

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

27th August 2015

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Smith (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Billings, Mrs Coyle, MacPherson (substituting for Councillor Hewlett) Muller, Murray (substituting for Councillor Mrs Coe), Swann (substituting for Councillor Coe) and Mrs Wyatt.

Labour Group

Councillors Dunn, Rhind, Shepherd (substituting for Councillor Richards) and Taylor.

HCS/15 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hewlett, Mrs Coe, Coe, Harrison (Conservative Group) and Councillor Richards (Labour Group).

HCS/16 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Billings declared a prejudicial interest in Item 9 on the agenda in his role as a Parish Councillor for Hilton Ward.

HCS/17 **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/18 **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/19 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no Overview and Scrutiny Reports to be submitted.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

HCS/20 **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S ALLOCATIONS POLICY**

The Housing Operations Manager presented a report to advise members of proposed amendments to the Councils allocations policy. This Policy will

enable the Council to deliver a more efficient service to applicants in need of both permanent and temporary accommodation.

The Committee asked questions about temporary accommodation and requested clarification of the different Housing Band categories, such as the term 'emergency banding', which people are assigned to on the Councils waiting list.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee approved the amendments to the Council's allocations policy specified in section 3.0

HCS/21 **DERBYSHIRE CYCLE PLAN CONSULTATION**

The Director of Community and Planning Services presented the report to Committee to update Members on the work which County and City Councils, Derbyshire District and Borough Councils, Derby University, Sustrans, Peak District National Park, The National Forest and British Cycling have undertaken in the last 12 months. He highlighting some of the many benefits the plan will bring in providing sustainable and healthy communities.

A discussion took place around the provision of safer cycling, the use and maintenance of bridleways and disused train lines in the district.

RESOLVED:-

1.1 That the Committee approved the recommendation that Members comments be forwarded along with Community Services comments as part of the Councils response to the Derbyshire Cycling Plan consultation exercise.

1.2 That the Committee approved the development of a South Derbyshire Action Plan for Cycling to be reported to Committee for future consideration

HCS/22 **OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND COMMUNITY FACILITY STRATEGY UPDATE**

The Open Space and Facilities Development Manager presented a report to update Members on the progress of the strategy since its initial adoption in 2005. The provision of open space in terms of quality and quantity and access to funding, has radically changed in the last 10 years, and the ongoing consultation and engagement with local people, community sports groups and Parish Councils, will identify opportunities for significant investment and improvement in sport, recreational and community facilities across the District.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee approved the process for the development of the Open Space, Sport and Community Facility Strategy

Councillor Billings left the Chamber whilst the following item was debated.

HCS/23 **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS SCHEME**

The Community and Partnership Officer updated members on applications for funding received by the Community Partnerships Scheme and to seek approval for recommendations from the assessment panel in relation to the scheme.

RESOLVED:-

1.1 That the Committee considered the recommendation of the Community Partnerships Scheme Assessment Panel and awarded grants of:

- ***£8,319.50 to Swadlincote 50+ forum – Grant to contribute towards the refurbishment of the building to establish a secure and safe environment.***
- ***£11,000 to Etwall Cricket Club – Grant towards the costs of a new sit-on roller to help volunteers to prepare the ground.***
- ***£24,968.50 to Hatton Parish Council – Grant towards play equipment targeted at young people between the age of 7 and 12.***
- ***£24,968.50 to Hatton Salt Brook Heritage Trail – Grant to support the development of an art based heritage trail.***
- ***£9,085 to Hilton Village Hall – Grant to contribute towards a major refurbishment of the main hall at the village hall.***
- ***£24,968.50 to Melbourne Assembly Rooms – Grant towards the renovation of the kitchen area, as well as renovation of the entrance areas and library frontage.***
- ***£24,968.50 to Melbourne Sporting Partnership – Grant to enable the development of the Melbourne Sporting Partnership club house/pavilion by fitting out the kitchen and club room areas.***
- ***£24,968.50 to recreation in Aston – Grant to support the next phase of the pavilion development by increasing the number of changing rooms available.***

- ***£10,000 to Rosliston Astronomy Group – Grant to contribute towards the construction of an Observatory,***
- ***£5,840 to Smisby Village Hall – Grant towards the costs of the provision of suitable audio visual facilities, additional sound and heating insulation (noise reduction and reduction of heating bills) and re-sanding and sealing the floor in the Main Hall.***
- ***£5,560 to Weston on Trent Parish Council - Grant to contribute towards play equipment targeted at young people over the age of 8.***

HCS/24 **CORPORATE PLAN 2009-15: PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT (1 APRIL – 30 JUNE 2015)**

The Director of Housing and Environmental Services and the Director of Community and Planning Services presented a report to update Members of progress during the period 1 April to 30 June 2015, in relation to the Council's Corporate Plan 2009 – 2015. Members were asked to note that, until the new Corporate Plan have been reviewed and agreed, the progress for Quarter 1 is measured against performance targets set in the existing Corporate Plan.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered and approved the progress against performance targets.

HCS/25 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2015-16**

The Director of Community and Planning Services reported that the South Derbyshire District Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Volunteering Policy are currently out for consultation, and that reports on both policies will be brought to the next Committee.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered the updated work programme.

HCS/26 **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 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.

**TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions had been received.

MODERNISING THE IN-HOUSE REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE SERVICE

The Director of Housing and Environmental Services provided Members with details of the proposals to modernise the in-house Repairs & Maintenance Service.

RESOLVED:-

- 2.1 That the Committee approved the suggested approach to improve the in-house Repairs & Maintenance Service.*
- 2.2 That the Committee approved that the Director of Housing & Environmental Services enter into negotiations with the UCATT Union in order to reach an agreement on amending the terms and conditions of employment for craft employees, then seek agreement from the Committee to implement recommendations.*
- 2.3 That the Committee approved the transfer of funds from HRA reserves to cover the costs of undertaking office alterations, and moving staff from the Depot to the Civic Office in advance of the Depot moving to new premises.*

LAND AND PREMISES IN SWADLINCOTE

The Chief Executive presented a report to Committee detailing the proposed disposal of Council owned land and entering into a joint venture.

RESOLVED:

- 2.1 That the Committee approved the recommendation that the land in question be deemed surplus to requirements.*
- 2.2 That the Committee approved the recommendation of a disposal of land in accordance with the joint venture terms, subject to Finance and Management Committee approval and prior advertising of the proposed disposal under Section 123, 2(A) Local Government Act 1972.*

DERBYSHIRE CARELINE PARTNERSHIP

The Performance and Policy Manager presented a report to Committee updating Members on progress made in establishing the Derbyshire Careline Partnership.

RESOLVED;-

- 2.1 That the Committee noted progress made so far in delivering the Derbyshire Careline Partnership project.***
- 2.2 That the Committee noted the sums allocated towards the legal costs in establishing the governance arrangements of the Derbyshire Careline Partnership.***
- 2.3 That the Committee noted the allocation of monies, as identified from the Housing Revenue Account in the report, to Housing and Community Services dated 9th October 2014.***

The Meeting terminated at 7.35pm

COUNCILLOR P SMITH

CHAIRMAN