

CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW COMMITTEE held on 19 AUGUST 2014

PRESENT: Councillor A K Bacon - Chairman
" J S Ryman - Vice Chairman

Councillors: M J Cunnane
A J Garth
S A Patel
J J Rush
P N Shepherd
J F Warder

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors P M Jones and N Stewart

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors M Z Bhatti and Mrs I A Darby

61 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Community & Environment Overview Committee held on 10 June 2014 were agreed by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

62 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A Bacon, being a Member of Chesham Town Council, declared a personal interest in Item 6: Community Grant Awards 2014 for the grant application submitted by Chesham Town Council and advised that he would leave the room if there was a discussion on that application.

Councillor J Ryman declared a personal interest in Item 6: Community Grant Awards 2014 for the grant application submitted by Little Chalfont Good Companions Club as his wife was a volunteer for the organisation.

Councillor N Shepherd declared a personal interest in Item 6: Community Grant Awards 2014 for the grant application submitted by Amersham Action Group.

Councillor J Warder declared a personal interest in Item 6: Community Grant Awards 2014 for the grant application submitted by Chalfont St Peter Youth Centre.

63 28 DAY NOTICE FORWARD PLAN & WORK PROGRAMME

Members noted that a number of changes to the Council's Committee structure were being implemented. As part of the changes the current three

Overview Committees would be replaced with two; one for each of the Council's directorates: Services and Resources. The functions of the Community and Environment Overview Committee would now fall within the remit of the new Services Overview Committee, and items previously considered by the Community and Environment Overview Committee would where appropriate, now be considered by the Services Overview Committee. As such, the next Community and Environment Overview Committee on 7 October had been cancelled, and the first meeting of the Services Overview Committee would be held on 24 September.

RESOLVED -

That the Forward Plan and update on the Committee structure be noted.

64 COMMUNITY GRANT AWARDS 2014

The Council operated a Community Grant Aid Scheme which supported the Council's Objectives and linked to the delivery of the Five Ways to Wellbeing programme by supporting local voluntary and community organisations to deliver services to local residents. This year's scheme had attracted forty five applications collectively requesting funding totalling £68,057. All applications were assessed using a fair and consistent approach. Members were asked to comment on the draft Cabinet report which set out the proposed level of award for each of the organisations that had applied for funding.

One Member referred to two grant applications requesting funding to support concerts to commemorate World War One and suggested that ticket sales could provide an alternative form of funding.

Another Member spoke in support for the application from Amersham Action Group and urged the Cabinet to consider accepting the application and there was local support for the family focused Christmas event and a lot of work had been carried out by the group for the event already. It was advised that the application had not been successful because the group already received core funding from the Council, however because the event supported local businesses separate funding to support economic development may be available to support the event.

Officers were asked to check the number of beneficiaries for activities delivered by the Pond Park Community Association and the groups that would benefit from the grant funding.

It was noted that the grants process had been reviewed in 2012, and Members welcomed the new process, in particular the increased involvement from Members. Following the suggestion that the application assessment process should start earlier it was advised that Members were asked for comments on applications within their ward as applications were received. It was also suggested that applicants be asked to contact their local ward Councillors ahead of submitting an application.

RESOLVED –

That the draft Cabinet report be noted and that the comments of the Community and Overview Committee be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Note: Councillors J Rush and N Shepherd entered the meeting at 6.33 pm.

Note: Councillor A Garth entered the meeting at 6.37 pm.

65 JOINT WASTE STRATEGY FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE REVIEW

The Joint Waste Committee for Buckinghamshire had undertaken a review of the county wide Joint Waste Strategy which set out the aims and objectives for both Districts and the County Council in terms of waste prevention, collection and disposal. The minimum target for recycling, reuse or composting by 2020 had been set at 60%. Each of the Districts and the County Council would be asked to agree and adopt the revised Strategy.

RESOLVED –

That the recommendations contained in the draft Cabinet report be endorsed by the Community and Environment Overview Committee.

66 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED –

That under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

67 LEISURE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Members were asked to comment on a draft Cabinet report setting out the leisure capital works carried out in 2013/14, and the leisure capital and repairs and renewal programme for 2014/15. It was noted that as part of the agreement with the Council's leisure provider, GLL Better, the external buildings were maintained by the Council, and internal building contents were the responsibility of the leisure provider. The programme of works was determined by priority need. Carrying out improvements to facilities such as changing rooms impacted on the operation of the leisure centres and such work was discussed and managed in partnership with GLL Leisure. There was a discussion regarding the proposed work at Chiltern Pools Leisure Centre and it was noted that the repair work to undercroft in the main pool tank was required following the recommendation of a specialist report.

RESOLVED –

That the draft Cabinet report be noted and that the comments of the Community and Environment Overview Committee be forwarded to the Cabinet.

The meeting ended at 7.10 pm