

ENVIRONMENT POLICY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting - 10 September 2014

Present: Mr Naylor (Chairman)
Mr Bradford, Mrs Plant, Mrs Royston and Mr Walters

Also Present: Mr Jones, Mr Reed, Mrs Sullivan and Mrs Woolveridge

Apologies for absence: Miss Hazell and Mrs Wallis

10. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the PAG held on 18 June 2014 were received.

11. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

None received.

12. FLATS WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE REVIEW UPDATE

The PAG considered a report providing an overview of the draft internal policy document "Waste Collection Guidelines for Communal Collections" the aim of which is to bring communal collections policy in line with household collection policy as adapted to recognise a number of special circumstances in communal collections as set out in the report which also provided an update on the Flats Service Review

The report also set out a proposal to levy an administrative charge of £70 per additional collection required to remove side waste or contaminated waste.

During the discussion on the proposal an explanation was provided on the circumstances under which the levied would be charged and on whom.

The PAG supported the proposal subject to consultation taking place with the Portfolio Holder prior to the levy being charged following which the Portfolio Holder **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to Cabinet that authority be delegated to the Head of Environment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to levy an administrative charge of £70 for each additional collection required to remove side waste or contaminated waste.

13. CAR PARK ANNUAL REPORT

The PAG considered a report providing information on the operation of the Council's Pay and Display Car Parks and inviting comments on whether car park charges should be altered in 2015/16 following consultation.

The report, after reminding members of the overall aims for the Council's car parks, set out in a table the budget against income for the last 6 years and also provided more information on the receipts at each of the 4 car parks.

On being advised that Andrew Crow was no longer responsible for car parking and would not therefore be submitting/presenting reports on the issue to future meetings Members thanked him for the work and support he had provided to the PAG over the years,

After noting the income projections for 2014/15 and 2015/16 (based on a 2% increase) and the comments of the PAG, which felt there was no need to increase charges, the Portfolio Holder **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to Cabinet that car park charges for 2015/16 should remain unchanged.

14. **BEACONSFIELD OLD TOWN COMMON LAND - UNAUTHORISED PLACING OF BOLLARDS ETC**

The PAG considered a report setting out the following four options for dealing with the recent unauthorised placement of bollards, planter and surfacing on Common Land, London End, and Beaconsfield:

- 1) Do nothing,
- 2) Note the information that has been submitted, together with the local support, and allow the items to be retained subject to certain conditions.
- 3) Pursue the removal of the items by the Council's action and reclaiming expenses
- 4) Option 3 and also prosecute the perpetrator in the Magistrates Court for a breach of the Byelaws.

The report also sought views on whether a policy should be developed to govern and enforce the placement of such items as outdoor tables and chairs throughout the old town.

Having considered the options the PAG supported option 3 namely to pursue the removal of the items, such removal to be carried out by the Council itself if necessary with the costs being recharged to the person who placed the unauthorised items.

Having considered the comments of the PAG which also supported the development of a policy the Portfolio Holder **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to Cabinet that:

1. A budget of up to £3000 be agreed to cover the costs the Council may incur in securing the removal of the unauthorised items and that action be taken as appropriate to recover the actual costs incurred.
2. A policy be developed to govern and enforce the placing of items in Beaconsfield Old Town

15. **SCHOOL WASTE COLLECTIONS UPDATE**

The PAG received a report providing an update on action taken to improve school waste and recycling collections following the introduction of the new waste and recycling collection service from February 2014.

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After explaining the collection service prior to February 2014 the report went on to detail the new arrangements the key change of which was that schools were required to separate brown and brown card. The PAG noted that the changes were expected to result in an income of £20,020 in 2014/15 and years thereafter.

The PAG also noted the issues that had been identified during visits with the crews on the bulk paper round in July and the action being taken to overcome these issues in preparation for the start on the new school year.

Resolved that the report be noted.

16. **REVISED JOINT WASTE STRATEGY**

The PAG noted that the revised Joint Waste Strategy with authorities in Bucks had now been signed by SBDC and AVDC and that WDC were due to sign very shortly.

The meeting terminated at 7.45 pm