

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**PRESENT:-**

**Conservative Group**

Councillors Hewlett (Chairman), Brady (Vice-Chairman), Atkin, Corbin and Dawson

**Labour Group**

Councillors Bambrick, Gee and Mrs Stuart

**In Attendance**

Councillor Shepherd

OS/21 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was advised that no apologies had been received.

OS/22 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

OS/23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM ITEMS ON AGENDA**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

OS/24 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY 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.

OS/25 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

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

OS/26 **SOUTH DERBYSHIRE PLAY AUDIT ACTION AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN INCLUDING RURAL PLAY AREAS**

The Cultural Services Manager outlined the report to Committee and advised the Committee on the contents and implications of the Play Audit and Action Plan. The audit was conducted by an independent consultant and included preliminary recommendations for improvements in an Action Plan. The report was based on the auditor's criteria. Parish Councils were encouraged to add local intelligence on the state of parks in their areas to enhance the report and associated action plan.

Members raised queries relating to the frequency of the inspections, the audit criteria and the funding arrangements. The Cultural Services Manager responded the inspections were monthly and that the independent auditor had set the criteria. Councillor Gee raised comment on fund raising in his Ward for works at the Woodville Recreation Park, the Officer responded that funding options would be reviewed, specifically, for the Woodville Ward,

The Vice-Chairman asked for advice on parks that do not appear in the report. The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) responded that this had been investigated and an Asset Register was being created. The timescale for the Asset Register may be up to 18 months and it was confirmed that the Head of Business Change is looking at this in terms of a wider assessment.

Councillor Shepherd noted this was a comprehensive and excellent report. Councillor Shepherd voiced concern that a play area on a new estate in his Ward was not included in the report as the developer had not handed over the public open spaces and play areas to the local authority. Councillor Shepherd identified the issue of play areas that had not been adopted and that this should be addressed through the Environmental and Development Services Committee.

The Cultural Services Manager noted this point and advised that the original scope of the report included some non-local authority sites for example The National Trust and Severn Trent Water Authority. Members were advised that the next audit would map all sites and also provide a view of where new sites may be needed. The Chairman congratulated the Cultural Services team for their contributions and good work.

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) clarified that a report would be submitted to a future Housing and Community Services Committee for future funding and updates.

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the Committee noted the Action Plan following on from completion of the District-wide play audit and considered the implications for play provision across the District.***

OS/27 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

Councillor Atkin asked if the Strategic Director (Service Delivery) could encourage Digital Derbyshire to return to talk to Members about rural broadband. The Strategic Director responded that the Service Director would be contacted and invited to the Committee.

**RESOLVED:**

***That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme including Annexe 'A'.***

OS/28 **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 would be 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 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

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

The Meeting terminated at 7.00 pm.

COUNCILLOR HEWLETT

CHAIRMAN