

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF CULTURAL & ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 11 MARCH 2019 AT 7.30 PM

Present: Councillors S Cotter (Chair)
 G Perham
 C Chambers
 M Freeman

Also in attendance: M Saccoccio, Town Clerk
 V Cannon, Head of Cultural and Economic
 Services
 T Quinn, TACTIC Manager
 M Jahn, Committee Officer

Members of the public: 0
Members of the press 0

156/CE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received and were accepted from Councillor D Bowater and Councillor F Kharawala.

157/CE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests, including the nature of those interests, which they had in any of the items under consideration at this meeting. . No declarations were made.

158/CE QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public.

159/CE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Committee received the draft minutes of the previous committee meetings held on 10 December 2018.

Item ref 147/CE Mind Space Project – the Committee was informed that initial application to the NHS had been declined but talks with Andrew Selous MP and Central Bedfordshire Council were on-going to source premises within the town to enable the Project to progress.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cultural and Economic Services Committee held on 10 December 2018 be approved as a correct record with the correction and were signed accordingly.

160/CE SUB-COMMITTEE AND TASK GROUP MINUTES

The Committee received the draft minutes of the Market Sub-Committee meeting held on the 28 February 2019 for consideration.

A question was raised regarding the ground fixings for the gazebos and whether this would go ahead. It was confirmed a trial area would be used to install ground fixings for a few gazebos to assess durability and ease of use.

RESOLVED to receive the draft minutes of the Market Sub-Committee meeting held on 28 February 2019.

161/CE COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES AND WORK PLAN

The Committee received the Committee Objectives and Work Plan for the current year, in accordance with the Town Council's Three Year plan and the Draft Work Plan for 2019-2020.

RESOLVED to note the reports.

162/CE TACTIC UPDATE

The Committee received and considered a report to update members of work undertaken at TACTIC during November 2018 to January 2019 including the Youth Work Programme, staffing, Youth Forum Christmas Meal for 'older' residents, Talk Space and Easter schemes.

A mini booklet, (funded by a grant from Central Bedfordshire Council) designed by the Youth Forum, to highlight top ten tips for Mental Health problems and aimed at young people was presented to Members. The Youth Forum also hoped to participate in future training to enable them to deliver peer awareness discussions on mental health.

The pilot project Talk Space (Emotional Well Being Service) had been well received with all appointments fully booked up until 31 March 2019. It was hoped to continue this service to May 2019 using earmarked funds, grant money from Tesco bags and the annual salaries budget.

It was noted that Tracey Quinn, TACTIC Manager, had been invited to sit on BRIF (Building Resilience in Families) early intervention group. This identified pre-support for families or young people within the area.

Future projects were now being planned and included Easter Play schemes for 8-11 year olds and Easter Activity Week for 12-19 year olds. A Spring satellite sport project would also take place at Page's Park offering tennis and basketball and if uptake was good further sessions could be scheduled.

RESOLVED to endorse the continuation of the Talk-Space, contracted emotional wellbeing service for the next financial year.

163/CE BUDGET REPORT

The Committee received a budget update report for the revenue and earmarked reserves.

RESOLVED to

- (i) note the report
- (ii) allocate £5,592 (104/4000) from the TACTIC salaries budget towards the cost of contracted counselling services in addition to the allocation identified from Earmarked reserves (9020).

164/CE YOUTH FILM CLUB

The Committee received and considered a report proposing a pilot project to assess local take-up for a Youth Film Club longer-term. The project had been scheduled to run from July to September 2019 but a question was raised regarding this being 'holiday' time. It was suggested that the time could be split into two sections from July to August and October to November 2019 and a comparison made of attendance during these sessions.

The Library Theatre would pre-select the films shown and the Film Club would be promoted via schools, TACTIC and social media. A membership card would be issued to access discounts.

RESOLVED to

- (i) run a pilot Youth Film Club to ascertain the viability and interest for a local scheme for long-term investment.
- (ii) endorse that the sum of £2,400 be utilised from Committee's earmarked reserve budget (970/9026) to facilitate the pilot project.

165/CE ALLOCATION OF S106 FUNDS REPORT

The Committee received and considered a report to endorse the use of released Section 106 funds towards four town centre enhancement projects.

The four projects identified were

- a) Bell Alley resurfacing
- b) Town Centre Wi-Fi
- c) Relocation of Christmas tree
- d) Road barrier/bollards

RESOLVED to endorse the four projects identified for allocation of Section 106, planning gain funds.

166/CE SERVICE UPDATES

The Committee received verbal updates on events, Best Bar None, pigeon

management, electronic signs, architectural lighting, Heritage Trail and the Youth Promise Fund.

Event Highlights

The Events team has confirmed the band concerts for the summer months with organisation of the Last Night of the Proms moving forward. Forty stalls have booked for the Big Lunch to date with entertainment including Street Theatre and food demonstrations. The Canal Festival has 58 stall holders, 8 demonstrators, 22 boats and walkabout entertainment confirmed with stall holders in the Paddock area very receptive to the later finish time of 8.00 pm.

The launch of the History Trail would coincide with Living History Day alongside the Saturday market with initial discussions on-going at present.

Recruitment for a Town Crier went live on 1 March and ends on 31 March with a live final on 13 April at the Market Cross.

The Business Networking Event will be held for the 7th year on 24 April and has been nominated as a finalist in the Luton and Bedfordshire Business Awards, results to be confirmed by the 8 May.

Best Bar None

Vulnerability Training taking place over the next week, with assessments happening in March, April and May, public vote in May to June with the Awards Ceremony in September. Biggleswade and Sandy have also joined the scheme for 2019/2020.

Pigeon Management

A roof top pigeon loft proposal is being explored, location needed, to encourage pigeons to roost and their eggs would be collected and replaced with false eggs which would hopefully humanly impact on their population in the town.

Electronic Signs

All the signs now in place and working but discussions on-going re the installation of the sign on the by-pass.

Architectural Lighting

Letters have been sent to the venue owners and awaiting response by the end of March 2019. Delivery would be venue by venue by the end of October 2019.

Heritage Trail

Background research on-going with Local Historical and Archeological

Society and Bedfordshire Archives Service with Launch Day on Saturday 5 October.

Youth Promise Fund

The Committee agreed this project had been a great success with £150,000 awarded to 12 groups to access quality provision through volunteer training, better equipment and access to more learning and activities. Evaluation reports would be due two months after end of funded activities on 31 March 2019.

RESOLVED to note the updates.

167/CE **TOWN BAND**

The Committee received and considered a report regarding the concept of a Town Band. The Committee agreed with the principle of having a band within the town and of inviting expressions of interest from all bands to bring back to a future Committee meeting to finalise details of what would be involved.

RESOLVED to endorse the principle of appointing a band to represent the Parish at high profile events including certain Mayoral Functions.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THE FOREGOING IS A CORRECT AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 11 MARCH 2019.

Chair

3 JUNE 2019