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KIRKLEES COUNCIL

DISTRICT COMMITTEE - KIRKLEES RURAL

Thursday 20th April 2017

Present: Councillor Michael Watson (Chair)
Councillors B Armer, D Bellamy, C Greaves, C Iredale,
A Marchington, N Patrick, H Richards, N Turner and R Walker

Co-optees:

Parish Council Representatives:

Apologies: D Firth, K Sims, Smith, J Taylor, G Turner, Armitage (Co-Optee),
Brook (Co-Optee) and Moores (Co-Optee)

In attendance: Approximately 38 members of public

1 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and Committee members introduced themselves.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 25th February 2017 be approved as a correct record.

3 Interests

Cllr Marchington declared an Other Interest in Agenda item 9(6) grant application by Golcar Providence Methodist Church as a member of the church and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

Cllr Armer declared an Other Interest in Agenda item 9(9) grant application by Shelley Community Association as a regular attendee of meetings and remained in the meeting.

Cllr Iredale declared an Other Interest in Agenda item 9(8) grant application by Kirklees Dementia Alliance, as it is the Mayor's Charity in 2017-18 and remained in the meeting.

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Cllr Walker declared an Other Interest in Agenda item 9(11) Marsden Disability Crossings due to involvement in the Colne Valley Disability Group and remained in the meeting.

Cllr Bellamy declared an Other Interest, and remained in the meeting, re Agenda item 9(10) grant application by Friends of Honley Community Library as Chair of the Holme Valley Parish Council Asset Safeguarding Committee, to which an application has been made.

4 Admission of the public

It was agreed that all items be discussed in public session.

5 Deputations / Petitions

There were no deputations or petitions.

6 Kirklees Rural Neighbourhood Police Team

Inspector Mark Trueman gave an update on crime statistics for the Kirklees Rural area.

There had been 15 burglary offences and 25 thefts from motor vehicles in the last 6 weeks. People are advised to lock their doors as soon as they get home and not to leave Sat Navs on display in cars. Cyber-crime is on the increase with 5,000 crimes reported in West Yorkshire. "Block the web monsters" software can be down loaded from the West Yorkshire Police website.

Members of the local Farm Watch group expressed concerns that West Yorkshire Police and South Yorkshire Police are not responding to burglary and theft at local farms. Attempted or actual incidents have taken place every night for the past week.

Concerns were raised about drug supply and use in the Highburton and Kirkburton area, which was taking place on a nightly basis.

Inspector Trueman undertook to respond to concerns raised by local farmers about burglary and theft and to the drug supply issues.

RESOLVED –

That Inspector Trueman be thanked for the update on crime statistics and the committee wish him well in his new role.

7 Community Safety Partnership

Chris Walsh, Safer Kirklees Manager gave an update on the work of the Community Safety Partnership; an overview of the Plan, priorities and approach in Kirklees.

The key priorities of the Partnership, working with partners and communities, were to improve public confidence and satisfaction, to reduce crime, to tackle anti-social behaviour and to protect people from serious harm.

The approach involved –

Prevention work, community engagement and education,

Early resolution work, front line partnership staff picking up issues for example Housing staff could pick up that a damaged wall is a sign of underlying issues like domestic violence),

Partnership problem solving by staff at district level to pick up underlying issues and

Specialist support workers dealing with high risk, intensive cases.

RESOLVED –

That Chris Walsh be thanked for his presentation.

8 Community Projects

The committee received feedback from the following funded projects –

Milnsbridge Enhancement Group, Milnsbridge Steps
Sparth Reservoir Signage
Denby Dale Community Library
Honley Cricket Club, new pavilion
Honley Community Arts Project

RESOLVED –

That groups be thanked for their feedback.

9 District Committee Budgets

(Cllr Marchington declared an Other Interest in Agenda item 9(6) grant application by Golcar Providence Methodist Church as a member of the church and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

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The Committee considered a number of proposals for funding: -

RESOLVED –

(1) That the following decisions be noted –

- (a) £200 revenue approved 29/03/17 for publicity costs of Holmfirth Volunteering Fair (Holme Valley South)
- (b) Variation agreed 28/03/17 to £12,000 revenue grant to Slaithwaite Civic Hall; £4k set aside for decoration costs approved for launch costs from 1st April 17 (Colne Valley)
- (c) £200 underspend returned to committee budget re white lining at Litherup Lane, Clayton West (Denby Dale)

(2) That funding be approved as follows –

- (a) £300 revenue grant to Golcar Just Sing Choir for new music (Golcar)
- (b) £1,000 10% New Homes Bonus grant to Honley Business Association towards the cost of Honley Feast in September 2017 (Holme Valley North)
- (c) £957 revenue grant to Brass Factor towards the cost of staging the 2017 brass band competition in October 2017 at Holmfirth Picturedrome (Holme Valley South) subject to the group registering with the Kirklees Grant Access Point
- (d) £1,240 revenue grant to Milnsbridge Enhancement Group towards hanging baskets Summer 2017 (Golcar)
- (e) £1,320 10% New Homes Bonus to commission First Impressions to supply and maintain hanging baskets Summer 2017 (Holme Valley North/ Holme Valley South)

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- (f) £3,169 capital grant to Golcar Providence Methodist Church towards electrical rewiring subject to the group registering with the Kirklees Grant Access Point (Golcar)
- (g) £4,000 revenue grant to River 2015 (River Holme Connections) towards improvement of the river bank and creation of a duck feeding area at Crown Bottom, Holmfirth subject to the group registering with the Kirklees Grant Access Point (Holme Valley South)
- (h) £5,000 10% New Homes Bonus grant to Kirklees Dementia Action Alliance to co-ordinate and deliver a Dementia Friendly Community event and community capacity building work in the Kirklees Rural District (all 6 wards)
- (i) £5,390 part revenue/ part 10% New Homes Bonus grant to Shelley Community Association towards toilet refurbishment at Shelley Village Hall (Kirkburton)
- (j) £15,000 New Homes Bonus grant to Friends of Honley Library subject to the formal submission and acceptance of the Expression of Interest for the Community Asset Transfer of Honley Library and clarification as to future viable provision of a library service from the building (Holme Valley North) (Cllr Bellamy requested that her abstention from voting be recorded in the minutes)
- (k) £6,000 capital towards the construction of 8 sets of disabled crossing facilities in Marsden Village Centre (Colne Valley)
- (l) £14,000 revenue for the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device (SID) and 8 moves in the Holme Valley South Ward.

10 Public Question Time

The following questions were asked by members of the public and Councillors responded.

- A local resident asked whether the new Speed Indicator Device could be used at the junction of Huddersfield Road with Penistone Road. Cllr Patrick agreed to note it as a possible location.
- A local resident asked whether the new Speed Indicator Device could be used at Hade Edge as the average speed limit through the village is 55 mph. Cllr Patrick agreed to note it as a possible location.
- A local resident asked, in these stringent times what plans and strategies will councillors be supporting to help the input of voluntary and community groups?

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Councillors responded with information on the policy setting role of the full Council meeting (residents could attend), on the work of the Policy Committee for example the asset transfer policy which has input from the Third Sector Leaders, work of strategic partnerships in Kirklees, the Comoodle initiative and support/ pump priming of community groups by the district committee and former area committees.

11 Dates of future meetings

It was noted that no dates have yet been arranged for the 2017-18 municipal year.