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Meeting of: Rochdale North Township Committee
Date: Tuesday, 10th September, 2019
Time: 6.00 pm.
Venue: Hollingworth (Room 108ABC), First Floor,
Number One Riverside, Smith Street,
Rochdale, OL16 1XU

This agenda gives notice of items to be considered in private as required by Regulations 5 (4) and (5) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No
1.	APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Members are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary, personal or personal and prejudicial interests they may have and the nature of those interests relating to items on this agenda and/or indicate if S106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.	
3.	URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS To determine whether there are any additional items of business which, by reason of special circumstances, the Chair decides should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.	
4.	ITEMS FOR EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS To determine any items on the agenda, if any, where the public are to be excluded from the meeting.	
5.	OPEN FORUM Up to half an hour has been set aside for members of the public to raise any issues relevant to the business of the Committee and the Township.	
6.	MINUTES To consider the Minutes of the meeting of Rochdale North Township Committee, held 11 th June 2019.	3 - 7

7. **ROCHDALE NORTH TOWNSHIP ACTION AND RESOURCES DELEGATED SUB-COMMITTEE** 8 - 11
To note the minutes of the meeting of Rochdale North Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub-Committee, held 4th July 2019.
8. **PERMANENT DIVERSION OF DEFINITIVE FOOTPATH HEYFP117** 12 - 15
To determine rights of way that have been identified in the Norden area of Rochdale.
9. **ROCHDALE NORTH TOWNSHIP FUNDS - DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS** 16 - 17
To consider a report detailing proposed terms and conditions for funds 2019/2020 and the proposed delegation arrangements for 2019/2020.

Rochdale North Township Committee Members

Councillor Ali Ahmed	Councillor Iftikhar Ahmed
Councillor Sultan Ali	Councillor Wendy Cocks
Councillor James Gartside	Councillor Kieran Heakin
Councillor Michael Holly	Councillor Rachel Massey
Councillor Shaun O'Neill	Councillor Faisal Rana
Councillor Shah Wazir	Councillor Peter Winkler

For more information about this meeting, please contact:

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Agenda Item 6

ROCHDALE NORTH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday, 11th June 2019

PRESENT: Councillor O'Neill (in the Chair); Councillors: Ali Ahmed, Iftikhar Ahmed, Sultan Ali, Cocks, Gartside, Heakin, Holly, Massey, Rana, Wazir and Winkler.

OFFICERS: V. White (Neighbourhoods Directorate), A. Eadie (Environment Directorate) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Inspector Fearn (Greater Manchester Police) and five members of the public.

APOLOGIES

1 There were no apologies for absence.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2 There were no declarations of interests.

OPEN FORUM

3 The following matters were raised in the Committee's Open Forum session:

a) Syke Common, Healey

The Township Committee received a question from Mr. R. Lord regarding activities being progressed to repair and improve the paths around Syke Pond, some sections of which continue to collapse into the pond. The Committee received an answer to Mr Lord's question, from the Council's Environmental Management Service and noted that a full report on this matter would be submitted to the Committee's next meeting on 10th September 2019.

b) College Bank Flats, Rochdale

The Township Committee were addressed by Mr. R. Parker regarding proposals by Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (RBH) to demolish four of the seven high rise accommodation blocks at College Bank, Rochdale, commonly known as the 'seven sisters' and with regard to the consultation exercise that RBH had carried out in relation to this matter. Members of the Committee expressed their concerns at the consultation exercise that RBH had undertaken and noted their support for the work of the residents who were opposed to the course of action being proposed by RBH.

c) Greater Manchester Police

Inspector Fearn (Greater Manchester Police (GMP)) updated the Township Committee on activities and initiatives that were undertaken by GMP in the Rochdale North Township.

- a. Operation Sceptre – an operation to target and counter 'knife crime'. This was an initiative that was taking place across the whole of GMP's

footprint and it was recorded that Rochdale had the second lowest level of knife crime of the 10 Greater Manchester authorities (after Bury). GMP were involved in a wide ranging campaign in this regard that included conveying messages via social media outlets and visits to schools and colleges.

- b. Operation Dynamo – an initiative to counter a recent ‘spike’ in the theft of motor vehicles and the theft of property from motor vehicles.
- c. Operation Dragster – an initiative to counter the illegal use of ‘off-road’ vehicles including the use of drones. This initiative had resulted in the seizure of three vehicles.
- d. Operation Considerate – an initiative to clamp down on illegal and dangerous driving practices. This exercise was undertaken at different locations in Rochdale and resulted in action being taken against drivers for offences such as using mobile phones whilst driving, drivers and front seat passengers not wearing seatbelts and drivers not having valid road tax or insurance for their vehicles
- e. Operation Bohemia – an initiative to counter youth anti-social behaviour in and around Rochdale’s town centre and the town’s College bank area.

In addition Inspector Fearn reported that three new Officers had recently commenced their duties in Rochdale and that GMP had improved its web-site to make it easier for the public to contact the Police.

MINUTES

4 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Rochdale Township Committee, held 13th March 2019 be approved as a correct record, subject to an amendment to minute 51 (Rochdale New Allotments Provision) to note that Mr. Morrell addressed the Committee to object to the proposals to locate allotment plots at Hutchinson Road, Norden.

SITES OF BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE - UPDATE

5 The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Economy which advised that sites of Biological Importance (SBIs) were local planning designations covering areas of nature conservation importance in Greater Manchester which contain locally valuable habitats, plants and animals. Whilst they did not provide legal protection, they could be taken into consideration when determining planning applications which may affect the site and its nature conservation interest.

New SBIs and changes to existing SBIs were recommended on an annual basis by the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) and were reported to the relevant Township Committee in order that they may be adopted for planning purposes.

The latest review which GMEU had undertaken recommended that the existing Ashworth Valley SBI be extended to include two hectares of additional woodland habitat, and that the existing Fordoe and Naden Woods

SBI be extended to include an additional 1.8 hectares of grassland and habitat for butterflies, and upgraded from grade C to grade B. The proposed extensions were demonstrated on maps detailed on the submitted Committee report.

Alternatives considered:

The alternative would be to not support the proposed changes to the SBIs. This course of action could leave some important areas of habitat more vulnerable to damage from development in the area or nearby.

Resolved:

The Rochdale North Township Committee approves the extensions to the SBIs, detailed in the submitted report, so that the nature conservation interests of the new areas can be taken into account when planning applications which may affect those interests that are being considered.

Reasons for the decision:

The National Planning Policy Framework stated that planning decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by, amongst other things, protecting and enhancing valued sites of biodiversity value. The areas in question had been identified by experts as being of local biodiversity value and the Council should thus try and protect this value by taking it into account in planning decisions.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes.

ROCHDALE TOWNSHIP FUNDS REVIEW

6 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods that asked Members to approve the Rochdale North Township Funds' terms and conditions, and to agree delegation arrangements concerning funding decisions.

Alternatives considered:

In considering the report, the Committee's Members were asked to decide whether or not to approve the allocation of funds to funding streams and to adopt appropriate terms and conditions.

Resolved:

1. The Committee notes the expenditure, commitments and balances for Rochdale North Township revenue and capital funds at financial year end 2018/19 (as outlined at Appendix 1 and 2 of the submitted report).
2. The Committee notes the findings of the review of Township Funds 2018/19 (as outlined at Appendix 3 of the submitted report) and evaluations received to date for some of the projects funded (as outlined at Appendix 4 of the submitted report).
3. The Committee approves the allocation of Rochdale North Township Funds to funding streams in 2019/20 as detailed in Appendix 5 of the submitted report.
4. The Committee approves the terms and conditions for Rochdale North Township's revenue and capital funds for 2019/20 (as described at Appendix 6 of the submitted report).

5. The Committee authorises the delegation arrangements for Rochdale North Township Funds 2019/20 as detailed at 4.6 of the submitted report, subject to an amendment, approved by the Committee, that the amount which the Chair, Vice Chair and opposition Spokesperson may make decisions on the allocation of funds be reduced from £5,00 to £3,000.
6. The Committee authorises any uncommitted/unspent funds be reallocated to a central revenue or capital funding stream as appropriate before the end of January 2020 to enable Members to spend/commit all Rochdale North Township Funds during 2019/20 financial year.

Reasons for the decision:

The management of the Rochdale North Township Fund is a matter that is delegated to the Rochdale North Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub Committee to determine. Rochdale North Township Funds are allocated to projects that benefit the Township's community and environment, and realise the Township priorities. The decision enables the Committee to monitor and review the use of the Rochdale North Township Funds to ensure continued efficient and effective use of those funds.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes.

ROCHDALE NORTH TOWNSHIP DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS 2019/20

7 The Township Committee considered a report of the Director of Resources that requested that Members confirm their delegated decision making arrangements and make appointments to the Township Sub-Committees, including the Chairs, Vice Chairs and substitute members; the appointment of "lead" opposition spokespersons; and the appointment to other bodies.

Alternatives considered:

The Committee could choose not to appoint Sub-Committees and undertake all delegated functions themselves, however this could have a detrimental impact on the ability to progress Township priorities or to deal with urgent items of business. The Committee could also, if it chose to do so, adopt alternative Sub-Committee arrangements.

Resolved:

1. The proposed Sub-Committee structure of the Rochdale North Township Committee comprising of the Rochdale North Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub-Committee and the terms of reference, as outlined at Appendix 1 of the submitted report, be approved;
2. Members be appointed as follows: –
 - (a) Rochdale North Township Action and Resources Sub-Committee: Councillors – O'Neill (Chair), Cocks (Vice Chair), Ali Ahmed, Iftikhar Ahmed, Sultan Ali, Gartside, Heakin, Holly, Massey, Rana, Wazir and Winkler.
The opposition spokesperson be Councillor Winkler:

- (b) The relevant Ward Councillors be appointed to attend their respective Ward Forum;
 - (c) Rochdale Regeneration Group – Councillors Sultan Ali, Holly, O’Neill, Rana and Wazir;
 - (d) Township Older Persons Champion – Councillor Massey;
 - (g) Township Young Persons Champion – Councillor Massey;
 - (h) Rochdale North Township Planning Panel – All members of the Rochdale North Township Committee to be invited to attend meetings - except those Members who have also been appointed to the Council’s Planning and Licensing Committee
- (3) Any amendments to the appointments be delegated to the Chair of the Rochdale North Township Committee to determine.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council has established and appoints Township Committees that may exercise both executive and non-executive powers as set out in the Responsibility for Council Functions in Part 3 of the Constitution, which states that: appointments to Township Sub-Committees, Township Working Parties, Partnership Arrangements and Local Outside Bodies shall be made at the first meeting of the appropriate Township Committee in the new Municipal Year’.

The Sub-Committee exercises either delegated powers or acts on any matter detailed in the Committee’s Terms of Reference on which it is essential to take a decision.

Eligible for Call-in: No.

Agenda Item 7

ROCHDALE NORTH TOWNSHIP ACTION AND RESOURCES DELEGATED SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday, 4th July 2019

PRESENT: Councillor O'Neill (in the Chair); Councillors: Gartside, Massey, Rana and Wazir

OFFICERS: G. Finch, N. McKendry (Neighbourhoods Directorate) and P. Thompson (Resources Directorate).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: 17 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ali Ahmed, Iftikhar Ahmed, Sultan Ali, Cocks, Heakin, Holly and Winkler.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2 There were no declarations of interests.

MINUTES

3 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Rochdale Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub-Committee held 14th February 2019, be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

SPOTLAND AND FALINGE AREA FORUM

4 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Spotland and Falinge Area Forum, held 7th March 2019, be noted.

NORDEN AREA FORUM

5 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Norden Area Forum, held 21st May 2019, be noted.

HEALEY AREA FORUM

6 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Healey Area Forum, held 30th May 2019, be noted.

CENTRAL ROCHDALE AREA FORUM

7 Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Central Rochdale Area Forum, held 10th June 2019, be noted.

ROCHDALE NORTH TOWNSHIP FUNDS 2019/20

8 The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhoods which updated Members on the revenue and capital

expenditure commitments and balances of Rochdale North Township Fund 2019/20, to enable the Sub-Committee to allocate funds to proposed projects.

The Sub-Committee were asked to note the expenditure, commitments and balances of Rochdale North Township Funds 2019/20, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the submitted report, the decisions made under delegated authority, as detailed at Appendix 3 to the submitted report, and to consider and approve, defer or refuse the allocation of funds to proposed projects detailed in Appendix 4 of the submitted report. Members of the Rochdale North Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub-Committee were requested to note that the Townships and Communities Manager had assessed all of the proposed projects to be considered for funding against the criteria of eligibility for Rochdale North Township Fund projects and any specific risks were identified within the report.

In considering the funding applications the Sub-Committee received oral representations the applicant's and/or their representatives, who were in attendance at the meeting.

The Chair advised that there would during the course of the municipal year there would be a series of funding applications that would directly affect both of the two new Rochdale Township Committees: North and South, such as applications for the funding of Christmas lights in Rochdale town centre. These applications would be considered at future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

Alternatives considered - in considering the report, Members were asked to Decide whether or not to approve the allocation of funds to projects/schemes as appropriate.

Resolved:

1. That the expenditure, commitments and balances of the Rochdale Township Funds 2019/20, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the submitted report be noted;
2. That the decisions made under delegated authority as detailed in Appendix 3 of the submitted report be noted;
3. That the Townships and Communities Manager, in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and opposition spokesperson of the Sub-Committee, be given delegated authority to make decisions on any deferred projects;
4. That applications for Township Funds 2019/20, (as outlined at Appendix 4 of the submitted report); and be dealt with as follows:-

Ref	Project name/applicant	Decision
RP/02/19	Functional Fitness Course, submitted by Link4Life	An award of £1,024.42 from the Projects Fund
RP/03/19	Growth Project Work Area, submitted by Hourglass Environment	An award of £1,400 from the Project Fund
RP/04/19	Festival of Light,	An award of £2,694.50

	submitted by Vintage Worx Community Development Trust	from the Projects Fund
RP/05/19	Lantern Making Workshop, submitted by Vintage Worx Community Development Trust	An award of £1,800 from the Project Fund
RP/06/19	Real Change Rochdale, submitted by The Sanctuary Trust	An award of £610.30 from the Project Fund
RP/07/19	Rochdale Holiday Jamboree, submitted by the Nigerian Community Association	The application for funding be refused
RP/08/19	Eden Drop In, submitted by Hebron Social Club	Determination of this application be delegated to the Sub-Committee's Chair, Vice Chair and Opposition Spokesperson, pending the outcome of discussions between the applicant and Rochdale Borough Council's Youth Service.
TC/17/18	Rooley Moor Road Vehicle Activated Speed Sign, submitted by Spotland and Falinge Ward Councillors	An award of £5,402.23 (for Option Two, as outlined in the submitted brief) from the Capital Fund
TC/02/19	Eden Street Lighting, submitted by Councillor Rana	Consideration of the application be deferred to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee
TC/03/19	Stoney Hill Community Wildlife Area – Information Board, submitted by SETRA (Spotland Estates Tenants and Residents Association)	An award of £1,465 (50% of the total project cost) from the Capital Fund – and the applicants be encouraged to apply for funding from Spotland and Falinge Area Forum's funding streams for the balance of the project costs.
TC/08/19	The Refuge, submitted by Whitworth Valley Angling Society	An award of £3,750 from the Capital Fund
TC/10/18	Rooley Moor Pedestrian	An award of £2,750 (for

	Dropped Kerbs, submitted by Councillor Rana	Option Two, as outlined in the submitted project brief) from the Capital Fund
TC/06/19	Spotland Corridor Landscape Improvements, submitted by Councillor Rana	An award of £5,050 (for that element of the application that covers the installation and maintenance of 11 saddle planters, as outlined in the submitted project brief) from the Capital Fund

5. The Townships and Communities Manager, in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and Opposition Spokesperson of the Sub-Committee, to be given delegated authority to make decisions on any deferred projects;

6. The Committee notes the Chair's remarks about applications for funding that will be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee that impact on the areas covered by both Rochdale North Township and Rochdale South Township.

Reasons for the decision:

The recommendations in the report were presented as management of the Rochdale North Township Fund is a function that is delegated to the Rochdale North Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub-Committee. Rochdale North Township Funds are allocated to projects that benefit the Township's community and environment, and realise the Township's priorities and which will enable the Sub-Committee to monitor and review the use of the Rochdale North Township Fund to ensure the continued efficient and effective use of the funds.

Eligible for Call-in: Yes

Agenda Item 8

Report to Heywood/Rochdale Township Committee



Date of Meeting	9 th September 2019
Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Environment
Report Author	Julie Simpson
Public/Private Document	Public

Permanent Diversion of Definitive Footpath HeyFp117 and Part of RocAFp10

Executive Summary

1. Land that used to form part of a right of way (footpath) in the Norden area of Rochdale, labelled as HeyFp117 and RocAFp10 on Council records, is now unstable following a landslide in the area. The footpath runs on a ledge some 20 – 30 feet high and is considered a high risk for continued use by the general public.

To ensure public safety it is proposed to divert part of HeyFp117 and part of RocAFp10 footpaths to land located further away from the ledge. The Council may do this by proceeding with a Map Modification Order under section 119 Highways Act 1980 and following this with a legal event order to change the routes on the definitive map and statement.

The relevant landowner (United Utilities) has been contacted and has written to the Council to approve a diversion of the footpaths onto neighbouring land in their ownership. The location of the diverted route is currently being used by members of the public and is notably safer.

The associated costs for Officer/Legal time and advertising costs will be borne by the Council. The diversion is required to protect public safety.

Recommendation

2. That the Council proceed with a Definitive Map Modification Order to divert the footpaths to an alternative location agreed by the landowner, to remove the risks to the general public, and, to show the new location of part of HeyFp117 and part of RocAFp10 on the definitive map and statement by completing a legal event order.

Reason for Recommendation

3. Under section 130 Highways Act 1980 the Council have a duty to assert and protect the rights of the general public to the use and enjoyment of any right of way.

Should a right of way be out of repair, difficult to use or there is a risk to the general public in their right to the use of a footpath, bridleway or restricted byway the Council have a duty to take the appropriate action to ensure the legitimate users are not put in any potential danger.

This is one of the circumstances the Council has to take action and the only reasonable precaution is to divert the sections of footpaths onto land that is easy to use and stable.

The general public are already using an alternative route on neighbouring land as the Council applied a temporary closure to prohibit use along footpaths HeyFp117/RocAFp10. The landowner, United Utilities, allowed access over a permissive route that they have now agreed can be recorded on Council records as a legal definitive footpath.

Key Points for Consideration

4. The Council have a duty to protect the rights of the general public and consider the safety aspects whilst using the definitive network of rights of way.

There is a potential danger to the general public along part of an existing recorded definitive right of way labelled HeyFp117 and part of RocAFp10 in the Heywood/Norden area of Rochdale. A landslip has occurred leaving the land unstable but the footpaths are currently in tact at the top of a 20-30 feet high ledge.

There is an alternative route available that the landowner "United Utilities" has agreed that the general public may use and they have also provided written permission that part of HeyFp117/RocAFp10 can be diverted to this alternative location.

The Council are required to undertake a legal order to modify the routes on the ground and to show the new location of the footpath on the definitive map and described in the statement.

4.1 **Alternatives Considered**

There is no other suitable alternative, it is not possible to build the land back up as it was a natural landslide, the land is now unstable and any works carried out in the area may cause further land fall.

The Council's preference would be to undertake a diversion of the sections of footpaths to ensure they run over land that is safe and secure for public use.

Costs and Budget Summary

5. The Council will bear the associated costs for the order from the Rights of Way budget, the costs relate to Officer/Legal time and Advertising costs.

Risk and Policy Implications

6. The proposal meets the People priorities to promote healthy, safe and happy lives through prevention and personalisation of care, and, to create high quality places where people choose to be.

There is a risks to the reputation of the Council and high risks to the general public if the Council do nothing.

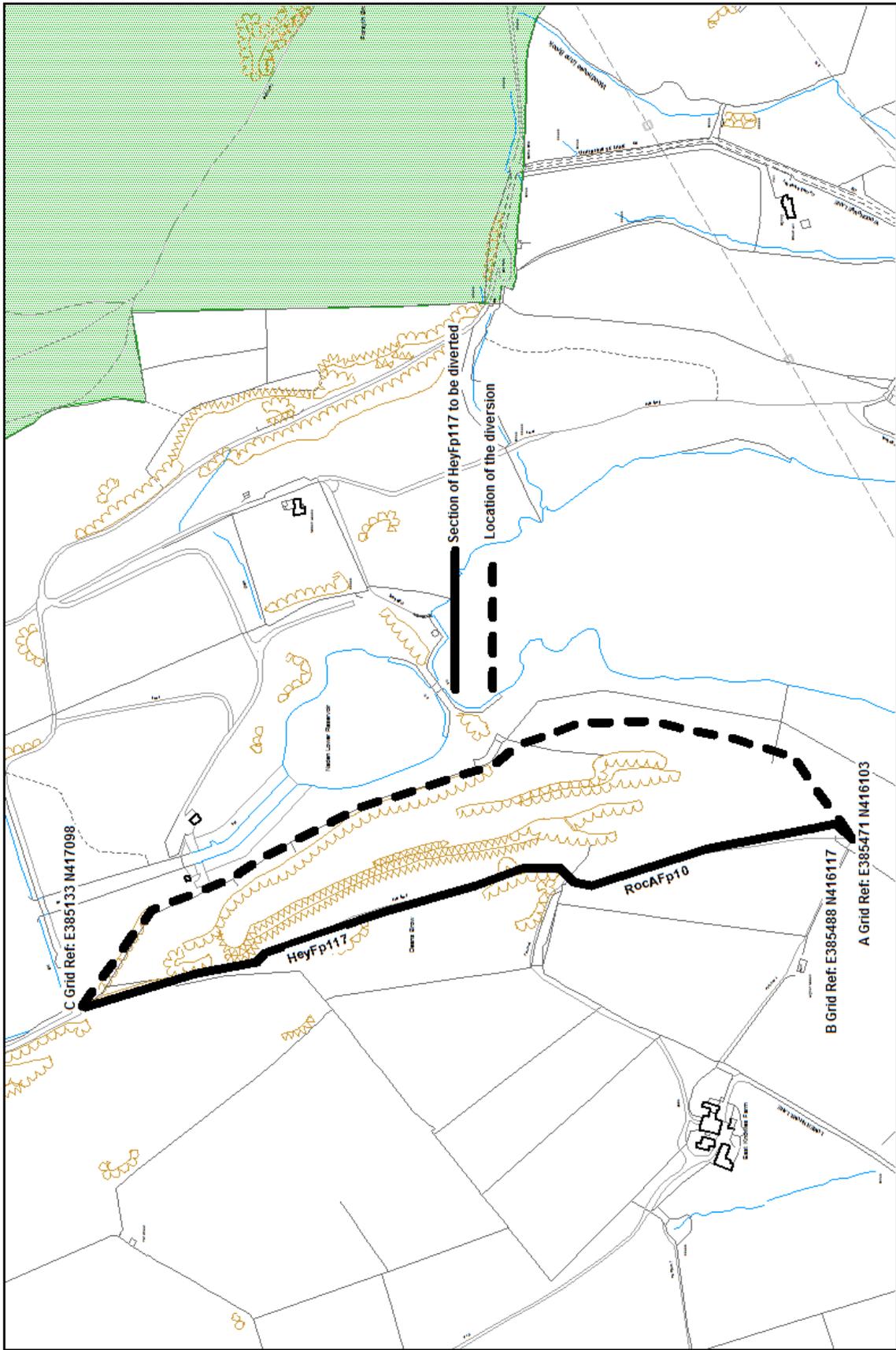
Consultation

7. Consultation is with the Heywood Township Committee, the landowner and during the progression of the order. There is an objection period during which any member of the public may submit relevant objections. Should a related objection be received the matter is referred to the Secretary of state who will decide whether the order is made or not.

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
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8. File 10869	Environmental Management, Green Lane, Heywood, OL10 2DY
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Agenda Item 9

Agenda Item	
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Report to Rochdale North Township Committee



Date of Meeting	10 September 2019
Portfolio	Neighbourhoods, Community & Culture
Report Author	Valery White
Public/Private Document	Public Document

Rochdale North Township Funds – Delegation Arrangements

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 At its first meeting on 11th June 2019, committee considered a report that reviewed the Township Funds 2018-19, agreed terms and conditions for funds 2019-20, and considered the delegation arrangements for 2019-20.
- 1.2 The Committee authorised the delegation to the Townships and Communities Manager, in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and Opposition Spokesperson of Rochdale North Township Action & Resources Delegated Sub Committee.
- 1.3 The Committee reduced the limit of delegation from £5,000 as per the recommendation in the report, to a limit of £3,000.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 In light of legal advice received, Committee are asked to reconsider their decision, and to consider agreeing the limit of £5,000 as per the recommendations in the report, and in line with all other Townships.

3. Reason for Recommendation

- 3.1 Management of the Township Funds is delegated to the Township Devolved Sub-Committees.
- 3.2 Township Funds are allocated to projects that benefit the Borough's communities and environment, and realise the Township priorities.

4. Key Points for Consideration

- 4.1 A reduction in the level of funding under delegated powers in one Township could result in projects being rejected where an application is above £3,000 and the timescale of the project does not fit in with the Committee calendar.

5.

Risk and Policy Implications

5.1 Rochdale North Township Committee has agreed a limit of £3,000 for delegated decisions, whilst all other Townships have agreed to delegate decisions up to £5,000. This may be open to challenge if it is found that Rochdale North has, without justification, departed from the consistency of decision making which may be deemed as lacking in fairness.

6.

Consultation

6.1 N/A

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
None	N/A
For Further Information Contact:	Valery White valery.white@rochdale.gov.uk 01706 924858