

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HEALTH, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 10 JULY, 2017 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors:

Cooper, Miss. J. (Chairman)
Pearson, A.R. (Vice-Chairman)

Dean, A.	Martin, Mrs. C.E.
Freeman, Miss. M.A.	Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Johnson, J.P.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Johnson, T.B.	Woodhead, P.E.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. A. Allt, Mrs. S.M. Cartwright and Councillor P. Hewitt, Staffordshire County Council.

2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restrictions on Voting by Members and Party Whip Declarations

No declarations of interests in additions to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members Interests were made.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee held on 3 April, 2017 and the Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 4 April, 2017 be approved as a correct record.

4. Confirmation of Appointment of Independent Co-Opted Member

RESOLVED:

That Elizabeth Learoyd, Advocacy Manager, Healthwatch Staffordshire was confirmed as the Co-opted Member to the Council's Health, Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee for the 2016-17 Municipal Year.

5. Healthwatch Staffordshire – Update

There was no update for Members of the Committee as the representative from Healthwatch Staffordshire was not in attendance.

6. Staffordshire County Council’s Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee - Update

The Chairman advised that she had been unable to attend either the initial or the second meeting of the Committee. Dave Prosser-Davies, Food, Safety and Licensing Manager reported that he had attended the initial meeting as an observer where introductions were made by the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing and the Director of Health and Care. Discussions had then taken place regarding health care pressures in the County faced by the Council.

Dave Prosser-Davies reported that a presentation was received from the County Scrutiny Manager which gave an overview of how Scrutiny worked at both District and County level, followed by a brief discussion regarding the Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs). Dave Prosser-Davies agreed that he would arrange for the Scrutiny presentation to be circulated to members.

7. End of Year 2016-17 Better Health Outcomes and Cleaner and Safer Environments (Environment) Priority Delivery Plan

Consideration was given to the 2016-17 Better Health Outcomes and Cleaner and Safer Environment (Environment) Priority Delivery Plan (Item 7.1 – 7.12 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Increasing access to physically active and healthy lifestyles – To develop and provide a new community AGP, 7v7 grass pitch and changing pavilion at Bradbury Lane, Hednesford

A Member commented that whilst the new development was welcome, there was also a problem with the grass verge being used for parking and the situation needed resolving.

Mike Edmonds, Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles advised that both he and the Cabinet Member for Culture and Sport were aware of the situation. . He indicated that during the busy periods, Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles (IHL) were employing 2 Security Guards to help with parking issues and that all the users had been contacted requesting them to car share where possible. He also advised that discussions had also taken place with a view to exploring the idea of adding a grassed area for parking however costs would need to be further considered.

Working with our partners to reduce health inequalities in the District – To promote concessionary membership scheme to areas of inactivity/deprived wards etc.

In response to a question raised by a Member, Mike Edmonds reported that the take up of the concessionary card had dipped slightly, however there was still a

12.1% increase from 2012 when the contract with IHL commenced.

He explained that with regard to the lack of take up, there could be number of factors which could include slow take up following the expiry of the current membership.

Striving for cleaner, greener and attractive public environments across the District – To secure Green Flag accreditation for Hednesford Park

Mike Edmonds explained that the Green Flag inspection had recently taken place for this year, however the Council was still waiting the outcome which should be known sometime later this month.

8. Environment and Health Scrutiny Committees Annual Report 2016-17

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles (Item 8.1 – 8.4 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

In response to a question raised by a Member, Mike Edmonds indicated that it appears the level of fly tipping was increasing; however the situation would continue to be monitored throughout the year.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and approved for submission to Council on 30 August, 2017.

9. Health, Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2017-18

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles (Item 9.1 – 9.28 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Mike Edmonds referred to the report and the proposed work programme attached as Appendix 2 and outlined the suggested topics for review which were:

- Determine core requirements for proposed new Cemetery
- Review operational proposals for In-house parks service
- Explore how CCDC and its partners can influence and limit the impact of hot food takeaways on local health outcomes

This was then open to discussion from Members of the Committee.

Review operational proposals for In-house parks service

A Member asked the Committee to consider reviewing the operational proposals for the in-house parks service as she was currently receiving complaints concerning Cannock Park. Clarification was then sought on the current contract arrangements.

Mike Edmonds explained that the current contract had been extended for one year in order to review the future operation of the contract from April 2018. A Member asked about the contractor and Mike Edmonds explained that the parent Company in relation to the current contract had changed in 2016 with no changes to any terms and conditions.

The Member was of the opinion that the contract had not been value for money and referred to the management plan for Cannock Park not being updated since 2015, explaining that it was vital to get this in place together together with a park protocol, particularly when trying to secure Green Flag accreditation for the Council's parks.

With regard to parks a Member commented on Hednesford Park and explained that when ever he had visited, there was no park keeper around. This was then discussed in detail with other Members of the Committee.

Mike Edmonds asked Members of the Committee what areas they wished to consider as part of reviewing this topic and what outcome(s) they wanted to achieve.

Members of the Committee discussed this and asked that the following areas be explored:

- The current maintenance regime for the Parks
- What is the Park Keepers role?
- Information required on the Management Plan
- Problem with littering in some parks

Determine core requirements for proposed new Cemetery

Members of the Committee discussed this and it was agreed that officers would provide an outline of suggestions/proposals that Members may wish to consider on how the proposed cemetery would be run.

Parking on grass verges

A Member expressed concern and indicated that he had received complaints in respect of motorists that parked on grass verges and in particular, those advertising goods. It appeared that this was not uncommon and problems also existed on business premises, particularly one business located in Cannock where rows of cars were parked on the verge.

Dave Prosser-Davies referred to a previous meeting and advised that the Planning department used planning regulations regarding this, however Members expressed concern that the problem was not being resolved and asked that a letter be forwarded to Staffordshire County Council expressing the concerns of the Committee.

Explore how CCDC and its partners can influence and limit the impact of hot food takeaways on local health outcomes

Mike Edmonds explained that this topic had been proposed for consideration by Members. The reason being that Data from Public Health England indicated that Cannock Chase had the highest density of fast food outlets across Staffordshire in 2014-2015.

Dave Prosser-Davies explained that he District suffered from a number of local health issues although the District had plenty of green space and leisure facilities and this may be an area that the Committee could explore.

Members agreed that a task and finish working group be established in under to undertake a review on this topic. The Chairman discussed this with the Committee and the task and finish working group would consist of the following Members:

- Councillor A.R. Pearson
- Councillor P.E. Woodhead
- Councillor Mrs. H.M. Sutton
- Councillor Miss. J. Cooper

RESOLVED:

(A) That the following items be approved for inclusion in the 2017-18 work programme:

- Health, Culture and Environment PDP Progress Report April – September, 2017;
- Health, Culture and Environment PDP Progress Report October – December, 2017.

(B) That the following review topics be agreed:

- 6 November, 2017 - Review 1 - Review operational proposals for the parks service;
- 26 March, 2018 - Review 2 - Determine core operational requirements for the proposed new Cemetery;
- Task and Finish Working Group - Explore how CCDC and its partners can influence and limit the impact of hot food takeaways on local health outcomes.

CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 5.00 pm