

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2008 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Jones, R. (Chairman)
Faulkner, B.J. (Vice-Chairman)

Bullock, L.W. Kraujalis, J.T.
Dixon, D.I. Todd, Mrs. D.M.

By invitation: Councillor C. Collis

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. M. A. Davis, G. R. Martin, and Mrs. L. J. Pearce).

19 Minutes

AGREED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2007 be approved as a correct record.

20 'Burntwood Innit' Initiative

The Select Committee received a presentation from Lisa Wort, Senior Youth Service Worker, Lichfield District Youth Service Office.

The Select Committee was informed that large numbers of youths congregating in certain areas had been identified as a problem with underage drinking also taking place. A multi agency meeting had taken place in February 2007 and the 'Burntwood Innit' project had been undertaken with the following partners participating:-

- Staffordshire Youth Service
- Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service
- Lichfield District Council
- Beacon Church
- Homezone
- Youth Offending Team
- T6 project
- Police
- Elected Members
- Trading Standards
- Schools

Funding for the project had been obtained from Staffordshire County Council, Community and Learning Partnership – Burntwood, Lichfield District Council and Homezone. A Co-ordinator was appointed and a consultation process was carried out with in excess of 600 young people over a two month period. The findings gave an overview of youth culture, the variety of activities they were engaged in and the type of sport and music which were most popular. It was reported that young people had indicated that they mainly wanted somewhere warm and safe to meet at weekends.

It was explained that a comprehensive package of events and activities were arranged including a music festival, cheerleading and dance sessions, and Trading Standards visited schools in relation to alcohol awareness. A six week football competition had been organised with approximately 100 young people being involved and in order to make parents more involved a 'Where is your Child Campaign' was carried out.

The project had been written into the Children and Young People's Plan and presentations given to the Children's Trust Board and Responsible Authority Group. Further funding had been obtained to enable the project to continue and grow and it was reported that anti social behaviour had reduced by one-third.

Events were also to take place to mark the first anniversary of the project and a dvd would be produced which the Select Committee could view.

The Select Committee expressed concern regarding the level of work being undertaken by the Youth Service in the Cannock Chase area.

The Chairman thanked Lisa Wort for attending the Select Committee and for the informative presentation.

21. Firework Nuisance Issues

The Partnership Development Manager informed the Select Committee that Mr. Brian Mycock, Area Manager, Trading Standards North was unable to attend to give a presentation on Firework Nuisance Issues.

AGREED:

That Trading Standards be invited to attend the next meeting of the Select Committee.

22. Work Programme

Consideration was given to items to be included in the Work Programme.

AGREED:

(A) That the Work Programme be noted.

(B) That the Select Committee considers how the Council might work with its partners to address road safety matters, with particular regard to speeding of HGVs.

CHAIRMAN