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## **KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

### **DISTRICT COMMITTEE - HUDDERSFIELD**

**Tuesday 2nd February 2016**

Present: Councillor Naheed Mather (Chair)  
Councillors C Burke, A Cooper, J Hughes, M Khan,  
P McBride, A U Pinnock, P Scott, K Smith, M Sokhal,  
J Stewart-Turner, S Ullah, L Wilkinson and G Wilson

Apologies: K Allison, J Calvert, M Hemingway, E Hill, C Pattison and  
M Walton

In attendance: Approximately 30 members of the public

#### **1 Welcomes and Introductions**

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

The Committee agreed to accept a late urgent item from Pub is the Hub (non-profit making organisation) who are supporting the Licensee at the Sun Pub in Lepton to develop a micro library for the village as the main Council Library is due to close early March. The grant application was considered under item 11 – devolved budget report.

#### **2 Minutes of previous meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1 December 2015 were approved as a correct record.

#### **3 Interests**

Councillor Burke declared an other interest in Agenda item 11 Committee Budget Report, Lindley Community Group grant for the reason that he is the chair of the group, and left the meeting during consideration of the item.

#### **4 Admission of the public**

RESOLVED – That all items be considered in public session.

#### **5 Deputations / Petitions**

There were no deputations or petitions.

#### **6 Greenspace Service Standards**

Rob Dalby, Parks and Greenspaces Manager at Kirklees Council explained the difference between Gold, Silver, Bronze and Natural maintenance standards to be applied to parks and greenspaces in 2016/2017. Each Councillor has been consulted on the service standards from each of the seven wards and changes have

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been made accordingly. Councillor Scott identified one site in the Almondbury Ward, which was incorrect in the report which the officer agreed to address.

A number of questions were raised by the public which the Officer responded to. He emphasised that a range of groups and organisations will be engaged going forward to ensure a 'site based management approach' is adopted which takes into account the needs and aspirations for the future use and maintenance of our greenspaces with the community. He stressed the sites will be revisited in October 2016 to see if any changes need to be made.

RESOLVED - The District Committee noted the outcome of the consultation and endorsed the schedule of service standards for the district in 2016/2017.

### 7 **Police Call Handling and Crime Management**

In the absence of Sgt Andrew Lockwood – Sgt Graham Watson agreed at short notice to take the District Committee through the presentation setting out the differences between emergency, priority, standard and other responses when the Police receive calls from the public. He also explained what happens when an officer is deployed (or not) in order to ensure the public are fully aware of how all crimes are recorded and managed. Issues to be considered in categorising include; threat, harm, risk, investigation, vulnerability and engagement (THRIVE). The Crime Tasking Sergeant reviews all crimes that come in and ensures they have been recorded correctly and feed into the categorisation and response process.

A number of questions were raised by the public about the priority of responses. The Sergeant stressed emergency responses are a top priority and responded to as soon as possible, priority incidents are responded to within the hour.

RESOLVED – The Chair thanked Sgt Watson for his presentation and welcomed further updates from the Police on how the new procedures are working.

### 8 **Huddersfield Town Centre**

Andrew Jackson from Investment and Regeneration, Kirklees Council gave an update on key developments in the town centre. He gave an overview of the different levels of intervention and connections between Leeds City Region, Kirklees and the District Committee including the seven wards in which it serves and outlined the key strategic priorities for stimulating growth. Councillor Cooper asked how the District Committee will be involved in the future shaping of the town given Dewsbury District Committee appears to have more involvement in shaping their town. He went on to ask if Huddersfield District Committee will be engaged as a key driving body or a consultative one. Councillor McBride responded by stating the Huddersfield District Committee will be a consultative body only.

Councillor McBride also contributed by explaining how the priorities for Huddersfield are fed into the Combined Authority and the Leeds City Region.

RESOLVED - The Chair encouraged the public to contribute their views on 'what's good' about the town and informed the District Committee that a workshop will be arranged for the Huddersfield District Committee Members to enable further

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discussions to take place on the future visioning for the town and the role of the District Committee going forward.

### 9 **Estate and Environmental Works Budget ( Housing Revenue Account)**

Lisa White from Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing provided an update on progress following the recent Huddersfield Special Area Forum held on the 14 December 2015 where tenants and residents and Elected Members took part in a consultation and voting exercise on bids submitted for funding from the Estates and Environmental Works Budget.

RESOLVED - Members considered the report and approved funding for the schemes as voted on and prioritised by the Forum on the 14 December. Councillor Pinnock requested that the Stutely Grove Fencing Scheme in the Ashbrow ward be removed from the schedule of works in order to enable the funding to be used to upgrade the Farfield Road Fencing Scheme from wooden to metal in the Almondbury Ward. The Committee agreed this change to the list of schemes coming forward for approval.

### 10 **Pub in the hub (not for profit organisation)**

Trisha Hughes from 'Pub is the Hub' (a not for profit making organisation initiated through HRH the Prince of Wales in 2001) gave an informative presentation on the organisations aims and activities. The hubs experienced advisors help pubs across the country by encouraging the provision of viable local services eg micro libraries, cafés, post offices, cinemas, shops, computer training. The organisation has been asked to work with the Licensee from the Sun Pub in Lepton to establish a mirco library given the Council's library service in the village is closing in March 2016. The project has received a wide range of support from; local residents, the Council's library service, Parish Council, local Councillors and local community groups and organisations.

Councillor Scott asked if children and young people can access provision established in pubs which Trisha and the Licensee from the Sun Pub in Lepton responded to and provided reassurance that all issues of access, safe guarding and risk assessments are built into the process.

RESOLVED – The Chair thanked Trisha Hughes for the presentation and welcomed further updates if more establishments across the District take up the 'pub is the hub' model.

### 11 **Committee Budget Report**

Councillor Burke declared an other interest in Agenda item 11 Committee Budget Report, Lindley Community Group grant for the reason that he is the chair of the group, and left the meeting during consideration of the item.

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

The Committee noted the following:

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Fast Track commission – Ashbrow Ward – venue hire for the Ashbrow and Bradley Forum Meetings for 2016 - £1,000 revenue

Discretionary Grant – Ashbrow Ward – Whitehead Homes for environmental improvements - £100 revenue

Discretionary Grant – Ashbrow Ward – Chestnut Family Forum for an adult training course at Northern College - £500 revenue

Discretionary Grant – Lindley Ward – Cliffities Amateur Dramatic Group for a BSL interpreter - £200 revenue

RESOLVED – That the following applications be approved:

- (1) Late Urgent Item - £3,829.20 revenue grant – Pub is the Hub – Lepton Sun Pub - development of a micro library – Almondbury Ward. Councillor Wilkinson asked that it be noted she had not been consulted on this proposal and abstained from voting.
- (2) £5,200 – revenue grant to Lindley Community Group to host the 2016 Carnival and community 10k run – Lindley Ward. Councillor Wilson asked the secretary of the group, if they would welcome additional help in the planning and running the events. He emphasised that support from all ward councillors would be welcomed along with any other offers of help from local volunteers.
- (3) £28,000 – New Homes Bonus – Weatherhill Road Footway Development – Lindley Ward
- (4) £2,500 – New Homes Bonus – Kirklees Dementia Action Alliance – Raise awareness of dementia and create dementia friendly places across the district.
- (5) £52,000.00 – Capital – Streetscene Improvements to Woburn Drive – Waterloo and The Paddock – Kirkheaton – Dalton Ward

### 12 Public Question Time

Three questions were asked by the public:

What happens with the Japanese Knotweed, which has been untreated on/by Thewliss Lane Open Space – has the Council a responsibility to address this problem? Can the issue be investigated as soon as possible?

What is the Council doing about the increasing problem of vegetation growing over paths and roads around our public open spaces – what is the Council's position on maintaining these public areas and responding to issues raised by the public, particularly when signage is being affected?

Who built the lift in the Packhorse Centre – there are problems with closing the lift doors – can this be resolved?

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RESOLVED - The Chair asked that the questions be referred onto the relevant team in the Council and the Manager of the Packhorse Centre to respond directly to the residents.

### **13 Dates of future meetings**

RESOLVED - the last public meeting of this municipal year will be on 22 March, 7pm at Huddersfield Town Hall – everyone welcome.