

HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

01 FEBRUARY 2024

OPEN

PRESENT:

Labour Group

Councillor G Rhind (Chair) and Councillor M Mulgrew (Vice-Chair) and Councillors, S Harrison, A Haynes, J Jackson, D Pegg, D Shepherd. S Taylor (substitute for Cllr A Archer) and A Tilley.

Conservative Group

Councillors D Corbin, D Muller (substitute for Cllr Fitzpatrick) and J Lowe.

Liberal Democrats

Councillor J Davies.

In attendance

Councillor S Bambrick
Councillor M Gee
Councillor A Wheelton.

HCS/63 APOLOGIES

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillor A Archer (Labour Group) Councillor M Fitzpatrick (Conservative Group).

HCS/64 OPEN MINUTES

The Open Minutes of the Meetings held on 07 January 2020, 17 August 2023, 28 September 2023 and 16 November were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair of the Committee.

HCS/65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Committee noted that no Declarations of Interest had been received.

HCS/66 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Public had been received.

HCS/67 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11

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

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE**HCS/68 ACTIVE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP (SDASP) POOLS TO SCHOOLS SWIMMING PROGRAMME**

The Head of Cultural and Community Services presented the report to the Committee highlighting the key aspects of the report and the benefits for schools.

Members commended the report and noted the fantastic opportunity to get schools involved in the provision of swimming programmes.

Councillor A Tilley sought clarity regarding the impact on Greenbank Leisure Centre.

The Head of Cultural and Community Services informed the Committee that the programme would allow for greater community access to leisure centres and enable leisure centres to work with other schools outside of the District.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 That the Committee approved the delivery of the South Derbyshire Active Schools Swimming Programme in partnership with Elite Swimming 'Pools to Schools' programme.**
- 1.2 That the Committee approved the funding of the project through the Active Schools Partnerships earmarked reserves.**
- 1.3 That the Committee approved that the Strategic Director (Service Delivery) had authority to allow purchase of extra swimming pool units through Elite swimming and authority to allow the recruitment of staff to deliver the programme in relation to ongoing service demand.**

HCS/69 BEAT THE STREET

The Head of Cultural and Community Services presented the report to the Committee noting the expansion of the programme following the success of last year's event.

Members considered the report and supported the officer's recommendations.

Councillor Corbin sought clarity regarding the inclusion of Shardlow Primary and Chellaston Fields Spencer Academy which were both now part of South Derbyshire.

The Head of Cultural and Community Services confirmed that both schools could be added to the programme.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved the financial contribution from earmarked reserves to fund the 12-month physical activity and active travel intervention project Beat the Street across the whole district.

HCS/70 **REVIEW OF THE SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL SURVEILLANCE POLICY**

The Head of Cultural and Community Services addressed the Committee and presented the report noting how it was part of the regular policy review.

The Committee considered the report and supported the officer's recommendation.

RESOLVED:

1.1 That the Committee approved the changes made to the South Derbyshire District Council Surveillance Policy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, as part of the scheduled review of the document.

HCS/71 **REVITALISING ROSLISTON FORESTRY CENTRE UPDATE**

The Head of Cultural and Community Services presented the report with an update following on from the consultation feedback.

Members commended the report and the activities that took place at the centre and raised queries regarding the use of the bungalow, the opportunities to engage with men and help promote male mental health awareness.

The Head of Cultural and Community Services informed the Committee that the bungalow was being considered for conversion into an eco-house to demonstrate how to live sustainably. The Head of Cultural and Community Services acknowledged that it would be a good opportunity to promote the site as a good place to help with male mental health and ways to reach that demographic would be considered.

Members discussed the values of the site and noted how it was seen as the jewel in the crown of South Derbyshire.

RESOLVED:

1.1 That the Committee approved the current operating model for Rosliston Forestry Centre.

1.2 That the Committee approved the Revitalising Rosliston project plan as outlined within the report.

HCS/72 REVIEW OF TENANCY STRATEGY & TENANCY POLICY

The Interim Head of Housing addressed the Committee and presented the report.

Members considered the report and supported the officer's recommendation.

RESOLVED:

1.1 That the Committee approved the draft Tenancy Strategy 2023 and Tenancy Policy 2023 which had been through the consultation process as set out in point 7.0 of the report to Committee on 16 November 2023.

HCS/73 COUNCIL HOUSING RENTS INCREASE 2024/25

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to the Committee and sought approval of the proposed rent increase.

Councillor Corbin suggested an alternative rent increase and raised concern regarding the loss of income from voids.

Councillor Taylor noted the Committee's duty to ensure that the Housing Revenue Account was sound and confirmed that the void's situation was in hand and being dealt with via separate reports.

RESOLVED:

1.1 That the Committee considered and approved a 7.7% increase in Council housing rents for 2024/25.

HCS/74 TREE SERVICE BUDGET

The Head of Cultural and Community Services presented the report to the Committee and noted the importance of an adequate budget to manage the tree stock.

Members considered the report and supported the officer's recommendation.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 The Committee approved the budget outlined in the report to ensure good tree management and reduced potential risks to the Council.**

HCS/75 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The work programme was presented to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.**

HCS/76 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

The Chairman may therefore move:

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 as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

EXEMPT MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting/s held on 17 August 2023, 29 September 2023 and 16 November 2023 were received.

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.

HOUSING SERVICES – REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT
RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

BEVIN BOYS MINERS MEMORIAL GARDEN UPDATE
RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

GRANT FROM POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR PATROLS

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

CULTURAL AND COMMUNITIES SERVICE STAFFING BUDGET

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

ROSLISTON FORESTRY CENTRE STAFFING BUDGET

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

HOUSING SOLUTIONS STAFFING

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

The meeting terminated at 19:15 hours.

COUNCILLOR G RHIND

CHAIR