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COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on Thursday 15 June 2017 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Joanne Wild - In the Chair

Councillors Jason Atkin, Jennifer Bower, Martin Burfoot, Tom Donnelly, Ann Elliott, Susan Hobson, Neil Horton, Vicky Massey-Bloodworth, Joyce Pawley, Garry Purdy, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Andrew Statham and Colin Swindell.

Dorcas Bunton (Chief Executive), Robert Cogings (Head of Housing), Ashley Watts (Head of Community Development), Rob Wilks (Community Development & Wellbeing Officer), Simon Beynon (Housing Strategy Officer), Isabel Frenzel (Rural Housing Enabler), Karen Cooper (Community Safety Officer), Damian Maye (Community Safety) and Jackie Cullen (Committee Assistant).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Richard Bright, Sue Bull, Albert Catt, Tony Morley and Philippa Tilbrook. Councillors Tom Donnelly, Neil Horton and Garry Purdy attended as Substitute Members.

The Chairman requested a minute's silence in acknowledgement of the recent tragic event in London, resulting in the loss of lives.

27/17 - MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe, seconded by Councillor Colin Swindell and

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting of the Community & Environment Committee held on 16 March 2017 be approved as a correct record.
(unanimously)

The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

28/17 – INTERESTS

Councillor Andrew Statham declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6 – Affordable Housing Development Programme. Cllr Statham was not present during voting on this item.

29/17 – AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Councillor Vicky Massey-Bloodworth arrived at 6.04pm during discussion of this item.

The Committee considered a report that set out the details of the proposed affordable housing programme up to 2021 and requested that funding be allocated to assist in the purchase and delivery of affordable housing on 6 s106 sites and 2 housing association development sites.

The Committee was advised that there had been a rapid acceleration of private developer-led sites in the Derbyshire Dales where the Council had successfully negotiated the provision of on-site affordable homes. Some of these sites also provided an off-site financial contribution in the form of payments to the Council which were then used to support its wider housing enabling activity. The funding allocations proposed in this report were critical in brokering deals between developers and associations. The Housing Team had been working with Waterloo Housing Group (WHG), Nottingham Community Housing Association (NCHA), Peak District Rural Housing Association (PDRHA) and private developers to ensure on-site homes could be bought by the 3 associations. The District Council's funding had given NCHA, PDRHA and WHG the confidence to invest more of their resources here rather than elsewhere.

The report set out the affordable housing completions for 2016/17; the completions target for 2017/18 and the delivery programme of affordable housing for 2018-21. A number of these schemes required capital grant as set out in the report. It was noted that the capital programme had £1.6 million of unallocated s106 contributions as at April 2017.

During 2016/17, 36 affordable homes were completed, as outlined in the report. The completion target for 2017/18 was 63 affordable homes; however 8 bungalows on a private developer site (Redrow Homes) at Hillside Farm had slipped into 2017/18, so 71 was now forecast, as set out in Table 1 in the report. Of the 7 schemes tabled, 2 required additional resources and 1 was a new scheme that required financial support for the reasons set out in the report.

The programme of housing association and community-led schemes was set out in Table 2 of the report; the affordable homes coming forward through developer-led sites in Derbyshire Dales were set out in Table 3; and the numbers by settlement of the current affordable homes with outline or detailed planning permission on developer-led sites in Derbyshire Dales were set out in Table 4.

The total requested in this report for the 6 s106 sites and the 2 housing association developments was £1,353,234, as detailed in the report, which alone would ensure the purchase and delivery of an additional 116 affordable homes in Derbyshire Dales. The report showed the significant benefit to Derbyshire Dales resulting from Derbyshire Dales District Council's approach of taking off-site financial contributions, where appropriate, in lieu of affordable housing on private developer-led sites. The Affordable Housing Programme up to 2021 brought over £20,000,000 of investment into the Derbyshire Dales.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

- RESOLVED**
(unanimously)
1. That the programme for the delivery of affordable homes in 2017/18 and 2018-21 be noted.
 2. That the contributions towards the purchase and delivery of affordable housing units outlined in this report be referred to Council in June 2017, to be considered for capital funding.

30/17 – HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2016/2021

The Committee considered a report that sought approval to adopt and implement the Derbyshire Dales Homelessness Strategy 2017/2021.

The Homelessness Act (2002) placed a statutory duty on each local authority to carry out a review of homelessness and to develop a new Homelessness Strategy every five years. The last Homeless Strategy was published in 2009, and the Derbyshire Dales Homelessness Strategy 2017/2021 highlighted the Council's main priorities for the next five years and how these would be addressed. The Draft Homelessness Strategy and Review 2017/2021 was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Homelessness Review provided a comprehensive assessment of:

- The levels and likely future levels of homelessness in the district;
- Activities that were carried out which prevented homelessness, secured accommodation for homeless people, and provided support to people who were or may become homeless
- Resources available to carry out these activities.

The review highlighted the fact that homelessness was increasing in the Derbyshire Dales and across Derbyshire due to lack of affordable accommodation and limited access to the private rented sector. The number of private sector residents facing eviction was also increasing as landlords became less willing to let to benefit claimants. The priorities identified in the Homelessness Strategy were listed in the report, and the Strategy's action plan would be reviewed on a regular basis by the Derbyshire Dales Housing Advice and Support Forum.

It was moved by Councillor Colin Swindell, seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

- RESOLVED**
(unanimously)
- That the Derbyshire Dales Homelessness Strategy 2017/2021 is adopted.

31/17 – ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP 2016-2017

The Committee considered a report that updated the Community Safety Partnership's activities and achievements over the last financial year.

The Community Safety Partnership in the Derbyshire Dales was known locally as Safer Derbyshire Dales and consisted of 1 full time Community Safety Officer. Furthermore, a part-

time CCTV Manager (funded by DDDC 100%), and a Partnership Sergeant (funded by the Police) who was shared by Derbyshire Dales, High Peak and Amber Valley Community Safety Partnerships, were employed to assist the Community Safety Partnerships. The District Council also paid a contribution towards a partnership analyst for the Safer Derbyshire Research and Information Team, which was part of the County Partnership known as Safer Derbyshire.

In 2016/2017, Safer Derbyshire Dales was funded as follows:

- 25% by DDD
- 25% by Police
- 25% by County Council
- 25% by the Police and Crime Commissioner

Within Derbyshire, the PCC invited district and borough Community Safety Partnerships to bid for funding up to £25,000 in order to assist the delivery of a Community Safety Action Plan. It was noted that the Derbyshire Dales Community Safety Partnership was successful in being awarded the full £25,000 for 2016/2017, broken down as shown in the report.

The projects and achievements in 2016/17, with emphasis on anti-social behaviour; drugs and alcohol; acquisitive crime and cybercrime and domestic abuse, were set out in the report.

With regard to 2017/2018, the Community Safety Partnership had the same amount of money (£25,000) to spend in the financial year, but with more specific requirements from the Police and Crime Commissioner on how this was to be spent, as outlined in the report. It was noted that a new CCTV system, for which the District Council had invested £100,000 of capital funding, would hopefully be installed in the autumn following a tender exercise during the summer.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, seconded by Councillor Garry Purdy and

RESOLVED That the update be noted.
(unanimously)

32/17 – WIRKSWORTH LEISURE CENTRE SPORTS HALL FLOOR CAPITAL WORKS

The Committee considered a report that sought Members' approval, subject to funding being approved at Council, for capital works to be undertaken to install a replacement sports hall floor at Wirksworth Leisure Centre.

The District Council had commissioned a survey on the current condition of the sports hall floor, which was carried out in February 2017 by Dynamik, who installed the original floor at Wirksworth Leisure Centre and Arc Leisure Matlock.

The report offered two options:

- Repair the damaged areas of the current polyurethane floor surface, to clean, lightly sand and apply a new wear layer with line marking. Also, in addition to this work remove the skirting and edge of the floor to release some of the tension that has built up within the system. This option would cost £19,000.

- Uplift the existing floor system and install new Athen system with a sport linoleum finish, same as the Sports Hall floor at Arc Leisure Matlock, which came with a 25 year guarantee and life expectancy of 30 years. This option would cost £45,000: DDDC contribution of £29,250 in addition to grant contribution from Anthony Gell Foundation of £15,750, subject to terms as listed in the report.

It was noted that the report did not highlight that the current floor was not fit for purpose; however the recommendation was that the floor was fully replaced (option 2) whilst a contribution of grant funding was being made available from the Anthony Gell Foundation. The floor would require replacement in the coming years and it was not yet known if the liability for such work would remain with the District Council or contractor.

It was moved by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

RESOLVED That the business case outlined in this report be referred to Council (unanimously) in June 2017, to be considered for funding alongside other capital scheme business cases and, if approved, option 2 below to be implemented.

33/17 – LEISURE REVIEW

The Committee considered a report that provided information on the progress of the Leisure Review and outlined the specification for the future management of the Leisure Centres. The document was listed as a background paper to the report and many elements remained in draft form until consideration by this committee and full Council.

A report on the outcomes of the first stage of the review was considered by the Community Committee on 10 July 2014, and this identified a number of opportunities to achieve greater savings, protect and enhance income and/or achieve more efficient working arrangements. In total, savings amounting to £111,500 were identified and an action plan to achieve these by implementing the measures before 31 March 2015 was put into place and achieved.

The second phase of the review included numerous visits and discussions with other Local Authorities, to help identify alternative models for delivering the Leisure Service in the longer term which would help in reducing costs, as outlined in the report.

After a successful tendering process, FMG Consulting Ltd was appointed to support the second phase of the review; they were commissioned to provide a detailed Business Options Appraisal, outlining the financial implications and feasibility of the alternative management options currently available, and to provide advice in order that the Council could determine the most effective choice in line with the District Council's local priorities and local needs.

The final Options Appraisal report was completed and provided in October last year highlighting five possible options, outlined in Table One in the report. It was subsequently agreed that Options 2 and 5 were the most appropriate options, and that further information should be gathered and presented on the viability of these two models.

Discussions had also taken place with relevant stakeholders and staff, including several meetings with representatives from Anthony Gell School (AGS) and the Anthony Gell

Foundation (AGF), which centred on the Joint Use Agreement, a document which highlighted the commitments and working arrangements of the partnership between AGS and the District Council at Wirksworth Leisure Centre. Furthermore, in December 2016 a Leisure Review Working Group was formed, as outlined in the report, that set out a timeline (attached as Appendix One to the report) which identified key points in the process, such as staff, public and union consultation, discussions with partners, deadlines and collation of information, key committee report dates, workshops and milestones in preparing and evaluating the contract.

The key points of the specification were highlighted in the report, together with points arising from several Members' Workshops, public and staff consultation and advice from the Working Group.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose OBE seconded by Councillor Garry Purdy and

RESOLVED That Council be recommended to approve the specification to
(unanimously) outsource the management of the Leisure Service based on the
heads of terms set out in the report

MEETING CLOSED 7.50PM

CHAIRMAN