

Minutes of Community Services Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 24 May 2011 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor R J Thompson (Chairman)

Councillors:

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| R Bennett | R Newmark |
| S Brunskill | M Robinson |
| S Carefoot | R Swarbrick |
| A Knox | G Scott |
| G Mirfin | J White |

In attendance: Director of Community Services, Head of Engineering Services, Head of Cultural and Leisure Services and Head of Financial Services.

8 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors J Alcock, J Hill and L Rimmer.

9 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

It was clarified that with regard to minute 720 a report regarding the Longridge Gym and the Council's Service Level Agreement with Willow Park Children's Centre would be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee. It was also confirmed that with regard to minute 722 the revamp of the Bowling Green Café was now complete.

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

12 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no references from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

13 BRIEFING ON THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Director of Community Services informed Committee that this item would be on every agenda in the first cycle of meetings and was intended to give new

Councillors and other Councillors new to the Committee an insight into its responsibilities.

The Head of Engineering Services outlined the five main headings that come under his remit, these included:

- refuse collection, recycling and waste management
- public conveniences
- CCTV
- car parks
- corporate buildings and land

He gave an outline of each of these services along with the budget spend and informed Committee that in the light of savings needing to be made in the next financial year, a review would be taking place of all service areas and in particular of public conveniences.

The Head of Cultural and Leisure Services outlined the areas of culture and leisure that are within his remit, these included:

- arts development
- Platform Gallery
- Castle Museum
- parks and open spaces
- tourism
- Ribblesdale Pool
- Longridge Gym
- healthy lifestyles
- sports development
- grants

He commented that although most were non-statutory services, they were very visible and well thought of services, but had significant revenue implications. He informed Committee that in the light of savings needing to be made, reviews would be taking place of these services and in particular the Platform Gallery, Castle Museum and Longridge Gym.

In conclusion, the Director of Community Services reminded Committee that they had a serious responsibility to pursue savings over the coming months and that they would not be easy decisions.

14

QUEEN ELIZABETH II FIELDS CHALLENGE

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Committee of the scheme and to consider whether any of the Council's parks or open spaces should be nominated as a Queen Elizabeth II playing field. The Queen Elizabeth II Challenge is a campaign to protect 2012 outdoor spaces for local communities across the country, and to create a fitting and lasting grass roots legacy across the UK to mark both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012

Olympics. Prince William is patron the challenge. A meeting had been held with a representative from the Fields in Trust to go through the criteria for applicants in order to identify if any facilities would be eligible under the scheme. There was no expectation to change the name of the site but simply to mark the dedication by a plaque provided by Fields in Trust. The Head of Cultural and Leisure Services informed Committee that many of our facilities would meet with the criteria and that any number of applications could be submitted. He also informed Committee that should any of our facilities be accepted to receive the dedication, the Council would be expected to guarantee the future use of that facility through a deed of dedication protecting the facility as public open space in perpetuity.

Members discussed several facilities that would be appropriate but also felt that the community as a whole should be consulted and that they should understand the rules connected to the nominations.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. asks the Director of Community Services to identify the borough's sites and include them on a specific area of the Ribble Valley website that the community can vote upon; and
2. include this information as an item on the next Parish Councils' Liaison Committee.

15 HEALTHY LIFESTYLE SERVICES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report for Committee's information updating them on the healthy lifestyle services, this included fitness for life exercise referral, weigh-2-go weight management programme, heart watch, phase 4 cardiac rehabilitation and stepping out health walks.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

16 GENERAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Committee of progress on various aspects of leisure and sports development, tourism, arts development and the Platform Gallery as well flood risk management responsibilities, the Olympic Torch Relay and the Ribble Valley Sports, Arts and Community Awards that would take place on Wednesday, 15 June 2011 at the Grand, Clitheroe. All Councillors were invited to attend this event.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.42pm.

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