



## Protos Community Forum

### Minutes of the meeting 9th October 2019

7:00 pm Elton Community Centre

#### Present:

#### Voting Members:

Cllr. Sarah Temple, Helsby Parish Council  
 Cllr. Andrew Eardley, Ince Parish Council  
 Cllr. Pauline O'Reilly, Elton Parish Council  
 Cllr. Roy Greenwood, Little Stanney and District Parish Council  
 Cllr. Tim Lloyd, Ince Parish Council

#### Advisers:

Jane Gaston, Peel Environmental  
 Lois Kay, Peel Environmental  
 Alex Sutherland, Environment Agency

Keith Butterick, Secretary

<u>Issues Discussed</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action by</u>
<b>1. Apologies</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Absences</b></li> </ul>	Cllr Clare Wright, Thornton-le-Moors Parish Council  Cllr. Judith Critchley, Frodsham Town Council Cllr. Andrew Dawson, Frodsham ward, Cheshire West & Chester Council Cllr. Paul Bowers, Helsby ward, Cheshire West & Chester Council Cllr. Graham Heatley, Gowy Rural ward, Cheshire West & Chester Council Rod Brookfield, Cheshire West & Chester Council Clare Appleyard, Cheshire West & Chester Council Justin Madders MP Ellesmere Port & Neston Sue Pugh (Justin Madders assistant) Cllr. Martin Dickinson, Elton Parish Council  <b>ST:</b> Updated Members – CwaC had accepted the AGM motion on membership. CWaC will be represented on the Forum by Cllr. Bowers, Cllr. Dawson and Cllr. Heatley.	
<b>2. Minutes of Last Meeting</b>	The minutes of the meeting on 19 June 2019 were accepted as a true record	
<b>3. Matters Arising</b>	Any matters to be raised in the rest of the agenda.	



<p><b>4. Progress Report</b></p>	<p><b>JG and LK</b> delivered the Progress Report:</p> <p><b>Infrastructure Works and EfW:</b>  Work will start on phase 2 infrastructure when Peel has closed the financial deal with Covanta for the EfW facility (expected by end Oct). Sisk have been appointed as contractors for the infrastructure work and a member of their team will attend Forum meetings in the future. No timescales mentioned for constructing the EfW facility itself.</p> <p><b>Biomass:</b>  The official opening of the plant recently took place with various dignitaries present.  <b>PO'R:</b> Local councillors weren't notified or invited. <b>JG:</b> Peel not responsible for the opening – in future would suggest members be invited to any future openings. The plant is currently offline for maintenance. <b>AS</b> noted requirements for Personal Protection Equipment mean a tour round the plant is unlikely but <b>JG</b> will enquire about a Forum visit.</p> <p><b>Timber:</b>  Recent dust issues are related to challenges with material supplied which has been breaking up and will take some time to settle down. CWAC Planning are involved in ongoing proposals to resolve the matter.</p> <p><b>Plot 10b (Waste4Tricity facility)</b>  Planning application for a facility to produce hydrogen from unrecyclable plastic has been submitted, validated. Application is now on website. CWaC doing their consultation. <b>PO'R:</b> Elton PC does have concerns about what would be released into the atmosphere. <b>JG:</b> Recommended <b>PO'R</b> contact <b>LK</b> and a meeting will be arranged.</p> <p><b>UKGEOS</b>  Planning application was approved in July by CWaC planning committee. Work is expected to start in Spring 2020. <b>LK:</b> There will be nine boreholes on the Protos site. <b>ST</b> will send Forum members the map from the planning app showing all boreholes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next UK GEOS Community Liaison meeting will take place on 26 November 2019.</li> </ul> <p><b>Plot 4 (BioSNG)</b>  Planning application submitted with CWaC and is expected to be decided in November. <b>JG</b> noted it will include a condition not to use virgin wood as feedstock.</p>	<p><b>JG</b></p> <p><b>PO'R/LK</b></p> <p><b>ST</b></p>
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	<p><b>Ecology area schools visit with Cheshire Wildlife Trust</b>  <b>LK:</b> Updated the Forum on the launch of the nature area with the children in mid Sept. Was a successful event. <b>LK:</b> updated the Forum members on the wildlife site. There will be a Cheshire wildlife officer/ranger working on site. Leaflets showing the areas and nature trails around the public one were passed to members for distribution. Scannable barcodes along the trail are planned which will link to seasonal info on the nature subpage of the new Protos website Forum members discussed how the local community used the nature area. <b>JG:</b> There have been issues with motorbike and quad bikes on the site, which Peel are working on with the police. The metal gate is repeatedly being cut off its hinges. There has to be a balance between access and security.</p> <p>There was a lengthy discussion about Pool Lane Roundabout, road flooding and who had responsibility for maintenance work on the site. Peel confirmed roundabout maintenance was now up to CWAC. Protos used CWT and Ecological Land Maintenance to maintain areas within the Protos site itself but could not share details e.g. number of cuts per year for verges. Points raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drainage work within Protos site should form part of a new package of works to be agreed with Sisk and Covanta.</li> <li>• Feedback from Forum members could be useful to Peel when such maintenance contracts are reviewed/ renewed.</li> <li>• CWaC councillors should be involved to help resolve issues where responsibilities are unclear e.g. road flooding highlighted by Ince PC and related to historic work by Peel's contractors (Buckingham) at Pool Lane roundabout. The Forum agreed to endorse a letter to Cllr Heatley (copy to Stuart Bateman at Highways and JG) requesting his support and attendance at Forum meetings. AE/TL to provide details of drainage issues for letter.</li> </ul> <p><b>Website:</b>  New address is Protos.co.uk. Users will be automatically redirected from the previous address. Website update is ongoing.</p> <p><b>Newsletter:</b>  Draft copy has been sorted and comments fed back to <b>LK</b> from reps attending the CBF meeting.  <b>ST:</b> What is the process for getting approval from those quoted in the newsletter? <b>JG/KB/LK:</b> to clarify and agree who has responsibility for finalising and issuing the newsletter.</p>	<p><b>AE/TL</b></p> <p><b>JG/KB/LK</b></p> <p><b>JG/LK</b></p>
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	<p>Setting a deadline for feedback from organisations featured would enable timely issue of the newsletter. <b>ST</b> requested an introductory meeting with Becca Eatwell (Peel’s PR and Marketing Consultant) when convenient and local.</p>	
<p><b>5. Community Benefit Fund</b></p>	<p><b>ST:</b> Updated the Forum on the Community Benefit Fund panel meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019.</p> <p>Applications considered on the evening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elton Comm Centre (new bar equipment, retrospective) – Refused. Panel did not want to set a precedent of approving retrospective applications.</li> <li>- Elton Gardeners Association (composting toilet, £1000) – Approved. Panel welcomed application from a new organisation. Toilet facility could contribute to wider regeneration of the site.</li> <li>- Ince PC (electric supply to light, £4000) – Approved. Project was not amenable to phased funding so full amount granted. Ince PC will fund any shortfall. Panel noted refurb of lamp needed to be completed before connection but that electric supply would enable additional community amenities. Panel requested that a formal quote be provided to <b>KB</b> when available.</li> <li>- Elton Primary School (music equipment and after-school clubs, £4000) – Approved subject to breakdown of costs/timings which <b>CW</b> will request from head. Panel agreed up £2,500 could be provided immediately (e.g. for purchase of instruments) and additional £1,500 would be provided later (e.g. to fund classes). Noted that Protos had funded several successful projects at the school including MUGA (in 2018) and carpets (in 2019) and that this project could be considered as project for 2020.</li> </ul> <p>An update was provided on existing projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ince village lamp: <i>Restoration of both lamp and column nearing completion (more work than anticipated on lantern). Ince PC will defer installation until work complete. No time for completion given by fabricator.</i></li> <li>• Little Stanney and District Council (new sign): <i>Still awaiting CWAC Highways approval</i></li> <li>• Hornsmill Primary school (AV equipment): <i>Completed. Very positive feedback received from school head, which members appreciated.</i></li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TLM PC (kitchen in village hall): <i>Completed. Members agreed photos looked very good.</i></li> <li>• Elton Church hall (heating as part of larger project) – <i>Agreed to withdraw funding commitment and ask applicant to re-submit when realistic chance that work will be completed within desired 6-9 months timeline.</i></li> </ul> <p>General discussion and agreement that timelines to complete a project/receive payment should not go beyond 12 months. Elton lamp refurb was noted as a difficult project from the early days when operation and admin of the fund was evolving but ongoing/future projects should keep within timescale.</p> <p><b>JG:</b> Confirmed that £40,000 will be allocated to the Community Benefit Fund Panel in 2020. Payment date to be firmed up with Peel accounts team but likely to be during January. Members welcomed the increased amount (from £30,000 in 2019) and hoped funds would continue to grow as Protos development grew.</p>	
<p><b>6. Any other Business</b></p>	<p><b>LK:</b> The flytipping which was identified to Peel by a local resident on the bridleway has been removed and although we hope that future antisocial activity such as this ceases, Peel will seek to remove further flytipping as soon as is reasonably possible.</p> <p><b>ST:</b> A date with <b>JG/LK</b> and contractor Ricardo to discuss the air quality monitoring data from the Helsby station (a condition of the biomass planning approval) had been set for 29<sup>th</sup> Oct..</p> <p><b>KB:</b> Will check with CWaC who would be the appropriate officers to attend the Forum.</p>	<p><b>KB</b></p>
<p><b>7. Date of next meeting</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday 26 February 2020</b> <b>Elton Community Centre</b> <b>7.00pm</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The next Community Benefit Fund meeting will be Weds</b> <b>19 February 2020</b> <b>Elton Community Centre</b> <b>7.00pm</b></p>	