

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 1930 HOURS

Present: Councillors A Brandham – LLTC
 A Dodwell - CBC
 K Ferguson – CBC
 F Kharawala – LLTC
 T Morris - LLTC – in the Chair
 C Palmer – LLTC
 B Spurr - CBC
 G Tubb – CBC
 E Wallace – LLTC
 G Perham – (substituting B Walker) CBC

Also in attendance: V Cannon (Head of Cultural & Economic Services)
 M Jahn (Committee Officer)
 G Borelli (Chair, LB First)
 B Chandler (Chair, LB Connect)
 S Hughes (Community Engagement Manager,
 Central Bedfordshire Council)
 T Humber, LLCT/Community Forum
 D Blackmun, CEO, Healthwatch
 R Berry - LLTC

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

170/LLP APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor B Walker (substituted by Councillor G Perham) and Mark Saccoccio, Town Clerk.

171/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. No declarations were made and no dispensations had been requested.

172/LLP PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No questions from members of the public.

173/LLP MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Committee received the draft minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 7 September 2017.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 7 September 2017 be approved as a correct record and be signed accordingly.

174/LLP HEALTHWATCH

The Committee received a presentation from D Blackmun, CEO, Healthwatch to familiarise the Committee with the work they do. The Healthwatch team consists of 8 members and volunteers and their role would be to be the voice of local people and be reactive to what would be happening in the local area in the health and social care sector. Questions were raised about hospital provision in the Leighton Buzzard area and the Committee were advised that two hubs would be created, one in Dunstable and one in Leighton Buzzard to provide medical services within the local area. Healthwatch would be monitoring this and dealing with any problems arising during the introduction.

Concerns were also raised regarding provision of mental health care and pressures on GP surgeries within the Leighton-Linslade areas. Healthwatch would provide advice and be a voice for members of the public if they encountered problems and needed to know where to go to address them. Healthwatch have a voice on higher committees which would enable them to provide a more informed response to any problem or question raised.

All were encouraged to use Healthwatch's online reporting system to raise concerns on any health related issues:

<https://healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk/view-leave-feedback>

Thanks were given to D Blackmun for attending the meeting and providing the Committee with information of the work of Healthwatch.

RESOLVED to note the information.

175/LLP ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND HOMELESSNESS

This report was deferred until the next meeting of the Partnership Committee in the New Year.

176/LLP S.106 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

The Committee received and gave consideration to an application for funding from the 1st Leighton Buzzard Scout Group who have requested £2,650 towards the cost of installing disabled access for wheelchair users and disabled parking at the rear. The project fits the criteria required for S.106 application and the Committee agreed it would make a substantive difference to the access to the building.

RESOLVED to note the application.

177/LLP ENABLING DELIVERY IN LEIGHTON-LINSLADE

Sarah Hughes, Community Engagement Manager, Central Bedfordshire Council informed the Committee that Jason Longhurst would be attending the meeting on 26 April, 2018 where an update would be provided re the potential development of the south side of the High Street.

The Committee were informed that the Westlands Older Persons Home consultation had ended and a consultation report would be produced in 2018 for the building of a Care Home on the former police station site.

RESOLVED to note the information.

178/LLP TAXIS

The Committee received a verbal update in respect of taxis in the town centre and the possibilities for relocation of the taxi rank from the High Street. A full consultation had now started and letters sent to all parties concerned and all replies should be received by the 12 December 2017.

RESOLVED to note the report.

179/LLP MARKET TOWN REGENERATION FUND

The Committee received a brief verbal update in respect of the three projects approved for funding through the Market Towns Regeneration Fund: the market relaunch, architectural uplighting and electronic signage.

RESOLVED to note the information.

180/LLP REVIEW OF COMMITTEES

The Committee received a brief verbal update stating all joint committees had now reviewed and commented on potential new terms of reference proposed by Central Bedfordshire Council. The next stage in the process would be to hold a meeting of all joint committee Chairs and Vice Chairs. It was anticipated that this would take place in early 2018.

RESOLVED to note the information.

181/LLP COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES AND WORK PLAN

The Committee received and gave consideration to the objectives and work plan for the municipal year 2017-2018. The Anti-Social Behaviour and Homelessness presentation to be rescheduled for the next meeting of the Committee on 15 February 2018 and Jason Longhurst to attend the meeting on the 26 April 2018 to update the Committee on the future development of the south side of the High Street.

Concerns were raised about the time taken to complete repairs by Central Bedfordshire Council and it was suggested that Leighton-Linslade Town Council complete them if appropriate, excluding any Highways issues. It was agreed that Leighton-Linslade Town Council already complete some repairs when necessary to ensure the appearance of the town remains as good as it can be. A response to be requested from Central Bedfordshire Council within the next few weeks and this update given to the February meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED to note the report.

182/LLP BUSINESS GROUPS UPDATES

The Committee received a brief verbal report from B Chandler, Chair of LB Connect business networking group showing how the group worked and what they offered to small businesses. It was reported that all businesses were doing well and were promoting their businesses within the local area.

RESOLVED to note the report.

G Borelli of LB First spoke regarding his concerns over the lack of information re the land the south of the High Street. Retailers are unsure what would be happening with this project and he felt mixed messages were being given from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding this. Any feedback between now and April would be appreciated.

Also Mr Borelli raised his concern about the issues with the multi-storey car park and complaints of queueing and problems with the number plate recognition. He felt at this time of year especially this would be important with increased shoppers in the town.

Mr Borelli also wanted to thank the Town Council for their continued support and hard work organising the Christmas Festival in the town.

RESOLVED to note the report.

183LLP COMMUNITY FORUM UPDATE

The Committee received a verbal update from the Community Forum steering group. A meeting would be held at the Library on the 3 February 2018 with the focus being on highways issues including concerns around young people and cycling within the town and what could be done to address this.

RESOLVED to note the information.

184/LLP BUDGET REPORTS

The Committee received a brief report regarding the current year budget to date, including a budget monitoring report for the period April to September 2017.

RESOLVED to note the information.

The Committee was advised that the proposed budget for 2018-2019 would be the same as for the current financial year, i.e. £3000 for Business Development and £500 for the Community Forum. The Town Council budget would be considered and finalised at a meeting of Full Council on 29 January 2018.

RESOLVED to note the recommended Partnership Committee budget for 2018-2019 and to discuss further at the next meeting of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 2136 hours.

I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2017.

Chair

15 FEBRUARY 2018