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KIRKLEES COUNCIL

DISTRICT COMMITTEE - KIRKLEES RURAL

Thursday 30th July 2015

Present: Councillor Edgar Holroyd-Doveton (Chair)
Councillors R Barraclough, D Bellamy, J Dodds, D Firth, C Iredale,
T Lyons, A Marchington, N Patrick, H Richards and N Turner

Apologies: Councillors B Armer, C Greaves, D Ridgway, J Taylor, G Turner,
M Watson.

In attendance: Approximately 30 members of public

1 Welcomes and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and Councillors introduced themselves.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 February 2015 were approved as a correct record.

3 Interests

Councillor Barraclough declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Agenda item 11 Committee Budget Report, East Peak Innovation Partnership Programme for the reason that he is a co-opted member of the End Peak Board, and left the meeting during consideration of the item.

Nominated representative Parish Councillor Blanshard declared an other interest in item 11 Committee Budget Report, East Peak Innovation Partnership Programme for the reason that she is a member of the East Peak Board.

4 Admission of the public

RESOLVED – That all items be considered in public session.

5 Deputations / Petitions

There were no deputations or petitions.

6 District Committee Arrangements 2015

The Committee considered a report which proposed arrangements for Kirklees Rural District Committee in the municipal year 2015 – 2016.

The report set out the challenges ahead for the Council and the commitment to a new way of working with the aim of creating local capacity and moving resources, responsibility and decision making closer to the geographical area where they will be used.

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The District Committee would have an enhanced role providing challenge to services, be accountable for functions, consult at district level on Kirklees wide strategic planning, set a local vision and make recommendations to Cabinet on local priorities and influence services at district level. The Committee was required to develop a Plan of Place, its vision and priorities, and to put together a District Assessment.

The report put forward proposals for parish representation and co-opted membership, portfolio working and a grants scheme for 2015-2016.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the following names be put forward to full Council for consideration as representatives of the parish/town councils and co-opted members on the District Committee for 2015-2016.

Denby Dale Parish Council, Parish Councillors Richard Brook and Maggie Blanshard.

Holme Valley Parish Council, Parish Councillors Charles Kaye, Judith Roberts and Greg Christofi.

Kirkburton Parish Council, Parish Councillors Raymond Bray and Raymond Franks.

Meltham Town Council, Parish Councillors Jean Wrathall and Paul White.

Co-opted members Colne Valley/ Golcar, Jean Margetts, Mike Moores, Robert Bamforth and Karen Armitage.

- (2) That the Committee have the portfolios of Economic Growth and Regeneration, Health and Well-Being and Place.
- (3) That the proposed criteria for the grant scheme be adopted as set out in the appendix to the report.
- (4) That the proposed dates of the committee meetings as set out on the agenda be agreed.

7 Community Safety Partnership Plan

The Committee received a presentation from Chris Walsh, Safer Kirklees Manager and Inspector Trueman which gave an overview of the Plan and its key priorities.

There had been a spike in recorded crime but the overall level of crime and anti-social behaviour was down. Road safety was a key issue. Overall satisfaction levels were high. Within the Rural area Golcar issues were a concentration of dogs, abandoned vehicles and environmental issues. In Holme Valley there were concerns about dogs and in Denby Dale/ Kirkburton performance was good overall.

The “prevent model” was seen as the way forward with front line workers picking up issues through to safe guarding. Problem solving by partners was seen as critical to that. The Neighbourhood Management Groups would evolve and District Committees would align strategically with the West Yorkshire partnership.

It was noted that a local issue is speeding and that there seemed to be a perception on Facebook that there is an increase in number of stolen dogs.

RESOLVED – That it be noted that there will be opportunity for further discussion on this in future.

8 Public Space Protection Orders

Rob Dalby, Streetscene Action Team Manager gave a presentation on the introduction of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO), as set out in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, in the Kirklees district.

The new orders were more flexible and could be applied to a much broader range of issues, with local authorities having the ability to design and implement their own prohibitions or requirements where certain conditions are met being that “the Council must be satisfied on reasonable grounds that activities carried out in a public space will have or are likely to have:”

- * A detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality.
- * Are persistent or continuing in nature.
- * Are unreasonable.
- * And justify the restrictions imposed.

The orders to be replaced were:

- * Designated Public Place Orders.
- * Dog Control Orders.
- * Gating Orders.

The new orders would be used to extend controls on street drinking to over the route of the Ale Trail as well as the existing control zones of Huddersfield town centre, Dewsbury town centre and Batley. It will allow West Yorkshire Police to respond to the identified concerns along the route of the Ale Trail.

Current dog walking control orders would be extended to include a restriction on multiple dog walking (to six dogs per walker), there would be an easier route for action on public urination and controls on nuisance caused by amplified busking.

It was noted that the offence of dog fouling is a problem everywhere with persistent offenders being tackled.

RESOLVED – That it be noted the public consultation and introduction of the orders are the next steps. The making of any future orders would be delegated to officers. This could be looked at in more depth by the Committee’s Place portfolio.

9 Changes to Kirklees Federation of Tenants and Residents Association

Maxine Edwards, Rural Field Worker at Kirklees Federation of Tenants and Residents Association gave a presentation on the recent changes by the organisation.

Following a review KFTRA was focusing on working closer with Councillors, Council priorities and the wider community. The District Committees would be able to use information from KFTRA consultations with tenants and its working groups on safer greener cleaner and housing improvements. The Rural area had a community panel. Groups were sign posting people and doing more health and well-being work locally. For example volunteers were doing a litter pick in Golcar, volunteers were visiting elderly residents in Golcar, a Breakfast Club had been set up by volunteers for elderly residents in Emley and a Youth Group on the Woods Estate, Golcar. There was also a training and development programme in place for local community volunteers.

RESOLVED – That the presentation be received and suggested that the work to support the community to do more for themselves link in with the Committee's Health and Well-being portfolio.

10 Unclassified Roads Budget

The Committee considered a report which asked it to rank a prioritised list of roads for resurfacing within the district with due consideration of their usage and the need to spend capital in accordance with good asset management principles. The list would be submitted to the cabinet to determine the Kirklees wide list.

The Local Community Roads budget and the Ward Members Schemes budget were now combined into one Unclassified Roads budget.

It was expected that the budget of £2.5 million would fund fifteen to twenty roads per annum across the entire Kirklees unclassified road network.

The report explained that the submitted priority list had been amended as a result of discussions with Councillors following a briefing session.

Martin Bowler, Head of Highways and Operations explained that this was the first time this list had been drawn up using an engineering criteria only.

A request was made for the full priority list for Kirklees to be circulated, including number of miles of unclassified roads and other roads in the district, in comparison with other districts.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the prioritised list of roads for resurfacing, attached to the report, be noted.
- (2) That the cabinet be recommended to remove the reference to parking

charge income being part of the criteria for the unclassified roads budget.

11 Committee Budget Report

Councillor Barraclough declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Agenda item 11 Committee Budget Report, East Peak Innovation Partnership Programme for the reason that he is a co-opted member of the East Peak Board, and left the meeting during consideration of the item.

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The Committee budget balances were noted applications for funding were considered.

RESOLVED – That the following applications be approved:

- (1) £2,000.00 revenue for CCTV Cameras, Colne Valley and Golcar Neighbourhood Management Group (NMG) to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime.
- (2) £1,160.00 revenue for a district wide Young People's Summit.
- (3) £2,500.00 revenue contribution to the administration costs of the East Peak Innovation Partnership Programme in 2015 -2016 (Denby Dale and Kirkburton wards).
- (4) £620.00 revenue towards a garden project involving families and young people at Ruddi's Retreat, Linthwaite.
- (5) That Helen Simpson, Community Safety Officer be thanked for her support to the NMG's.
- (6) That the underspends and returns to budget as set out in the submitted report be noted.

12 New Homes Bonus Arrangements 2015-2016

The Committee considered a report which proposed an approach for the allocation of the New Homes Bonus grant devolved to the District Committee.

Suggestions for the criteria for spend of the £150,084.00 allocation for the Kirklees Rural area were:

- (a) The funding is used to alleviate problems caused by new build.
- (b) The funding is used to support moving to New Council.
- (c) That innovation should be encouraged.

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- (d) That funding should be targeted at scheme that can demonstrate benefits across several wards.
- (e) That the allocation of funding should not commit the Council to supporting expenditure beyond the financial year.

In terms of the proposed process that:

- (a) District Committees to build on the information and community insight contained in their District Assessment to consider how this funding could support the District move towards a New Council.
- (b) District Committee members to discuss and consider the information available in order to inform how they invest this funding through commissioning. District Committees can commission public services and voluntary and community organisations, if they are able to fulfil the criteria set by Cabinet outlined above.
- (c) To ensure adequate planning for the investment of the New Homes Bonus funding can take place, it is proposed that each District Committee sets two commissioning deadlines for the funding proposals to be considered at District Committee public meetings.
- (d) It is proposed a quarterly report, summarising the use of these funds by each of the District Committee's, becomes part of the quarterly financial monitoring reports which are presented to Cabinet.

RESOLVED – That the report and the guidance on the process for the investment of New Homes Bonus funding by the District Committee be noted.

13 Golcar Township Lands Charity - Renewal of Nominations of Trustees

The Committee considered a report which asked it to consider nominations to the Golcar Township Lands Charity and appoint two trustees for a four year term of office.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Andrew Marchington and Mr Robert Iredale be appointed trustees on the charity, on behalf of the Council, for a four year term of office.

14 Public Question Time

Isaac Barnett, Youth Councillor asked a question about devolution in Kirklees. Councillors responded.

15 Dates of future meetings

Dates of future meetings were noted as below and noted that initial portfolio meeting dates will be circulated shortly:

24th September 2015

26th November 2015

25th February 2016

24th March 2016