

Minutes of Parish Councils' Liaison Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 5 September 2013, starting at 6.30pm
Present: P Young (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth	C Ross
I Brown	I Sayers
P Dowson	G Scott
R Hargreaves	D Taylor
R Newmark	N C Walsh
M Robinson	

Parish Representatives:

D Bland	Aighton Bailey & Chaigley
J Porter	Bolton-by-Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley
B Redhead	Clayton-le-Dale
H Douglas	Chatburn
A Yearling	Clitheroe
S Hopwood	Dutton
C Entwistle	Grindleton
F Priest	Longridge
J Bennett	Newton-in-Bowland
S Bridge	Read
G Nichols	Read
J Shorter	Sabden
D Peat	Simonstone
I R Hirst	Simonstone
K Jackson	Waddington
H D Parker	Waddington
B Bristol	West Bradford
M Robinson	Wiswell
J Bremner	Wilpshire

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Head of Environmental Health Services, Partnership Officer, Leisure and Sports Development Manager.

259

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Borough Councillors L Rimmer and R Swarbrick and from the following Parish Representatives:

F Harvard	Billington & Langho
B Dowles	Bolton-by-Bowland
T Hoyle	Dinckley

G Cowling	Grindleton
S Rawsthorne	Newsholme & Paythorne
T Nelson	Ramsgreave
A Ormond	Ribchester
B Whittaker	Rimington
G Melloy	Simonstone
C Cherry	West Bradford

260 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

261 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 138(a) – Chatburn Parish Council - What are Ribble Valley Doing for Us?

The Chief Executive reported that this matter had been discussed with all Heads of Services and he had urged them to be more responsive to Parish Councils.

(b) Minute 138(c) – Bolton-by-Bowland Parish Council – Training

The Chief Executive announced that a Mayoral Reception for Parish Councils, linked in with Parish Councillor training would be held on Wednesday, 6 November 2013. He advised all Parish Councils to let Bill Alker know what their training requirements were so that these topics could be covered by relevant Ribble Valley Borough Council Officers on the night.

262 LIFESTYLE RISK FACTORS

The Chairman introduced Joanne Smith from Lancashire Care Trust who spoke to Committee about lifestyle risk factors. She gave details of the type of work and organisations who she was involved with. She commented that she felt it was appropriate to speak to both Borough Councillors and Parish Councillors as they were “the people who worked with people”.

She highlighted the four biggest health concerns in our area:

- cancer;
- heart disease;
- stroke; and
- liver disease.

Her message was one of prevention rather than cure and she urged communities to take on board simple messages she was giving via a series of leaflets which had been handed out at the meeting. In particular she referred to smoking and alcohol intake and offered to come along to any community groups to give a fuller

presentation on any aspect of healthy lifestyle work which she and her team were currently involved with.

RESOLVED: That Joanne be thanked for her presentation.

263 YEAR OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING – UPDATE

The Council's Partnership Officer gave a brief résumé of this initiative which had been launched in July 2013. He reminded Members that there were three main themes covered in the Year of Health and Wellbeing:

- healthy lifestyles;
- developing warm and healthy homes;
- dementia awareness.

He referred to the work which had already been undertaken in each area by dedicated professionals. This work would continue for the next 10 months. He highlighted some forthcoming events such as the Children's Trust Seminar on internet safety in October and a further dementia awareness event to be held later this year.

Members asked about publicity for these events which would be done via the Council's website and by using the Council's Corporate Communications Officer.

RESOLVED: That the Partnership Officer be thanked for this update on the Year of Health and Wellbeing.

264 STAN THE VAN

The Council's Leisure and Sports Development Manager, gave a résumé of the operations of Stan the Van over the past 3 years. He reminded Members that this was a shared project with Pendle and Rossendale Borough Councils. He acknowledged that whilst the footfall over the 3 years had been relatively low, the van had met all its targets. However it was also recognised that better use was needed to be made of the facility to boost numbers using the van and improve the service on offer.

Details were provided of the main types of enquiry which the van had dealt with which were mainly, health and wellbeing, benefits and housing. There was a real need to focus and improve the products on offer. Part of that improvement was listening to other people's ideas and adopting more performance indicators specific to Ribble Valley.

Members then made a number of comments and suggestions including better co-ordination with Citizen's Advice Bureau on some issues, different hours for operation, links with Year of Health and Wellbeing, more emphasis on villages rather than main towns, better publicity, including leaflet drops, encouraging partner agencies to use the van and signage when visiting a particular location.

RESOLVED: That the Leisure and Sports Development Manager be thanked for his presentation and the comments now made by Members be taken into consideration when discussions were being held on how to improve this facility. Parishes to consider how STAN can better engage with their neighbourhood and liaise with the itinerary co-ordinators.

265 START TIME OF MEETING

The Chief Executive reported that this matter had been placed on the Agenda at the request of Pendleton Parish Council whose representative found it difficult to attend at the earlier start time of 6.30pm. He reminded Members of why the change had been made some 2 years ago, initially for a 3 meeting pilot basis, but then as a permanent move. He commented that whilst there had been some concerns from some Members about a potential drop off in attendance as a result of that switch, this had not proved to be the case as there was no difference in numbers since the move to 6.30pm had been made.

RESOLVED: That Committee continue to meet at 6.30pm.

266 DOG CONTROL ORDERS

The Head of Environmental Health Services commented that Members had been consulted some time ago regarding replacement of the existing Dog Control Order. Under previous legislation each specific area and the specific requirement that it related to had to be identified and registered. The legislation had changed significantly since the Dog Control Orders was made and had been replaced by the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 which extended and gives greater flexibility in designating identified areas. A report had been submitted to the Council's Community Services Committee in May 2013 setting out proposals for the introduction of a new Dog Control Order, the key elements of those Orders were:

- the fouling of land by dogs – the new Order applies to any land within the administrative area of the borough that was open to the air and to which the public were entitled or permitted to have access. This removed the need to identify specific areas as with the previous Order;
- exclusion of dogs – the new Order will allow the exclusion of dogs as follows:
 - all land within the administrative area of the borough which comprises of any fence (and/or hedge and/or walled) children's play areas, children's pool and/or sand pit, skate park, tennis court, basketball court, bowling green or putting green or any other fenced park, sporting or recreational facility agreed at its entrance as a dog exclusion area;
- dogs on leads and dogs on leads by direction – this allows for the identification of specific areas where dogs might be kept on leads or owners asked to do so. In the case of the Borough Council this was likely

to apply to Clitheroe Cemetery and parks where dogs historically caused nuisance.

The new proposed Order would shortly go out to formal consultation before being adopted.

The Head of Environmental Health Services indicated that publicity would be provided via an intended centre page article in the next issue of Ribble Valley news and posters etc. He recognised that dog fouling was a very emotive subject it would need public support to help police these new Orders by reporting incidents of fouling to the Council. He felt that in this way offenders would be brought to account and the message would be simple and clear “Clean up everywhere every time” and that dog fouling is no longer acceptable to the local community.

Parish Councils were reminded that they would be responsible for signposting and monitoring of their own facilities and also authorising persons to enforce.

Members were fully supportive of the new Orders.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

267 GREEN DEAL – GREEN COMMUNITIES

The Head of Regeneration and Housing referred to the report of the Housing Officer which highlighted to funding opportunities which the Government had announced a £20m green deal communities scheme to help local authorities target areas especially of hard to treat properties who were off gas areas on a street by street delivery.

Information was required to provide commercial providers with suitable properties. These properties could be either owner occupied or privately rented. The Ribble Valley Energy Officer had already been in talks with Lancashire colleagues with the aim to submit a large bid to meet these objectives and such bid had a December deadline.

A further source of funding from the Government was seeking applications from the following:

- Community Interest Company (CIC);
- Industrial Providence Society (IPS) such as co-operatives;
- Parish Councils;
- Registered Social Landlords;
- Charities;
- Development Trusts;
- Faith Groups.

The grant would be administered by the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) and offers of a grant of £20,000 for a feasibility study and with a further

low interest loan of £130,000 to help rural communities install initiatives to deliver renewable energy to their homes.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

268 POST OFFICES COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE FUND

The Head of Regeneration and Housing referred to this copy letter from the Department of Communities and Local Government which was informing Members about a joint competition which the Department had launched for Post Office Ltd to encourage sub-postmasters to work with local people to develop innovative ideas for how the Post Office branches could support their local communities.

There was £200,000 available to support up to 20 schemes in England in 2013/14. Sub-Postmasters had until 18 October to work with local people to develop these ideas and submit an application for up to £10,000 to put the idea into practice.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted.

269 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman commented that the date and time of the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 14 November 2013, starting at 6.30pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Colin Hirst (414503).