

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL MEETING

Minutes

MONDAY 3 JULY 2017

PRESENT: Councillor A Banks (Chair)

Councillors C J S Atkins, J Bull, B A Hughes, K J Jackson,
M M Lovatt, L A Malyon, C Pearce, T Riley and P Wilkinson.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor M Bowen (Portfolio Holder for Communities)
Councillor B Johnson (Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Sports, Parks,
Countryside and Housing)
Councillor D Ogden

APOLOGIES: Councillors T McNicol, D Grocott and P Wood.

54 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

DECIDED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Panel held on the 27th March 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

55 **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL.**

DECIDED: That the report of the Secretary of the Police and Crime Panel dated 26th April and 8th May 2017 be noted.

56 **NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS, IF ANY.**

There were none.

57 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

There were none.

58 **QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS, IF ANY.**

There were none.

59 **GRANT FUNDING - ESTHER JONES, TEAM LEADER, STAFFORDSHIRE
MOORLANDS AND ESF VOLUNTARY SECTOR ADVISOR.**

The Panel received a verbal update on grant funding from Esther Jones, Team Leader, Support Staffordshire. Key points were highlighted, such as the need for a community group to be constituted and to apply for funding which most appropriately

Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel - 3 July 2017

matched the need. Applying for funding was a competitive process and for many applications substantial research and evidence was required.

Support Staffordshire was able to provide one to one support to groups wishing to submit an application for grant funding. This could be carried out at Bank House, in Leek or onsite with the group itself.

Some current key funds were highlighted such as:-

- Staffordshire Community Foundation
- Awards for All
- South West Peak Park Partnership

A comprehensive list would be emailed to members after the meeting.

Members gave their views and experiences of applications for grant funding. Some had been more successful in obtaining grant funding from smaller funders rather than larger ones such as the National Lottery and Awards for All. It was explained that the sale of lottery tickets had reduced and the Lottery Fund monitored the allocation of grant funding.

DECIDED: That the update be received.

60

CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER IN THE AREA AROUND THE MILLENNIUM GARDENS, BIDDULPH.

David Smith, Principal Officer Communities and Partnerships, introduced a report on the consultation on a proposal to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order in the area around the Millennium Gardens, Biddulph.

The area around the Millennium Gardens attracted relatively high levels of anti-social behaviour. This had generally involved young people ranging between the ages of approximately 11 and 18 years of age. The behaviour affected legitimate users of the Millennium Gardens, shoppers at Sainsbury's (including those using the car park), users of the nearby Methodist Chapel (which included community activities such as Girl Guides, Brownies and Rainbows) and general members of the public.

A report was brought before members of the Community and Overview Scrutiny Panel on 13th February 2017 and Cabinet on 14th February 2017, which outlined a proposal to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order to assist in preventing nuisance behaviour in and around the Millennium Gardens in Biddulph

Following approval from Elected Members, the District Council carried out the necessary consultation, publicity and notification as required under s72 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Responses supporting the introduction of the Public Spaces Protection Order were received from Staffordshire Police, Biddulph Town Council, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, and Staffordshire County Council. There were no specific comments on the individual prohibitions contained within the draft Order and no suggestion about including additional prohibitions to those consulted upon.

Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel - 3 July 2017

Councillor Jackson advised the Panel, that since February there had been a noticeable reduction in the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour near Sainsbury's. He also felt that the criminal issues could have been dealt with much sooner and that it had been a lengthy process to introduce the order. Councillor Johnson explained how despite the order taking some time to introduce, it had been worthwhile and a success in Leek.

DECIDED: That **CABINET** be **RECOMMENDED** to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order to prevent on-going anti-social behaviour in and around the Millennium Gardens in Biddulph.

61 WORK PROGRAMME

At this point in the meeting, it was requested that senior officers from Your Housing were in attendance when the Panel scrutinised Your Housing Group.

The Panel considered its Work Programme and agreed the items listed, subject to the following items being added:-

- High Schools in the Moorlands as a whole (Closure of Room 21 at Leek High School, funding, redundancy of teachers, impact and mental health support)
- Care Homes, Nursing Homes & Domiciliary Care

DECIDED: That the Panel's Work Programme for 2016/17 be agreed.

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm

_____Chairman _____Date