community Improvement Fund to support community projects within Morecambe in Bloom 2018 as discussed within Minute No. 39 above.

41. Dates of Future Meetings

Resolved:
That the next four meetings of this Committee be held on the following dates and the Committee timetable updated accordingly:

- Tuesday 5th December, 2017
- Wednesday 10th January, 2018
- Monday 12th February, 2018
- Tuesday 6th March, 2018

--------------------------------------------
Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

9th November, 2017
Planning Development and Environment Committee – 5th December 2017

Item No: 4  
Report of: Clerk to the Council

Planning Applications

The Planning Applications set out below have been notified to the Town Council since the last meeting. The applications forwarded to all Members on a weekly basis via email as per our usual policy.

The Committee may wish to make recommendations to Council on comments that the Town Council could submit to the City Council on any of these applications.

Full details of the Applications may be viewed at:

https://planning.lancaster.gov.uk/online-applications/

In commenting on planning applications, it is important that the Council considers planning issues. These include:

- consistency with the development plan for the area
- traffic and highway safety issues
- overlooking, loss of privacy and loss of light
- scale of the development
- design, appearance, layout and material
- loss of important open space or physical features
- noise, disturbance or smells
- local knowledge of drainage or other possible problems with the surface
- impact on the surroundings, effect on listed building and conservation area.

Issues that are not relevant include:

- Effect on private property values
- Loss of a view across somebody else’s land
- Personal issues with the applicant
- Moral arguments (e.g. betting shops or casinos encouraging gambling)
- Disturbance during construction
- Private rights of way
- Land ownership or boundary disputes
- Matters covered under other legislation (e.g. opening hours covered by premises licences, littering)

At the time of publication of this agenda, the following comments/objections had been made in respect of the following applications:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Number</th>
<th>Proposal Details</th>
<th>Site Address</th>
<th>Consultation Expiry Date</th>
<th>Determined by City Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17/01412/FUL</td>
<td>Retrospective application for the installation of a roll down shutter</td>
<td>7 West End Road Morecambe LA4 4DJ</td>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December 2017</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01375/FUL</td>
<td>Erection of 2 storey side extension</td>
<td>16 Buckingham Grove Morecambe LA3 1BQ</td>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December 2017</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeal Reference: 17/00023/REF</td>
<td>Appeal Description: Replacement of pitched roof with a shallow pitched roof and parapet wall to front elevation</td>
<td>267 - 268 Marine Road Central, Morecambe, LA4 5BX</td>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December 2017</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeal By: Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd</td>
<td>Appeal Description: Erection of a side extension to existing foodstore for use as an online grocery distribution hub (B8) and installation of 2.4 metre high timber fencing with associated landscaping and parking, alterations to existing highway and creation of a new access point</td>
<td>Site Address Sainsburys, Lancaster Road, Morecambe, LA4 5TJ</td>
<td>15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December 2017</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01382/LB</td>
<td>Listed Building application for replacement and installation of various fixtures and fittings internally</td>
<td>The Station Pub, Marine Road Central Morecambe LA4 4DB</td>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December 2017</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01367/LB</td>
<td>Listed Building application for the display of 3 externally illuminated fascia signs, 1 non-illuminated fascia sign, 1 externally illuminated double sided post mounted sign, 1 non-illuminated post mounted sign, 4 non-illuminated wall signs, 1 lantern and 1 brass plaque</td>
<td>The Station Pub, Marine Road Central, Morecambe LA4 4DB</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; December 2017</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01366/ADV</td>
<td>Advertising application for the display of 3 externally illuminated fascia signs, 1 non-illuminated fascia sign, 1 externally illuminated double sided post mounted sign, 1 non-illuminated post mounted sign, 4 non-illuminated wall signs, 1 lantern and 1 brass plaque</td>
<td>The Station Pub, Marine Road Central, Morecambe LA4 4DB</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; December 2017</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments made against above applications at time of publication of the Agenda:

The Lancaster City Council Public Access System has been unavailable to view since 23rd November due to upgrades to the system being undertaken. The city Council have informed the Clerk that it will become publicly available on Tuesday 5th December.

As such it has not been possible to view planning applications and associated documents in putting this report together.

Assuming the system is live again on 5th December, the Clerk will update the Committee at the meeting on any decisions made and objections received by the City Council in relation to the above applications.

At Council on 16th November Councillors suggested that this report indicates whether an application is being dealt with via the City Council Planning Committee or under delegated powers to officers, the following response was received form the City Council on 24th November 2017:

“With regards to whether an application is delegated or a committee item, our weekly list of planning applications already contains this information. I've copied a screen grab below. The column on the left will say DEL for Delegated or COMM for Committee. This information will also be available on our Public Access to Planning web pages, where you can see all documentation associated with each planning application, just by inserting the planning application number (Unfortunately the Public Access system is down for the next 11 days whilst we install new servers and undergo essential upgrades to our systems, but it will be available again w/c 4 December).”
Other Planning Issues:

Timescales on Delegated Decisions – the Clerk asked for clarification from the City Council on timescales for dealing with applications which were delegated to Planning Officers -the following response was received from Lancaster City Council:

“I can advise that for most delegated applications we usually have to make a decision usually within 8 weeks of the application being made valid (again the Public Access to Planning system on our website will have details of all critical dates). The 21-day consultation timescale is one that is set nationally for statutory consultees, so that’s why we try to encourage all responses to be received within that timescale.”

Re Request for Enforcement Officers to attend this meeting - the following response was received from Lancaster City Council:

“With regard to enforcement matters, both of our Enforcement Officers will be unable to attend the 5th December Town Council meeting. This is predominantly due to the excessive current workload; in particular some major cases which are working towards court proceedings. However, if it is helpful, I can respond to the three main issues that you have listed in your email.

Firstly, Warley Drive. These types of facilities are encouraged within residential settings throughout the country through the national planning system. It is by locating children within residential settings, with a permanent ‘family’ base, that gives them the best opportunity to integrate successfully into society. There are no valid planning grounds for refusing the application. The applicants (and occupants) have to adhere to strict codes of conduct that lie outside the planning process. If I recollect, the regulator for this property would be Ofsted, but should there be complaints regarding behaviour at the property, then these matters should be referred to either the Children’s Home in the first instance, and/or the Police.

With regard to the alley at B+M, we have recently provided pre-application advice to a developer who is proposing works in this area, which includes significant works to the alley. We are hopeful that this scheme will result in a planning application very shortly. But should we not receive a planning application by the end of the year, then I shall ask the Enforcement Officers to commence an enforcement investigation regarding untidy land.

Finally, on HMOs – we have a policy in our district plan which seeks to only allow HMOs where there is an identified need (e.g. so in Lancaster, there may be an identified need for HMOs for student accommodation, providing that the properties in question meet certain internal standards). In Morecambe, we have been taking action against HMOs since the first inception of the West End Masterplan in the mid-90s. This continues today, and so if there are HMOs that your Council is concerned about, please forward their details to us via dm@lancaster.gov.uk”
Morecambe in Bloom

North West in Bloom Report

The judges report regarding the Town’s achievement in winning gold has now been received. A copy is attached to this report.

This report should form the basis for moving forward with Morecambe in Bloom and the Town’s entry in NW in Bloom 2018.

The first part of this process will be to meet with Lancaster City Council officers to discuss the points raised in the report which affect the work that they undertake. This meeting has been scheduled for 6th December.

The Bloomers Community Group are meeting on 13th December to discuss further community projects. The Group (11 volunteers) together with Councillors Mr and Mrs Dennison, Hutton and Whitaker replanted and tidied the planting beds on Victoria Street and the Railway Station on Sunday 19th November. The “Welcome to Morecambe” sign produced by the Bloomers with the grant funds obtained by the Council and which has been ready since July, should finally be put in position by Network Rail over the next four weeks, following the receipt of an email by the Clerk from network Rail on 29th November.

Discussions will also be taking place with relevant Community Groups regarding the creation of themed planting beds to mark the 100 years since the end of World War One and the formation of the RAF.

Venue for Morecambe in Bloom Presentation 2018

There appears to be a consensus that the venue needs to be changed once again, as the event continues to grow. Officers have visited Morecambe Football Club who are prepared to host the event on Friday 5th October. The room could clearly accommodate the numbers of people currently attending with room to spare. The design and shape of the room would be more conducive to this type of event and allow for an improved customer experience.

Schools Competition 2018

In 2017 five schools entered as opposed to four in 2016. The aim should be to increase this again.

In doing so the Committee’s views are sought on the prize for the schools/winning school or alternatively a package of gardening related products for entering. This year the Council donated 325 worth of gardening products to each school that entered.
In 2018, this type of offer should be stated when literature about the event is first sent to schools. As this will be early in 2018, the Committee is asked to consider this important issue?

Secondly some members suggested to the Clerk that there should be a Schools celebratory/presentation event that all the schools could attend, as it is not feasible for schools and all the students who take part to attend the evening Presentation evening. The Committee’s views on this suggestion are requested particularly as there would be a cost which would affect the Council’s budget.

The event could be held in the Town Hall at 4 p.m. on a suitable afternoon, with perhaps an appropriate guest speaker, fun activities for students related to gardening and environmental conservation and soft drinks/cakes etc.?

**Budget 2018/19**

The Committee were given a budget of £3,000 for 2017/18.

To date the £2,235.94 has been spent from the fund with £1,213.10 income, leaving a balance of £1,977.16.

The Committee are asked to consider how the remainder of the budget should be spent and how much budget they would require for 2018/19. For 2018/19 this will then need to be forwarded to the Finance and Management Committee for consideration at its meeting on 8th January 2018.

**Issues to consider**

1. The content of the NW in Bloom report for 2017 and how the issues raised could be addressed in 2018
2. To consider the venue for the 2018 Morecambe in Bloom Presentation event
3. Schools Morecambe in Bloom Competition 2018 – school’s presentation event and prizes for schools
4. Budget 2018/19 and utilising the remainder of the 2017/18 budget
## 2017 BRITAIN IN BLOOM NORTH WEST: JUDGES REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of entry: Morecambe in Bloom</th>
<th>Judging Date: 11th July 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category: Coastal Resort</td>
<td>Judges: Brian Whalley/ Malcolm Eubank</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Introduction

Since I judged last year vast improvements have been made on weed control on the coastal road and the railway station frontage. Engaging businesses to have hanging baskets on their shop fronts. Visitors to Morecambe must have a better impression of the resort.

### SECTION A – Horticultural Achievement

Assessing year-round horticultural achievement including conservation and natural areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A1. Impact – design, colours, appropriate choice of plants, special features, presentation, innovation</th>
<th>MAX</th>
<th>ACT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2. Horticultural practice – cultivation and maintenance, quality of plants, sustainability, new planting</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>ACT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3. Residential and Community Gardening – residential, communal areas, allotments, public buildings (grounds of churches, schools etc.), car parks</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>ACT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4. Business Areas and Premises – retail and shopping areas, leisure sites, transport terminals, car parks, farms, rural businesses, pubs, post offices, tourist areas/attractons, offices, estate agents etc.</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>ACT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5. Green Spaces – verges, parks and open public spaces</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>ACT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS AWARDED FOR SECTION A**

50% of maximum points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAX</th>
<th>ACT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Areas of Achievement

Happy Mount Park has good maintenance standard the wild flower border is much improved.

### Areas for Improvement:

Make sure that the bowling green gutter is weed free and edged off and fill with sand. Also the lawn areas near the bedding sites in Happy Mount Park and Town Hall should be treated with selective weed treatment.
### SECTION B – Environmental Responsibility

Assessing year-round activities improving environmental responsibility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MAX</th>
<th>ACT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B1. Conservation and biodiversity – wildlife areas, natural habitat</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2. Resource management – recycling, minimising demand placed on natural resources and any harmful impact on the environment</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3. Local heritage – management and development of local heritage and/or identity, inclusive of natural heritage</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B4. Local environmental quality – management of vacant premises and plots, litter, graffiti, fly-posting, dog fouling etc.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B5. Pride of place – management of street furniture, signage, art in the landscape and hard landscaping</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS AWARDED FOR SECTION B**  
25% of maximum points  

|   | 50 | 44 |

### Areas of Achievement

- B1 Local residents have transformed a disused piece of land into a conservation area.
- B2 The number of recycling sites including Morrisons and Sainsbury's car parks and the collections by the local authority.
- B4 The number of local organisations that do litter picks throughout the year and the re-introduction of a weed control programme.
- B5 The maintenance of the street furniture has improved since last year.

### Areas for Improvement:

- B3 Although it was evident that there is a lot of heritage in the area it would be an advantage to explain it during the tour.
SECTION C – Community Participation

Assessing year-round community participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MAX</th>
<th>ACT.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C1. Development and continuity</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2. Communication and education</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3. Community participation</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>C4. Year-round involvement</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C5. Funding and Support</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS AWARDED FOR SECTION C**

25% of maximum points

|   | 50  | 43   |

**Areas of Achievement:**

C1 The bloom has been given a budget by the local authority of £1100 to develop the bloom.
C2 The local school who have joined in with the ethos of the bloom.
C3 Morecambe have set up a group (The Morecambe Bloomers) to discuss ideas to improve the resort.
C4 The improvements on the promenade during last year.
C5 The involvement of the business community in sponsoring flower beds in the resort.

**Areas for Improvement:**

**GRAND TOTAL POINTS AWARDED**

|   | 200 (max.) | 174 |

**MEDAL AWARDED**

GOLD
The petition below has been received regarding the restoration of Poulton Park:

Poulton Park Petition

Poulton Park Restoration

“Bring our Park back to its former glory and provide proper facilities and community area that is safe and promotes wellbeing in the Poulton area of Morecambe.

Why is this important?

Over the last 7 years the Park has been left to fall into a sorry state. Once used at Christmas for Carol services by the Local church choir and by local town council to deliver community outreach projects. Now we're lucky if it's cleaned once a fortnight and resembles a refuse tip in spite of our efforts to support the local community to keep it clean. The kids play area is rusty and out of date and The Heritage area of the park of Poulton Arch needs lots of work and has become a communal toilet for weekend drunks and gangs of youngsters to vandalise.

No Proper lighting also makes the Park a no go area at night and irresponsible dog walkers pepper the grass and paths with dog poop and other rubbish. The bins are also broken and seagulls rip open the rubbish bags dropped by fly tippers everyday a lovely site as kids walk to the 3 local schools situated close by.

People don't have to much to begin with round here and now we have one thing less, drug dealers use the Park to do deals and there is little if no social engagement by
outreach workers to engage with the local community and provide us support to turn this Park into something we can be proud of.

We have tried several times unsuccessfully to approach local council and other assorted people responsible for The upkeep of the Park and we get passed from pillar to post and little if nothing has changed.

Hopefully this petition will appeal to the community and wider people at large who will get behind us and help raise attention and give us our Park back!”

Comment

In determining how to respond to the petition or indeed offer any support, the Council should be aware that the park is currently owned by Lancaster City Council.

The Morecambe Bloomers Group have previously highlighted the Park as a priority project although at this stage such a project would probably be too large for that Group.

Actions Required

To consider the above petition and how to respond on behalf of the Town Council.
Planning Development and Environment Committee – 5th December 2017

Item No: 7  Report of: Clerk to the Council

Disposal of Recycled Waste

On 13th November, the Clerk received the following request from a local resident:

“For a considerable time the City Council method of collection of the contents in each recycling box has been to empty them all in one wheeled bin and then this is disposed all mixed up on the refuse collection vehicle.

This method usually results in litter on the streets from the emptying of the boxes into the wheeled bin at the front of properties.

As residents, like others, we spend a considerable amount of time segregating the recyclable waste in the separate boxes as per the City Council instructions. This appears to be absolutely pointless in view of this method of collection.

Are the City Council no longer recycling waste and just disposing of it in landfill now?

Is the answer to the above yes then all waste should be disposed in the grey bins.

Is the answer is no then is it possible for residents to use their green wheelie bins instead of the boxes in future to prevent to the proliferation of litter on the streets which occurs on the day of collection of household waste in recycling boxes?

Perhaps the Town Council could discuss matter with its partners the City Council as one of its primary concerns is environment and reducing the amount of litter in Morecambe.

I look forward to receiving a response to the above questions from the Town Council.”

As the City Council are the responsible Waste Collection Authority, the Clerk forwarded the above letter to the City Council asking for their views.

The following response was received which was forwarded to the resident concerned:

“The City Council’s recyclable collection operates using split bodied vehicles. Residents are asked to separate materials into paper/card and plastic bottles/glass/cans. The items are then transferred using ‘slave’ wheeled bins to the vehicle and placed in the correct compartment for the materials collected. At no time are both commodities mixed in the vehicle. It is important that residents continue to separate the materials as instructed, to mixed them together will contaminate the whole load leading to the material being disposed of as non-recyclable waste.

Once the recyclable materials reach the Waste Treatment Plants the paper/card is directly delivered to reprocessors with the remaining co-mingled materials separated and sent on for treatment and re-processing. Good quality recyclable materials do not go to landfill which is why we encourage separation at source.
Local Authorities have stringent recycling targets set out in Legislation, therefore whilst we encourage it is actually a requirement that residents separate their materials as instructed.

Encouraging residents to recycle as much as possible can in some situation lead to overfilled boxes, we are aware this can cause litter, we therefore provide lids free of charge to prevent littering. Collection teams are advised to clear any materials that spill on to the highway as they undertake the collection process. As you have raised this as an issue we will monitor the collections in your area.

At the moment we are not proposing to use the garden waste bin for recycling materials. Residents who value the garden waste collection service continue to use these regularly. We are exploring options to improve recycling across the district, the issues you raise regarding litter is also one of our primary concerns and forms part of these options. It should be noted that to replace boxes with wheeled bins will require each property to have 2 wheeled bins as there is no option to fully co-mingle all the materials.”

Actions Required

To consider the correspondence from the local resident and the response form the City Council and to determine if the Town Council wishes to undertake any further action in respect of this matter.
Open Space Consultation

The City Council have invited the Town Council to respond to their Open Space Survey.

The City Council is working to better understand green space provision across their area and have commissioned Knight, Kavanagh & Page to carry out an assessment of green space provision across the Lancaster and Morecambe area. The study will examine the quality, distribution and role of green spaces. The assessment will serve as a key evidence base that will inform future strategic planning and decision-making processes for green space. The results of this survey will be used as part of the study.

The closing date for completing the online survey is Monday 4\textsuperscript{th} December, although the City Council have informed the Clerk that the Town Council can respond after this date, as this meeting represents the first time the Town Council can consider the survey.

The survey may be viewed on the City Council website at:

http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/planning-policy-consultations

This is an online survey and the survey has been screen printed into the agenda to assist members considering the contents of any response that the Town Council wishes to make.
Open Spaces Community Survey

Please complete the following survey to tell us about the green spaces that you visit in Lancaster District, what you think of their quality and accessibility, how often you use them and what improvements could be made. The Council is working to better understand green space provision across the area and is carrying out an assessment of green space provision across the Lancaster and Morecambe area. The study will examine the quality, distribution and role of green spaces. The assessment will serve as a key evidence base that will inform future strategic planning and decision-making processes for green space. The results of this survey will be used as part of the study.

All responses will be treated in the strictest confidence and no personal information will be used for any commercial purposes. Personal information will be used to help inform the demographics and location of respondents.

An explanation to the types of open space being covered as part of the survey is set out below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of green space</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local park or gardens</td>
<td>Often well designed sites of high quality with opportunities for informal recreation and community events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature reserve, common or woodland</td>
<td>Areas intended for wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play area for young children</td>
<td>Areas designed for play and social interaction containing play equipment (i.e. swings, slides etc.). Often intended for supervised play by parents or carers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teenage provision</td>
<td>Play facilities aimed at older children such Multi-Use Games Areas, skateboard areas and kick-about football areas. Often intended for unsupervised play.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General amenity greenspace</td>
<td>Grassed areas providing opportunities for informal activities close to home or work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allotments and community schemes</td>
<td>Opportunities for those to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cemeteries and churchyards</td>
<td>Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, can often be linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic spaces, war memorials</td>
<td>Market squares, war memorials and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians and which often provide a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor networks (e.g. cycleways, footpaths, bridleways)</td>
<td>Areas or routes which provide walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q1 How often do you visit/use any green spaces in Lancaster District?
   Please select ONE box only

   Never   Less than once a month   Once a month   2-3 times a month   Once a week   More than once a week

   Please use the following space to provide any further comments (using no more than 40 words)

Q2 Please provide the name or location of the three sites you visit most often

   1
   2
   3
Q3. How often have you visited/used each of the following in Lancaster District in the last 12 months?

Please select ONE on each line

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Green Space Type</th>
<th>More than once a week</th>
<th>Once a week</th>
<th>2-3 times a month</th>
<th>Once a month</th>
<th>Less than once a month</th>
<th>Never</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Local park or public garden</td>
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</table>
**Q4 What is the main form of transport you use to reach each of the following types of space within the Lancaster District?**

*Please select ONE on each line*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Space</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Public transport</th>
<th>Taxi</th>
<th>Private car</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>Other</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local park or public garden</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Q5 How long are you willing to spend travelling to each of the following types of space within the Lancaster District?

*Please select ONE on each line*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Space</th>
<th>Up to 5 mins</th>
<th>10 mins</th>
<th>15 mins</th>
<th>20 mins</th>
<th>30 mins</th>
<th>40 mins</th>
<th>Over 45 mins</th>
<th>Not Interested</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local park or public garden</td>
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</table>
## Importance of green spaces

Q6  How important are the following types of spaces to you? Please select ONE on each line

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Quite important</th>
<th>Neither important nor unimportant</th>
<th>Not very important</th>
<th>Not at all important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local park or public garden</td>
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</table>

Please use the following space to provide any further comments (using no more than 40 words)

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Copyright: Knight, Kavanagh & Page
Satisfaction: Availability and quality of green spaces

Q7 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the amount/availability of the following types of space in the area where you live? Please select ONE on each line

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Space</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
<th>Quite satisfied</th>
<th>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</th>
<th>Quite dissatisfied</th>
<th>Very dissatisfied</th>
<th>No opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local park or public garden</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please use the following space to let us know if you have a concern about the availability of a particular type of green space in your area that is not listed above (using no more than 40 words)
Q8 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the quality of the following types of space in the area where you live?

Please select ONE on each line

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
<th>Quite satisfied</th>
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<th>Quite dissatisfied</th>
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<td>Outdoor networks (e.g. cycleways, footpaths, bridleways etc.)</td>
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<td>Beach</td>
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<td>Promenade</td>
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</table>

Please use the following space to let us know if you have a concern about the quality of a particular type of green space in your area that is not listed above (using no more than 40 words)
Q9 What do you think is most important for green spaces?

Please tick up to four boxes:

- Attractiveness of the site, flowers, trees etc
- Maintenance and improvement of footpaths, seats, shelters etc
- Good access to spaces
- Cleanliness
- Community involvement
- Introduction of new green spaces
- New facilities at existing spaces
- Use of green spaces for events etc
- Good public information about spaces and events
- More natural wildlife environments
- To incorporate a feeling of safety through lighting, fencing etc
- Other (please state below)
Q10 Have you regularly (four or more times) visited any green spaces outside Lancaster District in the past 12 months?

- Yes
- No

Q11 Please name the three sites you visit most often outside of the Lancaster District

1.
2.
3.

Please use the following space to let us know if there is a particular reason, especially if it is one that could lead to an improvement in Lancaster District’s green spaces (using no more than 40 words)