

Shevington Parish Council
Clerk's Report to the Meeting of the Council – 26 April 2023

Manchester Airport Future Airspace project - Passed the 'Develop and Assess Gateway'. Following Manchester's Stage 2 ACP gateway in December 2022, and the submission of clarifications in an extraordinary gateway in March 2023, we have been informed that the CAA have now completed their assessment and given approval for the proposals for the future airspace to progress to Stage 3.

So far, half of the airports submitting for the Stage 2 Gateway have failed on their first submission and have had to make second, third or fourth submissions. Manchester Airport are, therefore, pleased that they have passed through the Stage 2 Gateway.

The CAA recognised the quality of their submission and in particular the rigour of the process they followed for stakeholder engagement. They were content that the Airport had effectively sought and received feedback from a wide and representative range of stakeholders and the feedback had been well used to develop the options presented. Manchester Airport are grateful to us, as their stakeholders, for sharing our thoughts and helping to shape the designs on behalf of those that we represent.

In Stage 3 the Airport have a great deal of work to complete in order to build a network of route options that can work together to enable aircraft to arrive and depart safely and efficiently. Much later in the stage the Airport will need to test these route options against their Statement of Need and Design Principles in a full public consultation.

During the consultation phase of Stage 3 they will need to reach out to all those that want to have a say and they will need to communicate the choices available in a way that is understood and allows people to feedback their thoughts and preferences. They will be working with ACOG, the CAA, their Stakeholder Reference Group, the Consultation Institute, Plain English and their Consultative Committee to prepare and deliver an effective consultation plan and materials for consultation.

Manchester Airport would like to thank the Council for its support throughout this process and they look forward to updating us as they progress through Stage 3.

Forest Fold Plot Rents

The 2023-24 plot rents have all been received.

Planting of the Queen Elizabeth II Commonwealth Canopy Tree

The birch tree donated to Shevington in Bloom a few years ago was planted in the Memorial Garden – near the Diamond Jubilee Memorial stone – on Thursday, 13 April by Cllr Chris Horridge and Mr Gerard Hurst.

Platinum Jubilee Tree at Shevington Moor

Following a report received from a resident (via the District Councillors) that the stakes supporting the tree had been damaged, Cllr Chris Horridge attended on 13 April to replace the stakes. The resident had collected the stakes and, because the damage was not significant, Cllr Horridge was able to re-use them.

Memorial Park Play Equipment

Four items of new equipment intended to replace four existing items have been ordered. As the items are being installed directly into the sand, the manufacturing process is slightly different,

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so there is a slight uplift on the equipment itself. The installation costs and the costs of removing the existing equipment are all the same as previously quoted. At the time of the original quote a charge for secure storage, security fencing, waste management and welfare facilities had been omitted. When added, this raised the price above the cost approved by the Council by approximately £1,300. However, following discussions with Wicksteads, we have been given a 20.5% discount (previously 15%) and, once applied, the total cost will be £21,627.38 – still less than the £22,500 maximum cost approved by the Parish Council. Following consultation with the Chairman, the order has been placed. At present there is a lead time of 12 to 14 weeks to installation, so we would expect installation to take place in August at the earliest.

Progress with the Extra Care Project at Miles Lane

Peter Collins, Wigan Council's Project Manager, has sent the update below on progress with the development.

"We entered contract with M&Y construction in March and they now have possession of the site, you will see the hoardings and site signboard are now up on site. The current works revolve around the preparation for demolition of the school, including the removal of significant amounts of asbestos from the buildings which is undertaken by a specialist contractor. We are also dealing with the basement of the school which is flooded and requires some work to clear and make ready for demolition. We expect works to start stripping out the school to start next week, with the demolition proper commencing at the start of May.

I believe there have been issues with the NHS and farmer around their access down Houghton Lane, which looks to be resolved now with the clinic back open and operating as usual. The public have a right of way down Houghton Lane and can continue to access the Council field via this route.

We have a target of August 2024 for completing the build and will keep you updated if this changes at any point.

We have scheduled a meeting with the Community Association with the contractor to see what support they can offer local groups as part of their commitment to community wealth building and again will update you when we know what projects or activities they are able to support. I have also met a resident on site and am due to meet her again as she has a lot of information about the history of the school and we are looking at ways we can integrate this into the finished development.

We are receiving numerous enquiries about how people would get a property at the finished scheme and the information I sent earlier in the week to yourself details that process and if you receive any enquiries I am happy if you wish to pass that on, otherwise if you want to send me any queries you receive I can pick this up."

Peter Collins will attend the Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting on 7 June to provide a further update on progress but, if members have any queries in the meantime, he is happy to answer them.

Peter sent me information earlier in the week about the process involved in applying for a property at the site. This was in response to an enquiry from a resident. If any member would like a copy of that information, please let me know.

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I was also copied into an email sent by a resident to Lisa Nandy MP. The email was about the current situation with access to the surgery car park. I have replied to that email and have invited the resident to attend the meeting on 7 June, if he wishes.

New Litter Bins

I have been informed that the new litter bins have been dispatched and are due to be delivered in the next two or three days. They will be fitted at the earliest opportunity.

Leak at Forest Fold

The plumber is, hopefully, due to repair the leak next week.

K.M.P. 20.04.23