

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2015 AT 1930 HOURS

Present: Councillors R Berry – CBC (substitute for B Spurr)
 D Bowater - CBC
 S Cotter – LLTC – in the Chair
 A Dodwell – LLTC (substitute for A Brandham)
 F Kharawala - LLTC
 C Palmer – LLTC
 T Morris – LLTC
 G Perham - CBC
 G Tubb – CBC

Also in attendance: M Saccoccio (Town Clerk)
 J Martindale (Partnership Officer)
 S Sandiford (Committee Officer)
 S Hughes (Community Engagement Manager,
 Central Bedfordshire Council)
 G Borrelli (Chair, LB First)
 Cllr K Cursons

Members of the Public: 0
Members of the Press: 0

031/LLP APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor B Spurr (substituted by Councillor R Berry), Councillor A Brandham (substituted by Councillor A Dodwell) and from V Cannon, Head of Economic Development for the Town Council.

032/LLP DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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.

Councillor C Palmer declared a personal interest in the budget recommendation concerning Greening (Minute Reference 0034/LLP) as his wife was currently the elected Chair of the Leighton-Linslade in Bloom Committee. Councillor Palmer would not vote on this item.

Councillor F Kharawala declared a personal and pecuniary interest in the budget recommendation concerning marketing of the Astral Park Sports and Community Centre (Minute Reference 0036/LLP) as part owner of a company pitching for the marketing business. Councillor Kharawala would not vote on this item.

033/LLP PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions or statements from members of the public.

034/LLP PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE BUDGETS

The Committee received a report in respect of the Partnership Committee budget arrangements and current budget details, including funds carried forward from previous years and outlining existing commitments to projects.

A number of minor queries were asked and answered in respect of the Big Lunch event, the Big Plan publications budget, expenditure on the defibrillator project and forecast expenditure to the end of the financial year. It was agreed to incorporate a column into future budget reports to demonstrate “forecast outcome”, i.e. the funds likely to remain available at the end of the financial year.

RESOLVED to note the information.

The Committee gave consideration to the recommendation made by the Leisure and Community Committee on 7 September 2015 (Minute Reference 053/LC): ***that, further to the in principle agreement made on 23 October 2014, funding of £3,000 from earmarked reserves be approved towards greening projects in the parish, in accordance with the proposals made by the Leighton-Linslade in Bloom Committee.*** In order to provide background information, a copy of the report presented to that meeting was also provided to the Partnership Committee. Approval of the recommendation was approved and seconded. On being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that, further to the in principle agreement made on 23 October 2014, funding of £3,000 from earmarked reserves (920/9005) be approved towards greening projects in the parish, in accordance with the proposals made by the Leighton-Linslade in Bloom Committee.

035/LLP EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information. The public and press to withdraw from the meeting during consideration of detailed discussion regarding the following item.

036/LLP ASTRAL PARK

The Committee received a copy of a report provided to the Leisure and Community Committee on 7 September 2015 in respect of Astral Park and gave consideration to the recommendation made at that meeting (Minute Reference 059/LC): ***that £5,000 be allocated from Big Plan Earmarked Reserves to better inform the emerging business plan for Astral Park, by undertaking profile raising and soft market testing.***

Background information on the Astral Park project was provided to the Committee by the Town Clerk. Discussion took place regarding options for profile raising activity and market testing, to help determine the future direction for the centre. It was noted that an emerging business plan was due to be presented at a later date to the Town Council's Leisure and Community Committee.

The Committee endorsed the proposal to use AdWords and social media for marketing campaigns but suggested that officers give further consideration to other proposed activity. In line with this, an amendment to the original recommendation was proposed and seconded, to reduce the allocated funding. On being put to the vote, the amended motion was carried (four in favour, five abstentions).

RESOLVED that up to £3,000 be allocated from Big Plan Earmarked Reserves (920/9055) to better inform the emerging business plan for Astral Park, by undertaking profile raising and soft market testing.

The meeting closed at 2017 hours.

I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2015.

Chair

22 OCTOBER 2015