

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CULTURE, SPORT AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE
POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 16 MARCH 2010 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Bennett, Mrs D. J. (Chairman)

Collis, C.
Grocott, M. R.
Mitchell, C.

Morgan, C. W. J.
Sutton, Mrs. H.M.

19. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors F.W.C. Allen and Mrs. L.J. Pearce (Vice-Chairman)

20. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

There were no Declarations of Interests.

21. Minutes

AGREED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2010 be approved as a correct record.

22. Quarter 3 Performance and Finance Report

Consideration was given to the Report of the Director of Culture and Regeneration (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council) outlining the 2009/10 Quarter 3 progress in delivering the priorities as set out within the Children, Young People and Families Priority Delivery Plan.

The Director of Culture and Regeneration referred Members to Annex 1 of the report which outlined the performance outturn for Quarter 3 and confirmed that there had been no significant change since Quarter 2. He commented that 63 of the 68 targets were rated as green and on target to be delivered on time. However, 5 remained rated as amber and these related to the development of the District's play areas and parks. There was still significant concern regarding the funding shortfall for the artificial pitch at Cardinal Griffin School. Discussions were underway with the Football Foundation and Staffordshire Football Association aimed at securing sufficient funding to bridge the funding shortfall.

Members referred to the Heath Hayes Park project and noted that the recent wet conditions had delayed the progression of this project. It was considered sensible that the drainage equipment would only be hired when ground and weather conditions were more settled.

Members noted that the Cannock Park replacement fencing project was rated as red in Quarter 2 but it was now rated as green as the Scrutiny Committee had amended the target. It was anticipated that this project would be delivered during 2010/11.

Reference was made to the Oxford Green project and it was noted that the scheme had been amended due to there being less money now available. Attempts had been made to deliver a larger scheme; however, all bids submitted by Groundwork for additional funding had been unsuccessful. The Director of Culture and Regeneration confirmed that approximately £30,000 was available from s106 funding to deliver this project. A Member referred to the recent budget papers which stated a different figure for Oxford Green. The Director agreed to investigate this and report back to the Committee.

Members complimented Officers on their excellent performance and expressed their congratulations to the staff involved on the performance of the Service in Quarter 3. They were pleased that 63 of the 68 targets were on target to be delivered on time.

The Director highlighted two key issues from the Council's Budget agreed on 3 March 2010 which would have a significant impact on Leisure Services. The first was the Chase Leisure Centre capital development scheme. It was explained that the European procurement process had begun and it was anticipated that the design and build contractor would be selected by the end of the year. However, there had been no decision from Sport England with regard to the bid for £500,000 funding.

He further reported that the second issue was the establishment of a private sector partnership that would be responsible for managing Culture and Leisure Services. It was planned to establish a Charitable Trust status for Leisure Services in order that business rates could be retained locally for the benefit of the services. Discussions with Legal Services were taking place to determine the best way forward.

The Director advised that these projects were included in the Priority Delivery Plan but should Members wish to receive specific information with regards to these projects or wish to include any items on the agenda they should advise Democratic Services. Members considered it was important for the Committee and the public to be kept informed on the progression of these projects.

AGREED:

- (A) That the performance outturn for Quarter 3 as detailed at Annex 1 of the report be noted.
- (B) That the exception reports, as detailed at Annex 2 of the report, which describe the actions taken and actions proposed to be taken by Lead Officers for any action or performance indicator classified as Red or Amber, be noted.
- (C) That the financial outturn for Quarter 3 as detailed at Annex 3 be noted.

(The meeting closed at 5.05pm).

CHAIRMAN

