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## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### DISTRICT COMMITTEE - BATLEY AND SPEN

**Thursday 17th November 2016**

Present: Councillor Gwen Lowe (Chair)  
Councillors M Grainger-Mead, L Holmes, V Kendrick, R Light, S Pandor, K Pinnock, D Sheard, E Smaje and A Stubley

Apologies: M Akhtar, F Fadia, D Hall, S Hall, J Lawson, M O'Neill, A Palfreeman and A Pinnock

In attendance: Approximately 28 members of the public

**1 Welcomes and Introductions**

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

**2 Minutes of previous meeting**

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23 August 2016 be approved as a correct record.

**3 Interests**

Councillor Lowe declared a pecuniary interest in item 7 as an employee of Mid Yorkshire NHS Hospitals Trust.

Councillor Lowe declared an 'other' interest in item 8 as a family member was employed by Kirklees Active Leisure.

Councillor Smaje declared a pecuniary interest in item 11 as a board member of Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing.

**4 Admission of the public**

All items were considered in public.

It was agreed that Dementia Friends training to be brought forward on the agenda.

**5 Deputations / Petitions**

There were no deputations or petitions.

**6 Public Question Time**

Members responded to questions relating to the closure of three museums and justification for building a new one; timescale on repairs to Spennings pool and replacement of sports facilities; the rationale for withdrawing acceptance of plasterboard at Kirkstall tips and arrangements for disposal; and the rationale for withdrawing Freephones at Cleckheaton and Birstall Libraries.

**RESOLVED:** That the latter two questions be referred to services for a further response – what was the rationale for withdrawing acceptance of plasterboard at Kirkstall tips and what were the arrangements for people to dispose of plasterboard, and what was the rationale for withdrawing Freephones at Cleckheaton and Birstall Libraries.

**7 Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust Changes to Maternity and Children's Services**

Councillor Lowe declared a pecuniary interest in item 7 as an employee of Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust, vacated the chair and left the meeting.

The District Committee received an information update on the changes to Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust Maternity and Children's Services, since implementation in September 2016.

Centralisation took place on 19 September affecting three hospital sites - Dewsbury, Pinderfields and Pontefract. There were now two new birth centres, plus the existing birth centre at Pinderfields. Choices of birth place were offered to women with dedicated midwifery support. It is made clear where women were to report to and so far the arrangements have worked well with women attending appropriately.

High risk births were at Pinderfields Hospital. Local care pre-birth was still offered at Dewsbury District Hospital and low risk births were at Dewsbury District Hospital. All women still have access to local community midwife services.

Representatives responded to questions confirming that the processes were good in relation to transfers and midwives were very good at identifying where transfers were needed. There was constant triage and midwives were fully trained to handle emergency situations.

There was a nineteen bed base for labouring mothers. There was also a dedicated area for recovering mothers following elective caesarean section, with specialist care, enhancing recovery to enable mothers to return home quickly and within 24 hours. This was new following the centralisation of services and beneficial to mothers who would have previously been dealt with alongside emergency work.

Since opening, communication had been effective. Mothers were advised where to attend on booking. There had been no incidents or inappropriate admissions whereby mothers turn up elsewhere to the planned site. There have been around 445 admissions since the centralisation of services. Further updates would be through the usual channels but representatives were happy to return at a later date upon invitation.

**RESOLVED:** Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust representatives were thanked for their attendance and update.

**8 Updates from Kirklees Sports and Physical Activity Team and Kirklees Active Leisure**

Councillor Lowe declared an `other` interest in item 8 as a family member was employed by Kirklees Active Leisure, and vacated the Chair.

The Committee received an overview from Alasdair Brown, Chief Executive of Kirklees Active Leisure. Kirklees Active Leisure formed in 2002 and had a twenty year agreement to provide services. There are between 1.5 and 3 million customer visits and customer satisfaction levels were high. There were 13 leisure sites across the district.

The range of opportunities relating to sports and physical activity, delivered through Kirklees Sports and Physical Development Activity Team, were outlined including training opportunities, funding guidance to organisations, and targeted interventions.

The Sports and Physical Development Team have a strategy and partnership role and offered support to voluntary and community clubs. The training offer included leader training in: walks, jogging, coaching, Shall We Dance, Circle Dance, and Moving More Often. There were targeted interventions to help reduce health inequalities for example, programmes such as PALS (proactive activity leisure scheme) to assist people with long term conditions such as pain, stroke, heart disease or depression and anxiety. Other adult referral schemes included Active for Life, and Steps for Life. In Batley and Spen there were 321 health walk routes, and junior and adult park runs at Oakwell Hall. Juliet gave statistical information relating to engagement and outcomes such as some participants having been enabled to reduce medication, feel more positive, and having reported reduced medical symptoms and better social skills.

**RESOLVED:** Alasdair Brown and Juliet Jackson were thanked for their attendance and update.

**9 Committee Budget Report**

An overview of the District Committee budgets were given and the Committee considered grant applications and proposals for expenditure.

**RESOLVED:**

**Underspends to be returned to the Revenue Budget 2016–2017:**

- (i) £16.94 Spen Valley – Spen Bottoms  
(£2,317.00 revenue approved 29.01.2013)
- (ii) £30.75 Spen Valley – Cleckheaton Mapboard  
(£818 revenue approved 19.03.2015)

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- (iii) £50.00 Birstall and Birkenshaw – Remembrance Day Parade 2015  
(£575 revenue approved 11.11.2014)
- (iv) £590.17 Spen Valley – Cleckheaton Folk Festival  
(£12,000 revenue approved 08.09.2016)
- (v) £1,426.83 Spen Valley – Crown of Lights Free Music Festival  
(£14,390.00 revenue approved 15.03.2016)
- (vi) £150.00 Spen Valley – Return to Budget – Royal British Legion, Cleckheaton  
Remembrance Day Parade  
(£150 revenue approved 29.01.2013)
- (vii) £76.80 Spen Valley – Blanket Hall Street Stalls  
(£461 revenue approved 15.03.2016)

### **Revenue Approved:**

- (i) £375.00 - Birkenshaw and East Bierley Remembrance Day Parades 2017
- (ii) £2,820.00 - Birstall, Birkenshaw, East Bierley Town and Village Hanging  
Baskets 2017
- (iii) £370.00 - Birstall and Birkenshaw Garden Competition 2017
- (iv) £9,078.00 – Batley Vintage Day 2017 (Batley East and Batley West)

### **New Homes Bonus Funding Approved:**

- (i) £20,000.00 – Wilton Park Footpath Improvements

## **10 Dementia Friends Training**

To support the development of dementia friendly communities, Dementia Friends training was delivered by Adrian Ellwood on behalf of Kirklees Dementia Action Alliance.

Dementia is now understood to be one of the biggest underlying causes of death. The training session, to support the creation of dementia friendly communities across the district, covered key messages in relation to dementia:

- (i) Dementia is not a natural part of ageing
- (ii) Dementia is caused by diseases of the brain
- (iii) Dementia is not just about losing your memory – it can affect thinking, communicating and doing everyday tasks
- (iv) It's possible to live well with dementia
- (v) There is more to the person than the disease

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Adrian explained memory loss and loss of recognition retention of emotional memory where people cannot remember the details but remember how a person or activity made them feel.

An exercise demonstrated how every person with dementia was affected in different ways and would have different abilities.

Attendees became Dementia Friends.

**RESOLVED:** Adrian Ellwood was thanked for his attendance and delivery of the training session. New Dementia Friends were to make a pledge, and to complete and return the cards left by Adrian.

- 11 Housing Revenue Account - Estate and Environmental Works Budget**  
Councillor Smaje declared a pecuniary interest in item 11 as a board member of Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing.

Noreen Beck, Neighbourhood Operations Manager, Neighbourhood Housing presented estate and environmental works budget proposals for District Committee consideration.

**RESOLVED:**

£241,167 - approved for a range of schemes prioritised by the Tenant Forum. Schemes are described in Appendix 1 of the Committee Report (highlighted in green) and related to the following locations:

11 Brooklyn Court and 12-22 Brooklyn Court, 1-21 Brooklyn Drive, Brooklyn Estate, Chinewood Avenue (area outside number 71), Carr Street Flats, 38 and 56-64 Norristhorpe Avenue, 2-96 Chinewood Avenue, Church Grange, 2-16a Cardigan Close and 2-16a Howley Walk, 1-3 Laurel Grove, Old Popplewell Lane, Cardigan Close/West Street, Heathcliffe Close, Oxford Grange, Turnsteads Drive, The Square Fairview Avenue.

**RESOLVED:** Noreen Beck was thanked for her attendance.

- 12 Nominations to Outside Bodies**

**RESOLVED** – That Joanne Alvy be re-appointed to the Governing Body of Holly Bank Trust.

- 13 Dates of future meetings**

Future Meetings to be held on Tuesday 7 February 2017 and Thursday 16 March 2017.