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COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting held on Thursday 17 March 2016 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT Councillor Joanne Wild - In the Chair

Councillors Martin Burfoot, Albert Catt, Tom Donnelly, Ann Elliott, Joyce Pawley, Mike Ratcliffe, Andrew Statham, Colin Swindell and Philippa Tilbrook.

Sandra Lamb (Head of Corporate Services), Paul Wilson (Corporate Director), Heidi McDougall (Head of Environmental Services), Ashley Watts (Head of Community Development), Rob Cogings (Head of Housing), Ros Hession (Community Engagement Officer), Karen Cooper (Community Safety Officer) and Jackie Cullen (Committee Assistant).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jennifer Bower, Sue Bull, Vicky Massey and Tony Morley. Councillor Tom Donnelly attended as Substitute Member.

353/15 - MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Colin Swindell, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting of the Community & Environment Committee held on 14 January 2016 be approved as a correct record.
(unanimously)

The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

354/15 – ASHBOURNE SKATE PARK

The Committee considered a report on various sites in Ashbourne that had been explored and evaluated following a public consultation exercise in summer 2015, for re-location of the skate park. The report sought Members' views on action to be taken.

The results of the consultation exercise reported to Council 24 September 2015 showed that 57% of participants voted to relocate the Skate Park. The 7 sites that were suggested as possible locations were listed in the report, and a site matrix was devised to assess the availability and suitability of the suggested sites which took into account ownership of the site and any legal or planning constraints. Considerations were sought on Environmental Health, Operational and Community Safety issues. Of the seven sites, 2 emerged as most feasible:

Site One, Ashbourne Recreation Ground

Site Four, Shawcroft overspill / Fishpond / adjacent fire station, Park Road

The full details of the site evaluations were contained within the Appendix to the report, and details regarding works and on-going maintenance costs were set out in the report.

Given the operational need for the current car park use and the proximity of residential properties, officers viewed site four as being unsuitable. Members' views were therefore sought on site one.

It was noted that since closure of the skate park there had been no increase in anti-social behaviour in Ashbourne, nor had there been any nuisances reported or a continual stream of enquiries asking if the skate park was going to be reopened.

There was no financial provision within the District Council's budget for this scheme; hence other funding sources would have to be explored. It was proposed that a working group be set up to assist with fundraising, however it should be noted that an application for external funding had previously been unsuccessful. Members were advised that the old site was to be removed in the coming week.

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

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. The the update and evaluation of the sites be noted.
2. That it be noted that the District Council does not have the funds available to finance the project.
3. That the Committee approve that Officers work with interested parties to source the necessary funding.

355/15 – CHARGES FOR COMMUNITY PROTECTION FIXED PENALTY NOTICES AND THE ISSUING OF COMMUNITY PROTECTION NOTICE AND PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

The Committee considered a report that explained how the Anti-Social Behaviour Police and Crime Act 2014 gave the power to the District Council to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for breach of a Public Space Protection Order and Community Protection Notice.

Community Protection Notices (CPN's) could be used to prevent unreasonable behaviour that was having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of people in the local community. A Community Protection warning must be served first, which if not acted upon could be stepped up to a notice. Breach of a notice could either be dealt with via a fixed penalty ticket or summons to court.

Staff from Derbyshire Dales District Council were authorised to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for Breaches of the Public Space Protection Order and the Community Protection Notices.

Police Constables and Police Community Support Officers had a concurrent power in the legislation to issue Community Protection Notices and serve Fixed Penalty Notices where there was a failure to comply with Community Protection Notices and Public Space Protection Orders. It was requested that Council authorise the police and Police Community Support officers to act on their behalf where appropriate and issue these fixed penalty notices.

The specified amount to be paid by Fixed Penalties issued for non-compliance with the Public Space Protection Orders were set at £100, being reduced to £75 if paid within 14 days. It was proposed that the same payment amount, timescales and reduction was set for Community Protection Notices.

It was moved by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

- 1) That Police Constables and Police Community Support Officers working in the Derbyshire Dales area, are given delegated authority to use their concurrent powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices on behalf of Derbyshire Dales District Council for failure to comply with Community Protection Notices and Public Space Protection Orders (in addition to the delegated officers from Derbyshire Dales District Council).
- 2) That the fees of a Fixed Penalty for a Breach of a Community Protection Notice be agreed in accordance with paragraph 2.6 of the report.

356/15 – BIG BELLY SMARTBIN TRIAL

The Committee considered a report on the outcome of the trial of BigBelly Solar Bins in Matlock Bath and detailed a proposal to replace 83 street cleansing bins in Matlock, Matlock Bath and Bakewell with 47 solar powered compaction bins.

It had been proposed to reduce the overall number of litter bins (currently 1150) provided across the District; standardise the style of bin used in the future, and make the collection operation more efficient. A trial of Big Belly Solar Bins was agreed and took place in October 2015 in Matlock Bath: 12 litter bins on the main A6 were removed and replaced with 5 BigBelly Smartbins. The objectives and findings of the trial were detailed in the report, and a business case for Bakewell and Matlock Bath was put forward.

The options of leasing or purchasing the units were examined in the report, and it was anticipated that over time the BigBelly bins would be rolled out to other areas of the District. Members were advised that Perspex panels could be fitted to three sides of the unit; these could be used as advertising space and had the potential to generate income for the council.

Other districts' case studies were set out in the report, which highlighted the benefits achieved in the use of these bins to improve the appearance of the Street Scene and improve efficiencies in collection operations.

It was moved by Councillor Joyce Pawley, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the business case outlined in this report be referred to Council in June 2016, to be considered for funding alongside other capital scheme business cases and if approved recommendations 2 to 5 below be implemented.
2. That following a tender process, 47 solar compaction bins be procured to be sited in Matlock, Matlock Bath and Bakewell.
3. That the existing litter bins across the District be reviewed and rationalised.
4. That consideration is given to using any income or future savings identified in the revenue budget to replace litter bins in Matlock, Ashbourne and Wirksworth with solar powered compaction bins to bring about further efficiencies.
5. That an advertising contract be let in accordance with Council's Standing Orders.

357/15 – PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF PROJECTS FUNDED BY 2ND HOMES FUNDING 2016/17

The Committee considered a report regarding the District Council's proportion of the additional Council Tax revenue raised on 2nd homes, in partnership with Derbyshire County Council. The extra funding was set aside to support households who were vulnerable and who were at risk of homelessness. The report set out the proposed programme of activities for 2016/17.

Since the programme began the District Council had been able to support several important projects which would not have otherwise existed, as detailed in the report. The 6 schemes proposed to be supported by the 2nd Homes Programme 2016/17 were tabled as follows, with further detailed information together with available outturn information set out in the report.

Provision of bungalows to wheelchair design standards	£85,000
Debt Advice – Derbyshire Districts CAB	£50,000
Housing Options Advice Service for older people – Age UK	£93,000
Rural Housing Enabler - DDDC	£35,000
Domestic Violence - DCC	£11,000
Escape Project – Derbyshire Dales CVS	£35,000
Total	£309,000

In Q1, Q2 and Q3 of 2015/16, 135 clients had been supported; the full year outturn would be reported to a future Committee.

All of the projects tabled above helped to tackle housing and support issues with around 700 residents assisted each year. Looking beyond 2016/17 the Housing Service would need to

respond to the changing funding environment. The wider prevention agenda would also be particularly important to Derbyshire County Council and further discussion on that would take place during 2016/17. Details of any future programme would be brought back to this Committee.

It was moved by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe, seconded by Councillor Albert Catt and

RESOLVED That the programme of activities for 2016/17, as detailed in the (unanimously) report, is approved.

358/15 – MATLOCK BATH ILLUMINATIONS REVIEW

The Committee considered a report that set out the progress of the Matlock Bath Illuminations review.

The main opportunities for delivering efficiencies and for enhancing the customer experience were discussed in the report, these being: the duration of the event; special offers such as themed nights; review of the pricing structure implemented in 2015; advertising and marketing strategies to include local businesses and accommodation providers.

It was also proposed that the provision of market stalls offering a variety of goods, including ‘take home’ food, mulled wine, gifts, etc. be considered, to encourage visitors to spend more time in the area and encourage a higher end offer.

It was proposed that the pricing structure implemented in 2015 be maintained, increased for 2016 as follows:

Saturday		Sunday	
On-the night	£7.00	On-the-night	£6.00
Advanced/Online	£6.00	Advanced/Online	£5.00
Concession (on-the-night)	£6.00	Concession (on-the-night)	£5.00
Concession (Advanced/Online)	£5.00	Concession (Advanced/Online)	£4.00
Child (<16yrs)	FREE	Child (<16yrs)	FREE

It was considered that the changes made in 2015 were considered a success, as shown in paragraph 1.15 of the report. Furthermore, as the result of surveys taken at the event and comment received, the review team would be considering the following improvements:

- The timings for the boat parades, including:
 - The boat parade should be earlier on Sundays to accommodate families with children going to school the next day.

- The timing of the second boat parade should be changed so that there wasn't such a long wait before the firework display.
- Car parking issues including:
 - There wasn't enough parking
 - Park & Ride was not clearly signposted

It was also proposed that detailed monitoring took place of the implementation of the above proposals to identify their impact. A report of this would be brought back to a future Committee for consideration.

It was moved by Councillor Albert Catt, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the achievements of the 2015 event following the service review be noted.
2. That approval be given for an increase in fees and charges, as follows

Saturday		Sunday	
On-the night	£7.00	On-the-night	£6.00
Advanced/Online	£6.00	Advanced/Online	£5.00
Concession (on-the-night)	£6.00	Concession (on-the-night)	£5.00
Concession (Advanced/Online)	£5.00	Concession (Advanced/Online)	£4.00
Child (<16yrs)	FREE	Child (<16yrs)	FREE

3. That approval be given for reinvesting £15,000 of the £30,500 surplus from the 2015 event for further improvements.
4. It be noted that a tendering exercise will be completed to seek further investment into the event via sponsorship.

MEETING CLOSED 7.14PM

CHAIRMAN