

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

5th February 2015

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillors Hewlett (Chairman), Smith (Vice Chairman) and Councillors Ford, Harrison, Lemmon and Murray

Labour Group

Councillors Dunn, Frost, Mulgrew, Rhind and Shepherd

HCS/59 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Richards who were substituted by Councillor Stuart

HCS/60 **MINUTES**

Councillor Dunn requested that it be recorded that he was present at the last meeting. The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th November 2014, was taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

HCS/61 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no Declarations of Interest had been received.

HCS/62 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

HCS/63 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the Council had been received.

HCS/64 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no Overview and Scrutiny Reports to be submitted.

HCS/65 **PRESENTATION OF ICON ATHLETES – SOUTH DERBYSHIRE TALENTED ATHLETES**

Hanna Bardell-Smith, Sport & Health Partnership Manager gave a presentation on Derbyshire Sport, and introduced the South Derbyshire ICON Athletes;

William Allman, 17 - Rugby Union
Hannah Brayer, 13 – Triathlon
Rebecca Brayer, 14 – Triathlon
Eleanor Craig, 15 - Sailing and yachting
Matthew Dewis, 22 – Triathlon
Zak Greene, 7 – Cycling
James Hadden, 23 – Sailing
David Marklow, 17 – Shooting
Jor'dan McIntosh, 24 – Bobsleigh
William Nolan, 11 – Tennis
Ross Orme, 16 – Paddlesport
Lewis Richardson, 13 - Taekwondo and Kickboxing
James Rose, 13 – Skiing
Sam Smith, 17 - Sailing and yachting
Christopher Steeples, 22 - Swimming
Thomas Taylor, 20 – Archery
Rebekah Walton, 15 – Athletics
Lewis White, 14 – Swimming

HCS/66 **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2015/16 AND PROPOSED RENT INCREASE**

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services presented a report as part of the annual financial planning cycle, the report detailed the Housing Revenue Account's (HRA) base budget for 2015/16. The report also set out details of the proposed rent increase for 2015/16 in accordance with the strategy approved in the HRA Business Plan. Most of the assumptions and variables in the financial plan remained unchanged following the base budget review.

The biggest risk was still considered to be future rent rises. The Financial Plan is fundamentally based on the Government's national rent guideline from 2015/16, i.e. inflation +1% year on year. If corresponding income levels are not achieved, this will have an effect on projected spending plans and investment.

RESOLVED:-

(1.1) That the average rent increase of 2.2% for tenanted properties for 2015/16 be approved.

(1.2) The proposed estimates of income and expenditure for 2015/16 for the Housing Revenue Account were considered and referred to the Finance and Management Committee for approval.

(1.3) The proposed estimates of income and expenditure for 2015/16 for the Housing Revenue Account were considered and referred to the Finance and Management Committee for approval.

HCS/67 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES NETWORK – PROPOSAL TO BECOME AFFILIATED DERBYSHIRE MEMBERS

The Health Partnership Manager presented a report about The World Health Organisation's (WHO). Healthy Cities' initiative is a global network that engages local authorities and their partners in health development. The programme is well established across the European region with around 100 designated cities. The UK membership currently stands at 26 towns or cities and the network had now widened to counties under the umbrella of 'Healthy Communities, Derbyshire County would like to establish itself as the next Healthy Community. The network's role is to enhance learning and build capacity through sharing ideas, experience and best practice; to widen participation in the Healthy Cities movement. It will also support members; to develop and test innovative approaches to emerging public health issues and to become a strong collective voice for health, wellbeing, equity and sustainable development.

The report was welcomed by Members.

RESOLVED:-

That the adaptation of new 'Healthy Communities' model in South Derbyshire that will affiliate to the Derbyshire wide network be approved.

HCS/68 WORK PROGRAMME

Members of the Committee received a report from the Director of Community & Planning Services and Director of Housing & Environmental Services setting out the updated work programme.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

HCS/69 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**RESOLVED:-**

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as indicated in the reports of Committees.

Exempt Items**HCS/70 ANY EXEMPT QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from members of the Council had been received.

HCS/71 **STAR SURVEY 2015**

The Policy and Performance Manager presented a report on the Housing Services full satisfaction survey which had been sent to all South Derbyshire District Council housing tenants in June 2012. The vast majority of respondents were satisfied with the service (92%); including 56% that were very satisfied and only 4% of respondents were dissatisfied to any extent with the service provided by Housing Services. The initial mail out of the new survey will take place in June 2015 and will be followed up by SMSR with two reminder letters. The offer to complete the survey on-line will be offered as an alternative method to the postal service. On the completion of the survey and after the final report has been received from the consultants at SMSR, the findings will be reported to the Tenants Panel and Members.

RESOLVED:-

(2.1) Members approved the survey of all current South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) tenants to determine satisfaction with Landlord Services.

(2.2) Members approved the appointment of SMSR as lead consultants on the project and the expenditure of £9,198.65 plus VAT to complete the full survey and provide a final report to SDDC.

The meeting terminated at 6:40p.m.

J. HEWLETT

CHAIRMAN