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KIRKLEES COUNCIL

DISTRICT COMMITTEE - HUDDERSFIELD

Tuesday 22nd March 2016

Present: Councillor Naheed Mather (Chair)
Councillors K Allison, C Burke, J Calvert, A Cooper,
J Hughes, M Khan, P McBride, C Pattison, P Scott,
M Sokhal, S Ullah, L Wilkinson and G Wilson

Apologies: M Hemingway, A U Pinnock, K Smith, J Stewart-Turner
and M Walton

In attendance:

1 Welcomes and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone and introduced members of the Committee to the public.

The Committee agreed to accept a late urgent item from Investment and Regeneration Service for consideration of the Feed in Tariff from the Solar Panels fitted at Stirley Farm. The report was considered under item 8 – devolved budget report.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 2 February 2016 were approved as a correct record.

3 Interests

Councillor Scott declared an other interest in Agenda item 8, Committee Budget Report, grant application from Kirkburton Parish Council for the reason hi is a Parish Councillor on Kirkburton Parish Council 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 Young People's Summit

Michelle Ross and Isaac Barnett, on behalf of the Youth Council provided feedback from the Young People's Summit held on the 24 November 2015. Michelle explained that the District Youth Summit's key aims were:

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- To bring young people and ward councillors together to talk about their local communities;
- For councillors to leave the event with a better understanding of young people's issues and;
- To encourage councillors and young people to select some of the young people's ideas to consider turning them into workable projects.

Four key themes were highlighted which young people valued, these were:

- Parks and open spaces
- Shops
- Leisure facilities – eg sports centre
- Community spirit

Four key issues were raised which the young people felt needed further action, these were:

- Environment – litter, dog dirt
- Transport – access
- Anti-social behaviour
- Leisure facilities – promoting more clearly to young people what's on and when

A number of questions were raised about the summit results and how young people would want to engage further with local councillors (in and outside of school setting).

RESOLVED – That the Huddersfield Youth Councillors and the District Committee would continue to work together to better understand the issues raised by young people in the district and identify joint opportunities to help tackle them.

7 **Huddersfield University Student's Union**

Lydia Blundell from the Huddersfield University Students Union provided an update for the Committee on the student unions top priorities. Lydia explained that the Student's Union is an established charity with charitable aims which represent the voice of the students. She emphasised that the organisation supports over 20,000 students aged between 18-80 with over 60% either owning their own homes, renting or living with parents locally.

Lydia explained that the top priorities for the students relate to:

- Finances
- Transport – eg accessing public transport and availability of affordable local car parking
- Housing
- Health care
- Employment
- Leisure facilities throughout the day and evening
- Personal safety
- Mental health

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A number of questions were raised particularly linked to housing. Lydia agreed to share the National Student Housing Survey data which has just been completed.

RESOLVED – That the Student Union representatives and the District Committee Members agreed to identify opportunities to work more closely to together to better understand what matters to Huddersfield students.

8 Committee Budget Report

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

Councillor Scott declared an other interest in the grant application from Kirkburton Parish Council for the reason he is a Parish Councillor on Kirkburton Parish Council and left the meeting during consideration of the item.

The Committed noted the following:

Lindley Ward - Discretionary Grant of £500 revenue to Salendine Nook TRA to purchase equipment to enable the community to access the free wifi facilities Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing have installed in the community building.

Dalton Ward – Discretionary Grant of £75 revenue to Moldgreen 20-40 Group to produce 1000 leaflets which advertise Friends of Tolson local events.

All 7 Wards - £250 revenue fast track commission to the Mayors Office for a contribution towards a public celebration event for Her Majesty the Queens 90th Birthday planned in Huddersfield and Dewsbury on 10th June.

Return to Budget – following a financial monitoring exercise capital funding will be returned to the Huddersfield District Committee Budget of £33,431.15.

RESOLVED – That the following projects not be funded:

- (1) £232 – grant – Almondbury Ward – Kirburton Parish Council – contribution towards the hanging baskets for the Lepton Village given the recent price increases from £40 per basket to £60 per basket.
- (2) £4,560 – revenue – Almondbury, Crosland Moor and Netherton, Lindley Wards – for the provision of village florals / hanging baskets for 2016

The majority of Committee members present voted against funding florals with District Committee monies.

RESOLVED – That the following projects be funded:

- (1) £6,015 grant – Dalton Ward – DRAM Community Football Club to help enhance their existing sporting facilities by improving the football and rugby pitch at the DRAM Centre.

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- (2) £3,500 grant – Newsome Ward – Worth Unlimited to help deliver a number of children, young people and family activities in the Lowerhouses area.
- (3) £2,000 revenue – Newsome Ward – towards improvements to a planting scheme at Water Street, Lockwood.
- (4) £1,463 revenue – Newsome Ward – towards a resurfacing public footpath scheme between Salford and Close Hill.
- (5) £6,000 revenue - Newsome and Crosland Moor & Netherton Wards – towards the development of a natural play space at Rashcliffe Hill Road Recreation Ground.
- (6) £2,500 revenue – Lindley Ward – funding to continue provision of a police and community room at Salendine Nook Shopping Centre.
- (7) £31,537 capital – Newsome Ward - towards a resurfacing public footpath scheme between Salford and Close Hill.
- (8) £30,500 capital – Newsome Ward – for a traffic calming scheme on Jackroyd Lane and High Lane.
- (9) Late Urgent Item – Newsome Ward – Feed In Tariff Income from the Solar Panels fitted at Stirley Farm from New Homes Bonus monies – **RESOLVED** - That an up-front discounted lump sum, as detailed in the report be transferred from the Council to Newsome Ward Community Forum. The Council will require the Forum to enter into a grant award agreement that requires the organisation to provide monitoring information against terms and conditions including grant award expenditure.
- (10) £6,000 New Homes Bonus – towards the development and delivery of a number of walking, running and cycling events in the summer across Huddersfield followed by a festival in September. A number of questions were raised by Councillors on how the events will target local people from the district particularly sedentary residents living on low incomes and how local activities in neighbourhoods will be enhanced to take into account what is already taking place across the wards. The Officer responded and agreed to regularly report back on developments to ensure Members are kept informed at each stage.

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- (11) £100,000 – New Homes Bonus – towards a pilot scheme ‘sponsor an apprenticeship’ which will support up to 14 young people over a 2 year period (2016/18) going into level 2 apprenticeship opportunities with up to 6 young people (minimum) entering level 4 opportunities. A number of questions were raised by Councillors about how employers and local people will be engaged, how the pilot will add value to existing provision and how financial support to small to medium size companies will be managed to ensure activity is not displaced. The Officer responded and agreed to report back on key developments with apprenticeships envisaged to start in September 2016.

9 Public Question Time

One question was asked by a member of the public:

Concerns were raised over the recent Huddersfield Examiner press article stating that Tolson Museum is going to be closed by the Council due to the amount of investment needed to renovate it. Can the Council reconsider this decision given its part of our local heritage and is a well used and valued building in the local community.

The Chair, Councillor Mather and Cabinet Member, Councillor McBride responded by acknowledging the residents’ concerns and stated that the Council has not yet made a decision and a range of options are currently being explored along with relevant risk assessments, it is expected that the council will aim to make a decision on its future sometime in the summer.

10 Dates of future meetings

Dates of future 2016/17 meetings have yet to be determined.