

Minutes of Community Services Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 2 June 2015, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor R J Thompson (Chairman)

Councillors:

J E Alcock	S Hind
R Bennett	R Newmark
A Brown	G Scott
S Carefoot	N Walsh
P Dobson	J White
P Elms	
M French	

In attendance: Director of Community Services, Head of Cultural and Leisure Services, Head of Engineering Services, Senior Accountant,

Also in attendance: Councillors M Fenton, L Graves and A Knox.

8 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors M Robinson and R Swarbrick.

9 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

12 BRIEFING ON THE REMIT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Chairman welcomed the new members to this first meeting in the municipal year and asked the Heads of Service responsible for the services in this Committee to give a brief resume.

Mark Beveridge, Head of Cultural and Leisure Services outlined the remit of his work including tourism development, healthy lifestyles, sports development, Ribblesdale Pool, arts development and Platform Gallery, amenity cleansing and his role as Safeguarding Officer. He informed Committee that although the Council does not own many facilities it acts in many cases as facilitator.

Adrian Harper, Head of Engineering Services gave a brief remit of the services he is responsible for which include waste management, engineering capital schemes, the GIS system, monitoring CCTV, off-street car parking, building maintenance, public toilet cleaners and refuse collection. The Chairman asked if a visit to the Lancashire County Council waste facility at Farrington could be arranged.

Amy Johnson, Senior Accountant for the Community Services Committee gave Members a brief overview of the budget spent by the Community Services Committee in relation to the Council's overall spend. She gave examples of capital expenditure and informed Members when they would receive specific financial reports.

13

EDISFORD ARTIFICIAL TURF PITCH PROJECT

The Director of Community Services submitted a report regarding the Edisford artificial turf pitch project. He reminded Committee that they had approved the submission of a bid to Sport England for grant funding to assist the Council to refurbish the artificial turf pitch at Edisford. A capital sum of £22,000 was allowed for in the 2015/16 budget to match an anticipated grant from Sport England of £25,000; the overall scheme budget was £47,000.

Following a lengthy process the Council had now been offered a grant by Sport England of £26,450 based on an overall sum which included an additional estimated sum for fencing work.

The surface of the football area would be changed to a third generation (3G) surface which means it would have a longer fibre pile and be held in place by the use of rubber crumb pieces giving a more forgiving surface for football.

He informed Committee that there was also a capital scheme this year (2015/16) for lighting at the facility which was to be used to replace the floodlights. However the cost of the new lighting technology at this time was such that it does not represent value for money to make the investment now.

New quotes for the resurfacing and fencing work had been received and they allow for all the work to be accommodated within the original capital budget of £47,000. Sport England had been asked to clarify if their grant offer would stand against the revised lower sum. If not, then a further £1,500 of resources would be needed from the Council to support this capital scheme and would be found from existing revenue budgets if necessary.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approves acceptance of the Sport England grant to maximum of £26,450 and delegates to the Director of Community Services to accept the quotes for the work to install the new pitch surface subject to any requirement from formal tendering; and

2. approves the use of existing revenue budgets up to £1,500 (in addition to the approved Council financing of £22,000) to support the overall capital scheme of £47,000 should the level of support from Sport England fall below the budgeted £25,000.

14

LEASE FOR CLITHEROE CASTLE SKATE PARK AREA

The Director of Community Services submitted a report updating Committee on the negotiations to renew a Lease. This currently provides the skate park area in the grounds of the Castle for use by The Grand to offer the opportunity for young people to use the area. The land itself, which Ribble Valley Borough Council owns, is leased to The Grand. When the original lease was let in November 2005, The Grand invested in the development of the skate park area which has extended to include a social space on the ground floor under the bowling green café as well as the hardstanding area alongside the skate park used for football, basketball etc. The Lease is let at a peppercorn rent to reflect the investment in the original capital works and the ongoing commitment by The Grand and it was felt that the Lease should be renewed on the same basis.

RESOLVED: That Committee delegates the Director of Community Services to complete the negotiation of the Lease and sign it.

15

CLITHEROE CASTLE MUSIC EVENT

The Director of Community Services submitted a report asking Committee to consider further details relating to an event previously approved at their meeting in September 2014 to be staged in the Castle grounds. He reminded Committee that they had approved in principle the staging of a music event on the Castle field but that the scale and scope of the event had required clarification with the promoter and the fire officer in terms of information and detail. The promoter had now considered the options and determined that the availability of artists for this year does not meet the timescale for organising the event and he had therefore decided to look at staging the event in 2016. Correspondence had been exchanged between the promoter and the advisors he has engaged and the fire officer regarding escape routes, steward numbers, emergency plans to establish a capacity figure for the field in respect of the music event alone. This would serve to form the basis of their plan for an event in 2016.

The promoter was now looking for the Council's approval to stage a music festival for 3 days on a weekend between July and early September 2016 excluding any bank holiday weekend. The event would be staged from Friday to Sunday; gates would open early afternoon each day and the headline act would finish by the 10pm curfew.

The capacity for the event as agreed with the fire officer would be 10,500 plus staff working at the event and the event would be all ticket.

A full resident and community impact management plan would be put together as part of the planning process and it was expected that an independent and mobile noise monitoring service would be provided.

It was acknowledged that a degree of disturbance and interference with the normal day-to-day activities of the people in the surrounding area was inevitable but that the event would have a positive economic impact on the area. The promoter was working with a professional event company which has extensive experience of staging major music events.

Members asked several questions with regard to the event. Councillor Alan Knox was given permission to speak on this item and as the Ward Councillor for this area felt reassured by the information given in the report.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approve the staging of the music festival for 2016 subject to the normal licence approvals and confirmation by the Ribble Valley Safety Advisory Group of the promoters arrangements; and
2. delegates to the Director of Community Services on consultation with the Chairman to write to the promoter with confirmation of the Committee's decision.

16 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONTACTS AND DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF CAR PARKING

The Director of Community Services submitted a report providing contacts for some services offered by Lancashire County Council about which enquiries or complaints may be received and to explain the division of responsibilities for car parking enforcement. The report outlined the transfer of work from Ribble Valley Borough Council to Lancashire County Council and the contacts for which enquiries should be directed to the County Council. These includes for public rights of way, highways, flooding and land drainage, bus shelters and on-street parking.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

17 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2014/15

The Director of Resources submitted a report reviewing the final outturn of the Capital Programme for 2014/15 for this Committee. The Capital Programme had consisted of five schemes four of which had been completed in year and within budget and one that had been moved to 2015/16 (installation of 3G artificial pitch at Edisford). A total of £88,671 had been spent which equated to 98% of the revised estimate.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

18 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2015/16

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing Committee of the Outside Bodies that come under the remit of the Community Services Committee and

their membership. The Chairman highlighted two changes to this list ie Lancashire Tourism Forum – Councillor Robert Thompson and Roefield Leisure Centre – Councillor Robert Thompson and Councillor Noel Walsh.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

19 GENERAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report updating Committee on waste management, the mowing regime at the cemetery, leisure facilities, sports development and the Platform Gallery.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

20 REPORTS ON REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies.

The meeting closed at 7.28pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact John Heap (414461).