

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CULTURE, SPORT AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE
POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 5 JANUARY 2010 AT 4.00 P.M.

IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Bennett, Mrs D. J. (Chairman)

Allen, F. W. C.	Mitchell, C.
Collis, C.	Morgan, C. W. J.
Grocott, M. R.	Sutton, Mrs. H.M.

15. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. L.J. Pearce (Vice-Chairman), J. Burnett and Anne Chester-Walsh (Staffordshire County Council).

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

There were no Declarations of Interests.

17. Minutes

AGREED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2009 be approved as a correct record.

18. Quarter 2 Performance and Finance Report

Consideration was given to the Report of the Director of Service Improvement (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.7 of the Official Minutes of the Council) outlining the 2009/10 Quarter 2 progress in delivering the priorities as set out within the Children, Young People and Families Priority Delivery Plan.

The Director of Organisational Improvement referred Members to Annex 1 of the report which outlined the performance outturn for Quarter 2. Reference was made to the “Move Up” Dance project and a copy of a booklet listing dance providers was circulated to Members. It was explained that this booklet would be distributed to all Members and to all schools throughout the District. The project had moved forward quickly and was ahead of schedule.

Members commented on the increase in the issuing of the concessionary “Chase Card” and noted

that memberships at the Leisure Centres had also increased. The Director of Organisational Improvement advised that Officers had put a lot of effort into increasing memberships last year and there had been a large increase in the issuing of the concessionary "Chase Cards" due to the recession and people losing their jobs. This had led to an increase in those participating in sports at the Leisure Centres.

Members noted that although both Rugeley and Chase Leisure Centres had been promoted in the same way, there had been a faster growth in memberships at Rugeley Leisure Centre. This may have been due to the better gym facilities that were provided at Rugeley. However, it was anticipated that the planned improvements to Chase Leisure Centre would help to increase memberships.

The Director of Organisational Improvement advised Members that the Child Protection Policy had been approved by Cabinet in September and the recommendations would be submitted to Council. This clarified the position with regards to CRB checks for elected Members. Members discussed the implications of CRB checks and were advised that they would need to make a decision based on their circumstances as to whether it was appropriate for them to have a CRB check. Additionally, consideration had to be given to the cost of CRB checks and to the retention and renewal issue. Members held the opinion that if they had regular unsupervised access to children and vulnerable adults then a CRB would be necessary. It was acknowledged that there was no protection for Members even if they were CRB checked as an individual could still make an accusation against them.

The Director of Organisational Improvement stated that there were a number of the parks projects that were rated as Amber. There were various reasons for the Amber ratings, including the weather, planning and green flag issues. He advised that all the Amber parks projects were not irrecoverable and had only been delayed for a matter of weeks. Members made reference to the Oxford Green project which had been ongoing for a number of years. It was requested that the wording in the Annex be amended so as to clarify the role of any external contractors that were appointed.

The Committee were informed that Officers were preparing to submit a case for an award for the production of the "Good Life" booklet. It was explained that the "Good Life" website was now up and running.

Members were provided with information on the project to provide work placements for six months within Leisure Services and noted that the recruitment of two posts at the museum was taking place this week.

Members noted the exception reports detailed at Annex 2 of the report and referred to the Arthur Street Play area project. Although this had been delayed due to the tender process the successful Contractor was close to submitting the Planning Application for the preferred scheme design.

Members then noted the financial performance as detailed at Annex 3 of the report. Finally Members expressed their congratulations to the staff involved on the performance of the Service in Quarter 2.

The Head of Organisational Improvement explained to Members that there was a funding issue with regards to the ATP at Cardinal Griffin School. However, every endeavour would be made to obtain sufficient funding to enable this project to commence. It was explained that Asda had provided funding for this project through a s106 Agreement and there was a legally binding commitment to provide an ATP within 5 miles of the Asda store. If it became apparent that the provision of an ATP was undeliverable at Cardinal Griffin School Cabinet would be asked to agree to look at alternative sites within a 5 mile radius of the Asda store. A further update on this matter would be provided at

the next meeting of the Committee.

AGREED:

- (A) That the performance outturn for Quarter 2 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 2 as detailed at Annex 3 be noted.

(The meeting closed at 4.55pm).

CHAIRMAN