

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 3 MAY 2018 AT 7.30 PM

Present: Councillors T Morris (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)
 A Brandham
 A L Dodwell
 K Ferguson
 C Palmer
 B J Spurr
 G Tubb
 D Bowater
 G Perham
 R Berry

Also in attendance: V Cannon, Head of Cultural and Economic Services
 M Jahn, Committee Officer
 G Borelli, Chair, LB First
 S Hughes, Community Engagement Manager, Central Bedfordshire Council
 Cllr C Perham

Members of the public: 3
Members of the press 1

198/LLP APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Wallace (substituted by Councillor Berry), Councillor Kharawala (substituted by Councillor Bowater), Councillor Walker (substituted by Councillor G Perham), Mark Saccoccio, Bob Chandler and Tricia Humber.

199/LLP 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 and no dispensations had been requested.

200/LLP QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 minutes per person; maximum 15 minutes)

No questions from members of the public.

201/LLP MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Committee received the draft minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 15 February 2018.

Minute reference 189/LLP Enabling Delivery in Leighton-Linslade: the Committee were informed that Jason Longhurst was unable to attend tonight's meeting but Sarah Hughes would be exploring his availability at the next meeting on the 7 June.

Minute reference 190/LLP Taxis: it was confirmed to the Committee that a letter had been written to Councillor Dalgarno from Central Bedfordshire Council and response awaited.

Minute reference 191/LLP Market Town Regeneration Fund: it was confirmed to the Committee that a letter had been written to Central Bedfordshire Council with reference to the High Street Improvement Scheme (HSIS) and response would be distributed post meeting one received.

Minute reference 192/LLP Antisocial Behaviour and Homelessness: a question was raised regarding a report being given to the Committee at today's meeting. The Committee were informed this had been postponed due to sickness and rescheduled to a later meeting.

Minute reference 194/LLP Central Bedfordshire Council Update Report: the Committee were informed a typing error 'Council' would be corrected to 'Council'.

Minute reference 195/LLP Business Group Updates: a question was raised regarding the attendance of a member of the Highways Department to provide data and statistics for the multi-storey car park. Sarah Hughes, Community Engagement Manager, Central Bedfordshire Council, informed the Committee that data could be provided but the Highways Department could not send a representative until the April 2019 Partnership Committee Meeting. The statistics that could be provided by the Parking Team are –

- How many visitors to the car park
- How much has been paid
- How many were subscribers
- How payment was being made
- Dates and times of usage in the car park

- A review of the Duncombe Drive car park, free after 13.30 scheme

It was noted that Duncombe Drive car park continued the scheme providing free parking after 13.30 on a Wednesday only.

The Committee were also asked if any updates had been given by Arriva Bus Company on changing bus routes, Sarah Hughes would follow this up for the next meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Partnership Committee meeting held on 15 February 2018 be approved as a correct record and be signed accordingly.

202/LLP ENABLING DELIVERY IN LEIGHTON-LINSLADE

Sarah Hughes Community Engagement Manager, Central Bedfordshire Council informed the Committee that she is exploring availability of Jason Longhurst to attend a meeting, to provide an update regarding the potential development of the south side of the High Street. No updates at present.

RESOLVED to note the information.

203/LLP MARKET TOWN REGENERATION FUND

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

Electronic Signage

The first electronic sign had been installed at Leighton Buzzard train station and messages would be added to promote events within the town when required. The remaining signs were awaiting delivery and installation.

Architectural Lighting

The Committee were informed that the Town Council surveyor would be progressing the Architectural Lighting Project and the timings for this would be shared at the next meeting.

High Street Improvement Scheme

A total of five shops had signed up for improvements to their shop fronts under the High Street Improvement Scheme and a scheme of work would be provided during the next couple of weeks with an end date of 20th June 2018. It was confirmed that no decision had been made by Central Bedfordshire Council yet regarding an underspend under this scheme, but it was understood that it would be taken to the next Market Town Board Meeting for clarification.

A Town Centre User Survey had received 1205 responses from members of the public. The Business Confidence Survey targeted ground floor High Street business and Market Traders and the ground fixings for the market umbrellas had been received and would be installed imminently.

RESOLVED to note the report.

204/LLP TAXI RANK IN LEIGHTON BUZZARD

The Committee received an update on the Taxi Rank in Leighton Buzzard from Jo Borthwick, Service Manager Public Protection and Margaret James,

Principal Public Protection Officer (licensing). After lengthy discussion the Committee agreed that proposal 1 be followed up by the Central Bedfordshire Officers and brought back to Committee at the next meeting 7th June with a brief evaluation of proposal 2.

RESOLVED to -

- 1. Review taxi rank moving to the back of Iceland/Poundland outside multi-storey car park between the hours of 10.00 – 18.00 and then to Lake Street from 18.00 – 10.00.**
- 2. Complete relocation of taxi rank to Lake Street/Church Square/North Street.**
- 3. Note the information.**

205/LLP BUSINESS GROUPS UPDATES

The Committee received a brief update from Gennaro Borelli from LB First and in Bob Chandler's absence, Chair of LB Connect Business Networking Group, the Head of Cultural and Economic Services provided an update on the Business Networking Event confirming feedback had been positive and businesses would attend again. A more detailed report would be provided at the next meeting on 7 June.

G Borelli of LB First raised concerns regarding the condition of the pavements in and around the town centre and confirmed that LB First supported a petition from the Leighton Buzzard Society asking Central Bedfordshire Council to follow up on the repairs. Sarah Hughes to take this back to Central Bedfordshire Council.

It was confirmed by Councillor Dodwell that she and other Councillors were meeting with a Highways Custodian tomorrow, 4 May, to inspect what needed improving. Councillor Dalgarno had been provided with photographs and should be providing an update.

RESOLVED to note the report.

206/LLP COMMUNITY FORUM UPDATE

The Committee were informed that a Community Forum would be held at the library in Leighton Buzzard on Saturday 5 May between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon to focus on Highways. The Highways Team would be attending this event which had been promoted widely using social media, town banners and leaflets.

RESOLVED to note the information.

207/LLP COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANT

The Committee received a verbal update on the Community Facilities Grant. One application had been received with the potential of two or three

more in the pipeline.

RESOLVED to note the information.

208/LLP COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES AND WORK PLAN

The Committee received and gave consideration to the DRAFT objectives and work plan for the municipal year 2018-2019. The Antisocial Behaviour and Homelessness presentation to be rescheduled to the 7 June meeting and the Business Support item from 7 June meeting to be moved to the 29 November 2018 meeting.

RESOLVED to note the report.

209/LLP BUDGET REPORT

The Committee received a brief report regarding the current year budget to date.

RESOLVED to

- (i) Note the report**
- (ii) Carry forward any unspent Community Forum budget funds of £500 into 2018/2019, Earmarked Reserves.**

The meeting closed at 9.03 pm.

I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THE FOREGOING IS A CORRECT AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 3 MAY 2018.

Chair

7 JUNE 2018