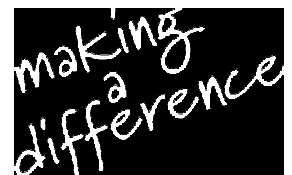


Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 23rd July,
2013
7.00 pm

Committee Room Two
Town Hall
Redditch



www.redditchbc.gov.uk

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- Unless otherwise stated, all items of business before the Executive Committee are Key Decisions.
- (Copies of Agenda Lists are published in advance of the meetings on the Council’s Website:
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**If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact
Jess Bayley and Michael Craggs
Democratic Services Officers**

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e.mail: jess.bayley@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk /
michael.craggs@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk**

Welcome to today's meeting.

Guidance for the Public

Agenda Papers

The **Agenda List** at the front of the Agenda summarises the issues to be discussed and is followed by the Officers' full supporting **Reports**.

Chair

The Chair is responsible for the proper conduct of the meeting. Generally to one side of the Chair is the Committee Support Officer who gives advice on the proper conduct of the meeting and ensures that the debate and the decisions are properly recorded. On the Chair's other side are the relevant Council Officers. The Councillors ("Members") of the Committee occupy the remaining seats around the table.

Running Order

Items will normally be taken in the order printed but, in particular circumstances, the Chair may agree to vary the order.

Refreshments : tea, coffee and water are normally available at meetings - please serve yourself.

Decisions

Decisions at the meeting will be taken by the **Councillors** who are the democratically elected representatives. They are advised by **Officers** who are paid professionals and do not have a vote.

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The emergency Assembly Area is on Walter Stranz Square.



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 23rd July, 2013

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs: David Bush (Chair) Carole Gandy
Gay Hopkins (Vice-Chair) Alan Mason
Andrew Brazier Yvonne Smith
Simon Chalk Pat Witherspoon
Andrew Fry

1. Apologies and named substitutes	To receive apologies for absence and details of any Councillor (or co-optee substitute) nominated to attend this meeting in place of a member of this Committee.
2. Declarations of interest and of Party Whip	To invite Councillors to declare any interest they may have in items on the Agenda and any Party Whip.
3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 24)	To confirm the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as a correct record. (Minutes attached) (No Specific Ward Relevance)
4. Local Strategic Partnership - Monitoring Update Report (Pages 25 - 36) H Broughton, Redditch Partnership Manager	To consider the latest monitoring update report regarding the work of the Redditch Local Strategic Partnership. (Report attached) All Wards
5. Promoting Sporting Participation - Monitoring Update Report J Godwin, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services	To consider an update on the action that has been taken to implement recommendations made by the Promoting Sporting Participation Task Group in May 2012. (Report to follow) All Wards

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<p>6. Task Group Reviews - Draft Scoping Documents Councillor Derek Taylor</p>	<p>To consider any scoping documents provided for possible Overview and Scrutiny review.</p> <p>The following scoping documents are due to be submitted for Members' consideration:</p> <p>a) Abbey Stadium – submitted by Councillor Derek Taylor. (No reports attached) (Abbey Ward)</p>
<p>7. Executive Committee Minutes and Scrutiny of the Executive Committee's Work Programme (Pages 37 - 42)</p>	<p>To consider the minutes of the latest meeting(s) of the Executive Committee and also to consider whether any items on the Executive Committee's Work Programme are suitable for scrutiny. (Minutes attached and Executive Work Programme to follow). (No Specific Ward Relevance)</p>
<p>8. Work Programme (Pages 43 - 46)</p>	<p>To consider the Committee's current Work Programme, and potential items for addition to the list arising from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Forward Plan / Committee agendas• External publications• Other sources. <p>(Report attached) (No Specific Ward Relevance)</p>
<p>9. Task Groups - Progress Reports Councillor Alan Mason</p>	<p>To consider progress to date on the current reviews against the terms set by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>The current reviews in progress are:</p> <p>a) Joint Worcestershire Regulatory Services – Redditch representative, Councillor Mason (Oral report) All Wards</p>
<p>10. Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Councillor Pat Witherspoon</p>	<p>To receive a verbal update on the recent work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. (Verbal report) All Wards</p>

11. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Borough Director, during the course of the meeting to consider excluding the public from the meeting on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged, it may be necessary to move the following resolution:

“That, under S.100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matter(s) on the grounds that it/they involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs (to be specified) of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the said Act”.

These paragraphs are as follows:

Subject to the “public interest” test, information relating to:

- Para 1 – any individual;
- Para 2 – the identity of any individual;
- Para 3 – financial or business affairs;
- Para 4 – labour relations matters;
- Para 5 – legal professional privilege;
- Para 6 – a notice, order or direction;
- Para 7 – the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime;

and may need to be considered as ‘exempt’.



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 2nd July, 2013

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor David Bush (Chair), and Councillors Roger Bennett (substituting for Councillor Gay Hopkins), Andrew Brazier, Simon Chalk, Carole Gandy, Andrew Fry, Alan Mason, Yvonne Smith.

Also Present:

P Finnemore, Commissioning Manager: Young People, (Worcestershire County Council)

Officers:

R Cooke, C Felton and J Staniland

Democratic Services Officers:

J Bayley and M Craggs

12. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Hopkins and Witherspoon. Councillor Bennett was confirmed as a substitute for Councillor Hopkins.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest nor of any Party Whip.

14. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 4th June 2013 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

15. YOUTH SERVICES MONITORING UPDATE REPORT

The Committee received an update on the action that had been taken by both Worcestershire County Council and Redditch

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Chair

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Borough Council to implement the recommendations that were made by the Youth Services Provision Task Group in April 2012. As part of this update a presentation was delivered on the subject of Worcestershire County Council's arrangements for commissioning positive activities (Appendix A).

During the course of delivering this presentation the following salient points were highlighted for Members' consideration:

- Worcestershire County Council had adopted an outcomes based commissioning approach to delivering positive activities to young people in November 2011.
- The focus of this programme was on delivering positive activities to young people aged 13 – 19 and, in particular, on helping young people at risk of becoming NEETs (those not in education, employment or training) or of committing anti-social behaviour.
- Worcestershire County Council had committed to maintaining existing youth services until the commissioned activities had started in order to ensure that there was a smooth transition to the new process.
- Across the county 25 contracts had been issued to different service providers. In each district contracts had been awarded by the County Councillors representing the area.
- In Redditch two consortiums had been commissioned: the Arrow Vale Consortium and a consortium led by the shared Leisure service for Redditch Borough and Bromsgrove District Councils. A third group, Core Assets, had been commissioned to undertake specific projects that would target young people at risk of becoming NEETs.
- There had been a phased approach to the introduction of positive activities commissioned from the consortia.
- The consortia were expected to achieve particular outcomes that would have a long-term beneficial impact on the life prospects of the young people participating in the activities as well as on local communities. The extent to which these long-term aims were achieved would be monitored rather than short-term outcomes.
- The Commissioning Manager would be involved in monitoring the work of the consortia, though County Councillors and young people would also have a significant role to play in monitoring the delivery of activities.
- The extent to which young people were engaged, together with any outstanding requirements for support, would be taken into account whenever activities were monitored. Quarterly data would be provided to ensure that monitoring remained effective.

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- This quarterly data would over time enable Worcestershire County Council to assess how NEETS and young people at risk of committing anti-social behaviour were engaged in positive activities.
- The Arrow Vale Youth Centre had been transferred by Worcestershire County Council to the RSA Academy Arrow Vale for school and community use. All young people, not just pupils at the school, were entitled to access this facility.
- Redditch Youth House was due to be disposed of by Worcestershire County Council's Property Services team. Two organisations had expressed an interest in the building and one body had submitted a bid. A decision on the successful bidder would be made on 26th August 2013.

Further information was also provided about the work of the Council-led Consortium, focusing on the following key points:

- The Council was working with a range of local Voluntary and Community Sector organisations.
- The Council's role in the consortium was to submit the bid to Worcestershire County Council. The Voluntary and Community Sector groups had taken a lead in delivering positive activities to young people.
- Nine new youth clubs had been established by the consortium using funding provided through the commissioning process.
- The consortia that had been awarded funding were working closely together, using the same software and sharing information about young people at risk of becoming NEETs.
- This close working relationship helped to ensure that activities provided by one consortium did not duplicate the work of another. Members were advised that both consortia were also keen to avoid duplicating the work of other Voluntary Sector and Community Sector organisations that had not applied for funding from Worcestershire County Council.
- The youth clubs were aiming to change the programme of activities available to young people to reflect opportunities in different seasons of the year.
- The Council-led consortium had consulted with representatives of North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership. As a consequence of this meeting a mechanism had been identified to enable the partnership to refer young people committing, or at risk of committing anti-social behaviour to the consortia.
- The Council had envisaged that transportation would be a barrier to participation. However, young people had managed to access the clubs relatively easily.

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Following receipt of the presentations Members discussed the commissioning process in further detail. Concerns were expressed about the geographical spread of positive activities across the Borough. In particular, Member noted youth clubs had not been established in areas such as Crabbs Cross, Headless Cross, Hunt End and Webheath. It was suggested that there remained a risk that some young people living in these areas would commit anti-social behaviour or become NEETs.

Members were advised that, in a context of reduced resources, the County Councillors had been required to concentrate on prioritising commissioning positive activities that would meet the greatest need. The activities that had emerged had been considered best able to achieve this purpose at the time that the County Councillors had reached a decision on the process. However, if further data emerged to indicate that there was particular need in other parts of the Borough there was flexibility within the contracts awarded to both consortia to ensure that activities could be redirected accordingly.

The suitability of outreach work for engaging with young people at risk of committing anti-social behaviour was considered. The North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership had suggested that outreach work would better enable youth groups to engage with young people at risk of offending. However, outreach work had not been commissioned specifically. There was the potential to introduce outreach work; though it was likely that resources would need to be diverted from existing activities which could lead to the end of some practices.

There was the potential for the consortia that had been awarded contracts to fail to meet target outcomes. Worcestershire County Council had retained the right to decommission service provision by the consortia if this occurred. However, the Council was eager to support the consortia and to help to identify solutions to problems before they became intractable.

Intergenerational projects were due to be provided in some parts of the town as part of the process. The exact nature of these projects remained to be confirmed, though it was likely that it would include activities such as lunch clubs.

A variety of methods had been utilised to promote the positive activities. All of the Youth Clubs in the Council-led consortiums used social media to communicate with young people. The council-led consortium would also be promoting youth activities during the Morton Stanley Festival in August 2013. In the long-term

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Worcestershire County Council was due to re-launch the Plug and Play website, which was dedicated to promoting youth activities, and which could be used by all youth clubs to promote events and activities.

The Committee finished their discussions by considering the overall impact of the Youth Services Provision Task Group review. The recommendations that had been made by the group were considered to have had a significant influence over the work of the Council-led consortium in particular. The Council had not been involved in delivering youth work for a significant number of years and, therefore, a number of innovative actions had been taken to ensure that activities were delivered in partnership effectively. For these reasons Members concurred that the Task Group exercise had been worthwhile.

RESOLVED that

- 1) a presentation on the subject of the data outcomes from the positive activities programme in Redditch be presented for the consideration of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in October 2013; and**
- 2) the report be noted.**

16. HOUSING DENSITY TASK GROUP - FINAL REPORT

The Chair of the Housing Density Targets Task Review, Councillor Bush, delivered a presentation on the outcomes of the review. During the course of this presentation the following matters were raised for Members' consideration:

- The group had consulted widely including with: relevant Officers; the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration, Economic Development and Transport; local estate agents; a representative from the local Asian community; and a local housing developer.
- A questionnaire had been circulated for the consideration of local estate agents. Key points raised by the estate agents in their completed responses included concerns that there were limited numbers of three and four bedroom properties in the Borough and limited numbers of bungalows.
- Estate agents were able to provide examples of individuals and families leaving the Borough to live in neighbouring districts due to a greater number of larger properties that would meet their needs and expectations.

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- Existing rules regarding housing density frequently deterred developers from building multiple bungalows on sites, due to the space required for bungalows.
- Self-build properties provided an opportunity for people to build houses to a size that would meet their needs. The Chair suggested that the option to secure larger self-build properties would help to attract more businessmen to live permanently in the Borough.
- Self-build properties had been found in other parts of the country to have a beneficial impact on the local community and residents were often keen to remain in these homes years after they had been built. Also these residents found that they developed new skills as a result of participating in self-build projects.
- Many members of the local Asian community lived in inter-generational households. Often families struggled to purchase properties in the Borough suitable for inter-generational living, and a significant number of the larger houses that met this requirement were located near the town centre and were not high quality buildings.
- Developments on large sites were eligible for discounts on road infrastructure. Similar discounts for road infrastructure were not offered for developments on smaller sites.
- Small, local housing developers, who often employed local people, struggled to compete with larger developers.
- The group had considered suggesting that the first measure Members were proposing should be applied to sites less than 0.5 hectares. However, the group had discovered that this would not have been realistic as it could have had a detrimental effect on the council's ability to meet housing targets. The Task Group had been advised that the same requirement for sites less than 0.16 hectares in size would not have the same impact.
- Officers had been fully consulted during the course of the review and had expressed support for Members' proposals prior to the Committee meeting.

Following delivery of the presentation the Committee debated the findings of the review. There was general consensus amongst Members that more bungalows were required in Redditch, particularly to meet the needs of an aging population. This would also potentially help to increase the number of three and four bedroom properties available to families further down the housing ladder, as elderly people would be moving from previous family properties.

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A Member noted that when the review had been launched Officers had suggested that there was already flexibility within the local planning policy framework to adapt housing density requirements for developments as and when required. However, the group expressed concerns that under existing arrangements Planning Officers tended to be minded to enforce the housing density rules.

The proposal regarding self-build properties was discussed in detail. Reference was made to paragraph 4.9 of the report, where the Task Group had suggested that more land should be allocated to self-build properties. Officers explained that the Council could not allocate land to self-build properties, partly because it would not be possible to enforce construction of self-build properties following the granting of planning permission, Officers remained supportive of the aim to increase the number of self-build properties. Concerns were expressed that the issue of allocation had not been raised prior to publication. However, it was agreed that references to allocation should be reviewed with a view to suggesting that self-build should be encouraged.

The number of developments that would be influenced by the group's recommendations was discussed. Some Members in particular commented that the group's proposals appeared to have focused on particular social groups within the population, rather than on the needs of all residents. However, other Members commented that these proposals would help to attract residents who would live in larger, more expensive properties and pay higher levels of Council tax. There was also the possibility that these residents would be encouraged to establish businesses in the area, to the benefit of the local economy. Furthermore, over 90 per cent of developments in the Borough were for larger sites and would not be affected by the proposals.

The potential impact of the proposals on the availability of affordable housing in the Borough was also considered. Some concerns were expressed that larger executive homes would not meet the needs of families on low incomes or young people seeking to get onto the housing ladder. However, Members were advised that requirements remained for a specific proportion of properties built as part of a larger housing development to be social housing. This would ensure that a supply of affordable housing remained available in the Borough.

RECOMMENDED that

Policy 5 of the emerging Draft Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 4 be revised as per Appendix 1 (*to the report*) to incorporate the following headline points:

- a) **all new housing developments within the Borough on sites less than 0.16 hectares should be exempt from the Council's housing density requirements;**
- b) **all new self-build housing developments on sites larger than 0.16 hectares within the Borough should meet a minimum housing density requirement of 15 dwellings per hectare; and that**
- c) **all new bungalow developments within the Borough on sites larger than 0.16 hectares should meet a minimum density requirement of 15 dwellings per hectare.**

17. FUTURE APPROACH TO CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY AT REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL - DISCUSSION

Members noted that the future of Crime and Disorder Scrutiny at the Council had been proposed at the previous meeting of the Committee. A report had subsequently been prepared on this subject which detailed the options available to Members. In preparation for the report the leaders of both of the political groups represented on the Council as well as the relevant Head of Service for community safety had been consulted.

The Police and Justice Act 2006 introduced a requirement for every local authority in England and Wales to have a scrutiny Committee designated with responsibility for reviewing the work of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), often referred to as a Community Safety Partnership. The legislation required that each Council reviewed the work of the partnership at least once a year. In Redditch the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had established the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel in 2010 to undertake this work. The Panel had focused on the work of the Redditch Community Safety Partnership and, following a merger with Bromsgrove and Wyre Forest, the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership.

The Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel, Councillor Brazier, explained that the group had held four meetings the previous year. During these meetings Members had considered a lot of interesting information about the work of the Partnership,

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however, there had been no recommendations made as a result of this work.

Members agreed that the work of both scrutiny Task Groups and Panels should be constructive. For this reason the Committee agreed that changes needed to be made to crime and disorder scrutiny at the Council. However, Members suggested that it would not be appropriate to disband the Panel. Instead, the Committee proposed that a meeting of the Panel should be convened at least once a year. During this meeting members of the Panel could be invited to consider subjects such as the Partnership's Community Safety Plan and latest performance data. In the event that any areas of concern were identified as a result of this meeting work could be delegated to a Task Group to review the subject.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) **the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel hold at least one scheduled meeting during the year to scrutinise the work of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership; and**

RESOLVED that

- 1) **additional work identified during this meeting be delegated on an ad hoc basis to Task Groups as and when required; and**
- 2) **the report be noted.**

18. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME PLANNING EVENT - CONSIDERATION OF SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY

The Committee was invited to consider the outcome of the workshop session that had taken place during the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Planning event in June 2013. A large number of topics had been suggested during this workshop as potentially suitable for further scrutiny. Members were invited to consider whether any of these items would be suitable for either a Task Group or the Committee to review in further detail. However, the Committee noted that no Task Group exercise would be launched until detailed terms of reference had been submitted for Members' consideration.

When selecting items for scrutiny Members were advised to consider the extent to which the topics matched items listed on the

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Executive Committee's Work Programme or had recently been the subject of a decision by the Executive Committee. The Committee was also informed that in line with best practice in Overview and Scrutiny the relevance of the topics to local community needs and priorities needed to be taken into account. As part of this process Members were urged to note that anything impacting on the local community, including services and activities delivered by external organisations, could be scrutinised.

During consideration of this item the Committee's Work Programme was also considered. Members noted that a scoping document, detailing the terms of reference for a proposed review of the Abbey Stadium, was due to be submitted by Councillor Derek Taylor for the Committee's consideration on 23rd July. Councillor Hopkins had also expressed an interest in submitting a scoping document for the Committee's consideration in due course; on the subject of trees and landscaping, which would take into account grass cutting and the impact of tree roots on footpaths.

The Chair advised Members that he was keen to ensure that the Committee's Work Programme remained flexible during the year. As part of this process he suggested that the Committee should not seek to set items for every meeting at an early stage in the municipal year. Flexibility in the Work Programme would provide the Committee with an opportunity to respond to urgent issues as and when they arose.

The Committee also considered the resources available to support scrutiny exercises. The two Democratic Services Officers with lead responsibility for Overview and Scrutiny at the Council realistically had capacity to support one Task Group review at any one time effectively. Members agreed that they were keen to ensure that the time dedicated by these Officers to supporting scrutiny exercises was used as constructively as possible.

The impact of service transformation on the timing of some reviews was discussed in detail. Members questioned whether it would be appropriate to review subjects such as trees and landscaping at a time when changes to landscaping services were being trialled through the transformation process. Instead, it was suggested that Councillors could ask to observe or participate in the trials. In addition, Members noted that it might be useful to invite Officers involved in the trials to deliver a presentation to the Committee, as this would enable Members to learn about the impact on the service from frontline Officers.

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The Alexandra Hospital had been proposed a significant number of times as a potential topic for scrutiny. The Committee noted that the Save the Alex campaign was already working hard, with the support of elected Members, to address the issue. Furthermore, the Alexandra Hospital Commission had already been established by the Council and would provide an opportunity for relevant issues to be discussed in further detail. For these reasons it was agreed that the hospital should not be added as an item to the Committee's Work Programme.

Housing had similarly been consistently identified during the workshop as a subject suitable for scrutiny. In particular it was suggested that the Council's working relationship with Housing Associations in allocating suitable housing to tenants should form the subject of a Task Group review.

The condition of pavements in the Borough had also been identified a number of times as a suitable topic for scrutiny. Councillor Smith expressed an interest in leading a Task Group review on this subject. However, Members agreed that further information about the proportion of footpaths and pavements that were the responsibility of Redditch Borough Council and Worcestershire County Council should be provided for Members' consideration before a scoping document was submitted for the Committee's consideration on this subject.

The Committee was advised that the Council's Landscaping and Legal teams were currently working closely with Worcestershire County Council to review respective responsibilities for maintaining land in the Borough. Maps were being produced which would identify the areas of land that were known to be owned by the County Council or the Borough Council. Further areas of land where ownership was unclear, and appropriate maintenance arrangements, were also being considered. Members agreed that a presentation to the Committee on this subject would be a suitable item to add to the Work Programme.

During the course of discussions Section 106 Agreements were identified as an item suitable for the Committee to scrutinise. In particular, Members noted that clarification was required about; how much Section 106 monies could be secured for different developments, how the money could be spent; and the extent to which elected Members could influence spending.

The Council's tendering process had been identified as a potential area of interest after the workshop event had taken place. Members reported that they had received questions from

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constituents about the process. In the first place it was suggested that these questions might be addressed most appropriately through separate discussions with Officers responsible for the Council's procurement process. Further information could be provided on this subject for the committee's consideration at a later date if considered appropriate.

RESOLVED that

- 1) **Councillor Andrew Brazier submit a scoping document detailing draft terms of reference for a review of the Council's relationship with housing associations in relation to housing allocation;**
 - 2) **Officers deliver a presentation at a following meeting of the Committee on the outcomes of current discussions between Redditch Borough Council and Worcestershire County Council to clarify land ownership and maintenance arrangements;**
 - 3) **information about the proportion of footpaths and pavements in the Borough that are the respective responsibility of Redditch Borough Council and Worcestershire County Council be provided for Members' consideration at a forthcoming meeting of the Committee;**
 - 4) **Officers deliver a presentation on the subject of Section 106 Agreements at a forthcoming meeting of the Committee; and**
 - 5) **the report be noted.**
19. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND SCRUTINY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee noted that at the latest meeting of the Executive Committee, on 11th June 2013, Members had endorsed the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's proposal for funding to be allocated to the installation of a canopy over the access ramp to Shopmobility. However, the source of funding for this project would be derived from the Shopmobility Donation reserves rather than from the Council's balances, as had originally been proposed by Scrutiny Members.

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RESOLVED that

the minutes of the Executive Committee held on 11th June 2013 and the latest edition of the Executive Committee's Work Programme be noted.

20. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED that

the Committee's Work Programme be noted.

21. TASK GROUPS - PROGRESS REPORTS

The Committee was advised that the first meeting of the Joint Worcestershire Regulatory Services Scrutiny Task Group had not yet taken place. This delay had occurred because some of the local authorities participating in the review had not confirmed appointments to the Task Group. Bromsgrove District Council, which was due to host the review, was scheduled to appoint Members to the group at a meeting of the Bromsgrove Overview and Scrutiny Board on 15th July 2013.

Officers explained that following the previous meeting of the Committee Worcestershire County Council had reconsidered the terms of reference for the review. The County Council had subsequently agreed to participate in the joint exercise. As a consequence every Council in the county would be involved in the review.

RESOLVED that

the update report be noted.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 9.30 pm

APPENDIX A

Positive Activities Local Commissioning Update

Redditch

July 2013

- WCC Cabinet decision 24th Nov 2011
Decommission directly delivered County Council Youth Service and move to local outcomes based commissioning of voluntary sector providers
- £1m funding allocated across 6 district areas using a 70:30 Needs (ACORN Hard Pressed data) : Youth Population formula
- Redditch allocation £185k per annum for 2013-14 & 2014-15
- Positive Activities Local Commissioning Groups (PALCGs) comprised of local County Councillors and advised by local young people selected preferred providers to make provision in Redditch borough area during summer/autumn 2012.

Status of projects

3

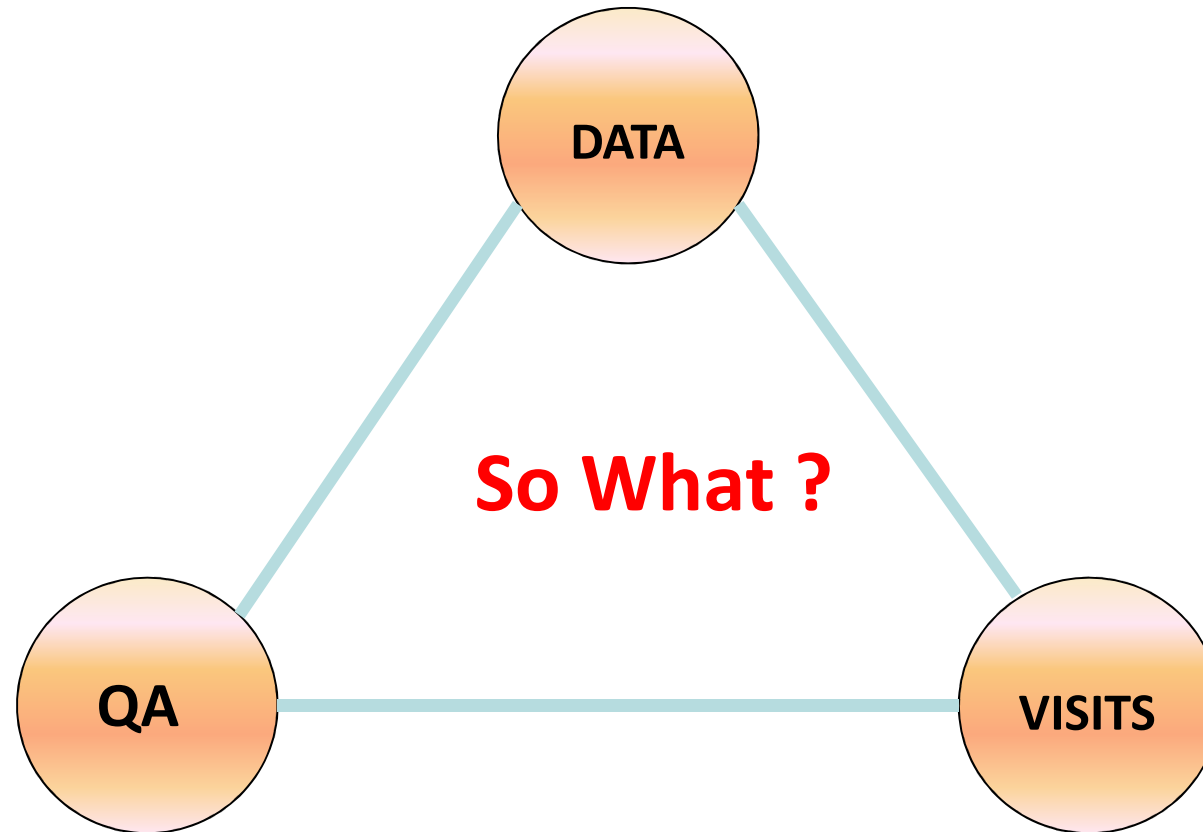
Project name	Delivery area	Activity	Amount awarded per annum 2013-14 & 14-15
Arrow Vale Consortium Arrow Vale HS, Your Ideas, Skate / BMX Park	Matchborough, Church Hill, Winyates	Arts & Crafts, Sports, BMX coaching & racing, Skating coaching and completions, Health and Wellbeing, Drama, Music and Performance, Extended Residentials, Trips and Community Volunteering	£92,877
Bromsgrove & Redditch DC & Consortium partners	Abbeydale, Woodrow, Church Hill, Batchley, Matchborough, Central	Local youth clubs, to include activities such as healthy cooking, intergenerational projects, sports, advice and guidance, arts/crafts, etc.	£79,893
Core Assets	Borough-wide recruitment	Personal development programmes through Princes Trust XL programme	£12,600

- Increased self confidence
- Resilience / coping Skills
- Resistance to risky behaviours peer pressure
- Improved relationships
- Motivation and aspiration
- Citizenship – community awareness & contribution
- Achievement and attainment

**Individual
Outcomes**

**Community/
Societal
Outcomes**




- Quality of life
- Community cohesion
- Community Safety
- Public health
- Engagement & participation
- Positive family relationships
- Better parenting



- Young Commissioning Advisors (YCA's) will be making monitoring visits to all commissioned providers during the period of their contract
- Meeting to finalise schedule and methodology took place on Saturday 22nd June.
Further training with YCA's in Redditch Wednesday 3rd July.
- A quarterly monitoring schedule is being agreed to ensure coverage and dovetail with other visits by Councillors and the Commissioning Manager

- Quarterly schedule of visits
- Local member visits local provision
- Complements, not duplicates other monitoring activity
- Provides an additional perspective to complete the picture of the “So What” question that we are asking about the activities provided – do they make a real difference to the young people?

Redditch District	Quarter 2 13-14 (July-Sept)	Quarter 3 13-14 (Oct – Dec)	Quarter 4 13-14 (Jan-Mar)	Quarter 1 14-15 (Apr-Jun)	Quarter 2 14-15 (July-Sept)	Quarter 3 14-15 (Oct – Dec)	Quarter 4 14-15 (Jan-Mar)
Arrow Vale Consortium (PAZ)							
Your Ideas	Yellow	Green	Red		Red	Yellow	Green
Arrow Vale YC	Green	Yellow	Red		Red	Green	Yellow
Skate/BMX	Yellow	Green		Red	Yellow	Green	Red
Redditch BC Consortium							
Batchley C Centre	Yellow	Green	Red			Yellow	Green
Oakenshaw C Centre	Red		Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red	Green
Sandycroft Centre	Green	Red	Yellow		Green	Yellow	Red
Trinity HS	Red	Yellow	Green			Yellow	Red
What's Your Point	Green	Red	Yellow		Yellow	Green	Red
Church Hill Jnr Club C Centre (YMCA)		Red	Green	Yellow	Green	Red	Yellow
Church Hill Sen Club (YMCA)	Red	Yellow	Green		Yellow	Red	Green
Astwood Bank (YMCA)		Green	Red	Yellow	Green	Red	Yellow
Core Assets (Princes Trust XL)	Red	Green		Yellow	Red	Green	Yellow

-  Young Commissioning Advisers Visit
-  Commissioning Manager Visit
-  County Councillor Visit

- **Arrow Vale Youth Centre**
Transferred to High School for school and community use
Includes use by A.Vale consortium for positive activities
- **Kingsley Youth Centre**
Transferred to High School for school and community use
- **Redditch Youth Centre Ipsley Street**
Being disposed of by WCC Property services.
Currently closed pending decision ref prospective buyers
(closing date for bids 30th June)

Questions & Answers



Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy – Overview and Scrutiny Six Monthly Review – July 2013

The Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) was pre-scrutinised in March 2011 with the final Strategy gaining approval by full Council on 28th March 2011. The last review of the SCS by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee took place in November 2012.

The four current priorities of the SCS are:

Priority One	Health Inequalities	Focus is on three issues: smoking, alcohol; and obesity / healthy lifestyles.
Priority Two	Education attainment and raising aspirations of young people.	Focus is on three issues: improving literacy and numeracy; raising aspirations; and improve statistical levels of attainment.
Priority Three	The economy of Redditch with a focus on providing a larger and more diverse job offer.	Focus is on three broad issues: promotion of Redditch as a business location; jobs and worklessness; and fostering economic ambition in young people.
Priority Four	Areas of deprivation with an initial focus on Winyates and Church Hill.	Winyates project focuses on: enhanced security measures for residential areas in Centre; and community engagement in the area.

The Sustainable Community Strategy is due to be refreshed in 2014. Redditch Partnership Board will be having discussions about the best way of undertaking this refresh over the next 6 months. New priorities will be decided through a combination of consultation and analysis of latest statistics.

Redditch Partnership Board

Issues which have been discussed at Redditch Partnership Board recently include:

- setting the work programme of the Areas of Highest Need (Winning Winyates) project for the next two years;
- Welfare Reform;
- Joint Services Review;
- Economic Development initiatives in Redditch;
- Worcestershire Partnership structural / governance changes; and
- Worcestershire Next Generation Plan.

Theme Groups

- The two functioning Theme Groups of the Partnership – the Health and Wellbeing Sub group and the Children's Local Partnership are merging to form one cross cutting group.

- The decision was made to do this to try to bring issues of health and children and young people to prominence as these had not been focussed on as much in previous years.
- It is hoped by bringing the two groups together a wider range of partners will be able to discuss issues of health in a more joined up way.
- The first meeting of the new group took place on Tuesday 9th July.
- As a consequence of this change, the current two action plans – Health and Wellbeing and Children and Young People’s action plan are being refreshed and brought together in one document.
- This document is currently being developed and will be discussed at the initial couple of meetings of the new group over the coming months.
- Worcestershire County Council (Public Health) has produced a Health Needs Assessment which has identified new health related priorities. Actions contained within the new action plan will reflect these changing priorities.
- Actions relating to educational attainment and raising aspirations of children in the Borough which were being worked on by the previous group will still remain in the new Action Plan.
- In 2012, the Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group awarded Redditch and Bromsgrove approximately £250,000 to be utilised to develop and implement health related projects in both areas. One of these projects was designed to tackle low level mental health and wellbeing issues. As part of the project a website was designed based on the nationally recognised “Five Ways to Wellbeing”. The website can be found at www.wellbeinginpartnership.co.uk and has been promoted to partners including GPs to use as well as the public.

Areas of Highest Need

- The Partnership Board recently reviewed the Winning Winyates “Areas of Highest Need” project. The Neighbourhood Development Manager’s contract has been renewed as there was funding left to support this post for a further two years.
- A section of the report which was submitted to Redditch Partnership Board has been included in Appendix One of this report for information.
- Other areas of deprivation in Redditch are beginning to benefit from funding from external sources – these include the Big Local project in Church Hill. Whilst Redditch Partnership is not directly involved in these initiatives, they keep a watching brief so they can provide support and assistance where appropriate / needed.

Transformation / Joined Up Working Group

- The concept of transformation and better joined up working is being developed with partners through the Joined –Up Working Group. Representatives from a broad range of partners from the public, education, voluntary sector meet on a regular basis to look at new ways of working in a specific locality, currently looking at Winyates. It is possible that with the development of the Joined Up Working Group some of the Partnership structures in the future may change to reflect the work emerging from this.

Further information: - please contact Helen Broughton, Helen.broughton@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk, ext.3237 or look at the Redditch Partnership webpages at www.redditchpartnership.org.uk

Appendix 1 - Redditch Partnership

AoHN Project

(Winning Winyates)

1. Brief Overview

1.1 The AoHN Project has been operating since July 2010. It has 2 objectives:

1. To coordinate partnership activity in the target area – Mainly strategic
2. To engage and develop the local community. – Mainly operational

1.2 There are four overarching outcomes for the project:

1. To reduce the perception of Anti-Social Behaviour in the Area
2. To improve Health and Well-being
3. To improve the Skills and Confidence of Local Residents
4. To increase wider Community Involvement/Engagement in decision making and problem solving

These were agreed by Redditch Partnership in 2011. All activity takes place under one or more of these overarching outcomes. Individual measures of progress have traditionally been developed through Service Level agreements, results achieved and/or evaluation by participants. Work is now taking place to produce measures based on the purpose of each activity/initiative.

1.3 The original target area was based on the area around Ipsley CE Middle School and consisted of:

- Winyates Centre
- Dolben Lane
- Winforton Close
- Kinnersley Close
- Fownhope Close
- Lingen Close
- Mordiford Close

1.4 The project is independently funded for 5 years through Reward Grant money allocated to Redditch Partnership. The original funding was £500k, this was reduced to £400k due to budget cuts.

1.5 The project also included 2 capital projects:

Residential security for Winyates Centre – in partnership with RBC Housing Capital

Winyates Retail and Craft Centres Regeneration – Fully funded through AoHN Project.

2. What are we currently doing

2.1 Strategic Initiatives:

Winyates Specific

- Winyates Alliance –
 - 3 local Borough Councillors,
 - 14 local partner agencies/VSO's and
 - 7 local residents regularly attend.

The Alliance model of working seeks to integrate and align the responses of statutory and voluntary agencies to the needs identified by local communities, to produce a consistent and sustainable process. The model aims to harness the potential of individuals and local communities so that they can benefit from and contribute to regenerating their own neighbourhoods. The challenge of this requires a shared sense of responsibility and focus from statutory agencies, the voluntary sector and most importantly the communities themselves. Close attention has to be paid to getting the local priorities right, the challenge is to increase opportunities for all members of the community to enjoy the best possible quality of life, and to be able to participate fully in the economic and social life of the community in which they live.

The first Winyates alliance meeting was held in 2012 and the group has been focussing on why Winyates was identified for the AoHN project, and is now working on their priorities for the local area.

- Estates Enhancement – A joint working project between RBC's Environmental Services, Housing and AoHN project to deliver improvements to the local area from capital landscape funds. The group was put on hold for twelve months whilst the external insulation work was carried out on Winyates west. It is now reconvening and is looking at ways to engage residents in planning the work to be undertaken.
- Raising Aspirations – on behalf of Public Health to improve educational outcomes for disengaged/low attainment pupils at Arrow Vale RSA Academy in partnership – Of the original 11 students attending the alternative curriculum training at Barnardo's wheels project;
- 7 continue to attend. (Retention Rate 64%) The other 4 are in alternative educational provision and can no longer participate. All 11 will have achieved awards as a direct result of attendance at the project. 8 are on track to receive

entry Level 1 Awards. 1 has progressed to Entry Level certificate and 2 will achieve the full Level One Award.

Tri Estate (Winyates, Church Hill, Matchborough)

- Training and Development Group – Bringing together all local partners (including those who deliver on Matchborough and Church Hill) who deliver skills and other training in the local area. The group identifies gaps in existing provision and future needs based on their own resident consultation and on responding to known developments that will impact on the local community e.g. Welfare Reform, to develop appropriate training. The group is made up of 7 local providers.
- Well-being Centre – To provide a multi-use facility both physically and virtually to provide access to a range of agency and voluntary sector services for the tri-estate area. The need for this was developed from partner agencies identifying services that were hard to access, already at capacity elsewhere and the needs of their clients. 12 partners are involved in this project including the local pharmacy and local voluntary sector organisations.
- Money Advice - To establish drop in money advice sessions for the local community (extending to the whole of the tri-estate area). Two professional courses and 2 community courses have already been provided. Financial Management - Providing training to professionals to become a referral route for local residents who would benefit from financial capability training, to provide community based training for those individuals. A successful grant bid means that the Money advice sessions have now begun. There are up to twelve drop in sessions available every week.
- Community Based Training – See training and development group above.
- Holiday Play care – To offer good quality playscheme type day care during school holidays from 9a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at substantially reduced rates. During 2012/13 236 places were filled. These children came from 42 households in the AoHN and tri-estates area (children are targeted through local schools but some live outside the target area), with an average of 47 children attending each day. The first scheme run during Easter 2012 had an average of 38 children attending, the Easter scheme in 2013 had 62 children attending an increase of 61%.
- IAG/Signposting – See community well-being centre above
- Internet/IT Training – This is being developed for delivery during the Spring and Summer of 2013 to meet the local demand for access to online applications for Universal credit, School Admissions and Universal Job search etc.
- Employability Training – To establish on-going employability related training to work with local jobless residents to improve their job hunting skills and build their self-confidence and self-esteem. This was originally fully funded through

the AoHN Project project but in September 2012 a new CIC - Inspire Community Training has now been set up in Winyates Craft Centre to deliver this and other training. Funding from the AoHN Project is no longer required.

- During 2012/13:
 - 3 employability courses were run with 30 students completing,
 - Business administration has 10 students attending,
 - Health and Beauty 4.
 - Confidence building has run twice and 20 students have attended.
 - The Numeracy course currently has 11 students.

Borough Wide

- Food Bank – To establish a Redditch wide food bank with a central food collection point and a network of locally based distribution points. A steering group based on a partnership between local faith and non-faith based groups, and a private sector company has been established. A charity has been set up to administer the food collection bank under the auspices of the Trussell Trust. There are 12 individual groups on the steering group and 2 volunteers.

2.2 Operational Initiatives:

Winyates Specific

- Winyates Central – To establish two linked performance based arts projects for local young people in the Winyates area, 1x drama and 1 x street Dance. With the aim of producing joint performances in and for the local community. Up to 20 young people are involved in this project.
- Breakfast Club – Providing an activity based breakfast Club at Roman way First school. The school had identified that children were being dropped off at school before opening time without breakfast. This impacted negatively on their performance at school. 29 children regularly attend the club, which is staffed with one paid member of staff and 2 volunteers. A successful grant bid means that the club is fully funded for 2013/14.
- Community events – Street Theatre, Carol Concerts, Autumn Festivals, these were originally set up as community engagement events to assess demand for community capacity building activities. Local residents have continued to support these events in increasing numbers, taking part as volunteers, organising and suggesting ideas to improve the events.
- Community engagement – a range of activities are undertaken on a regular basis to find more ways to include all members of the community, consult with them on their needs, and to test activities suggested by local community members. See Winyates Central above.

- Street Soccer – This is a drop in session every Monday night utilising the local middle school, up to 25 young people are involved in any one session. This is run by one paid member of staff and one volunteer. This evolved from the Summer activity tester programme put on in 2010. Of the 11 young people's activities provided this was the one local young people wanted to continue.
- W.A.I.T (Winyates Association of Independent Traders) – This group grew out of the consultation around the Centre Regeneration Capital project. A participatory budgeting approach was used to identify the best use of the £50k from the AoHN project . Work is on-going but includes:
 - Repainting of the shutters
 - Retarmacing of the retail centre
 - New fascia boards and shop signs to the front and rear of the shops
 - Information boards
 - New cast iron security window guards to the craft centre
 - New signage for the craft centre
 - New waste and recycling bins

The group meets on a regular basis and is in the process of constituting. It is made up of independent traders both in the shopping centre and the Crafts Centre.

- Residents Groups (Cross Tenure), Winyates centre, Leysters and Treville Closes. These groups grew out of requests from residents in these local areas to have a forum where they could discuss their particular issues, the Winyates Centre group is facilitated by Tenant Involvement with support from the AoHN project. The Leysters and Treville Close group is facilitated by the AoHN project.
- PACT – The AoHN project supports the local Winyates and Winyates Green PACT, developing publicity, trying to involve more residents and attending all meetings.
- Community Consultation – Was carried out in October 2012 to assess what training needs there were in the local community 40 local residents attended the open day and requested training in:
 - Computer Skills - 15
 - English/Maths - 11
 - Family Learning - 10
 - Arts and Crafts - 13
 - Employability Skills - 17
 - Confidence Building – 9

These are now all being provided through Inspire Community Training CIC based in Winyates Craft Centre and more consultation events are planned to develop these courses further. All courses provided are free at the point of entry to all qualifying residents.

- Food Parcels – To provide Christmas parcels to local families in need. The identification of these families was through local agencies including the local schools, local policing teams, locality team and health visitors. In 2012 76 parcels were distributed, this is a 73% increase from the base of 42 parcels in December 2011. Recipients of the parcels were 92 adults and 118 children. The increase in parcels is a cause for concern amongst all the agencies involved. All the people referred to the scheme are receiving support from one or more of the referral agencies to work through their issues and find a ways to tackle them.

3. Future Plans

Short Term

- Opening of Community Well-being Centre
- Opening of Community Office and venue
- Opening of Centralised Food Bank
- Set up of distribution centre for food parcels
- Internet Training Roll Out
- Access to Internet
- Money Advice
- Financial Management Courses
- Newsletter and other media based information

Medium Term

- Wider Internet accessibility – with drop ins, supported sessions etc.
- Extended Financial management Support, more availability of advice and support, working with Locality to integrate this provision
- Community Orchard – setting up a Friends of Linton Orchard to increase community engagement and activity
- Community Allotment – still being developed
- Extended community based training – based on identified needs and ideas from local communities.
- Area Improvement Scheme – Previously known as Estates Enhancement
- Partnership learning project with Ipsley CE RSA Academy to provide training for parents to up skill them to assist in their children's learning, this will be developed over the Autumn term and include parents and working with relevant partner agencies as the requirements become clearer.

Long Term

- Move alliance to fully constituted local support group – target date is still 2015
- Community Plan – under the auspices of the Alliance with input and consultation across and with the whole community and partners supporting.
- Sustained and effective partner support and involvement
- Networked working across tri-estate area – extending the project to include the other two estates both of which have significant areas of deprivation and to achieve some economies of scale for activities and projects developed.

5. On-going Activity

On a daily basis the work continues to manage/support existing projects and activities, and residents who are participating in them. These form the basis of the community engagement and development in the area, and ensure good links into the community.

6. Linking with Locality (Housing) Transformation

The Transformation Locality team established by Redditch Borough Council in 2012 is also based in the Winyates area.

The AoHN Project has supported this initiative with information and advice, accessing local partners, training, development and community activity. For example

- Debt Advice Sessions
- Free Financial Management Courses
- Food Parcels
- Christmas Parcels
- Employability Training
- Members of Winyates Alliance

The detailed demographic information based, on deprivation indicators developed for the AoHN demonstrates that the majority of residents in the area are not in Council Housing. Recently work has begun to more closely align the work of the AoHN Project with that of the Locality Team. We have now begun work on developing a joint set of measures for the Money Advice and Financial Management project as this is in its' infancy and lends itself well to developing these. Further joint measures for other projects will be developed. More work will also take place to both teams looking at how we

can jointly address issues coming from each of the projects and how we can “pull” support from one another to effectively meet those needs.

For further information please contact Liz Williams, Neighbourhood Development Manager, Winning Winyates,
liz.williams@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk ext. 3146



Executive Committee

9th July 2013

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Rebecca Blake, Juliet Brunner, Brandon Clayton, John Fisher, Phil Mould, Mark Shurmer and Debbie Taylor

Also Present:

Councillors Andrew Brazier and David Bush

Officers:

R Bamford, M Bough, R Dunne, C Flanagan, S Hanley, T Kristunas, J Pickering and L Tompkin

Committee Services Officer:

I Westmore

19. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hartnett declared an interest in Item 9 (Selection of Registered Provider for Development of Hewell Road swimming bath site) as detailed separately at Minute 27 below.

21. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements from the Leader.

22. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes from the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 11th June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

.....
Chair

23. HOUSING DENSITY TARGETS TASK REVIEW - FINAL REPORT

The Committee considered the final proposals of the Housing Density Targets Task Group following their consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The recommendations were designed to help encourage wider housing provision in the Borough as part of the Council's emerging policy on housing as part of the Local Plan.

The Chair of the Task Group, Councillor David Bush, attended the Committee meeting to present the report and narrate a short presentation on housing density around the Borough. Some of the key aspects underpinning the recommendations were a desire to see a greater numbers of bungalows, an increase in the supply of larger properties and opportunities for self-build and a relaxation of the density requirements for smaller sites to provide the scope for local developers to build more distinctive, idiosyncratic properties and compete with the larger developers. To achieve these aims a number of changes had been proposed to Policy 5 of the emerging Draft Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 4.

The Committee discussed a number of the assertions within the report and presentation, noting that several bungalow developments had been created in recent years and that Officers did not routinely record the numbers built within the Borough making a rigorous quantification of supply and demand hard to assess, although a need for all types of housing was quite evident. In addition, the need for more executive homes could not easily be divorced from a wider discussion of the Borough's needs in terms of nightlife, restaurant provision and similar issues.

It was also noted that the Borough was short of housing land, hence the need for cross-boundary growth, and there was a degree of flexibility already built into the housing density requirements. However, the Committee did recognise the merit in the work that had been undertaken and acknowledged that greater flexibility might be introduced to achieve some of the mutually agreed aims. To this end it was proposed that Officers do further work on Policy 5 and submit this to the Planning Advisory Panel for consideration.

RESOLVED that

Planning Officers be tasked with developing an amended form of words for Policy 5 of the emerging Draft Borough of Redditch Local Plan No. 4 which would ensure an appropriate level of flexibility in housing density requirements, to be submitted for consideration at a future meeting of the Planning Advisory Panel.

24. COUNCIL PLAN

The draft Council Plan was considered by the Committee. The Plan was a much more concise document than previous versions with the intention of it being a strategic and public-facing document. The key to the Plan was the push to put the customer at the heart of everything the Council does and shaping the Council's services to suit customers' needs.

Members generally welcomed the document but it was suggested that some refinement and re-ordering might be undertaken to address two issues in respect of Areas of Highest Need. These were placing the information around these sites away from the very front of the document and ensuring that the descriptions of the areas more accurately reflected the locations rather than simply repeating the Lower Super Output area designations. It was also noted that the foreword from the Leader of the Council would be prepared in time for the forthcoming Council meeting.

RECOMMENDED that

subject to the amendments in the preamble above, the Council Plan attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

25. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME

Officers presented a report which detailed a number of options upon which the Council was intending to consult in respect of the Council Tax Support Scheme in place from April 2014. Members attention was drawn to the table in Appendix 1 and they were advised that the number of working age claimants affected should read 4,600 and not 3,749 as indicated.

The Committee was informed that the majority of Councils across the County were intending to consult on a range of measures fundamentally the same as those set out in the report. Members were quite clear that the impact on other public authorities of the Council not collecting at least a proportion of the shortfall left by the Council Tax Support Grant could be very significant and so were minded to approve the consultation options. Members were keen that a full range of options be considered and proposed that Officers draw up proposals which included restricting Council Tax support to Band C equivalent amounts and building in exemptions for disabled persons or those with young children. Officers undertook to draw up further options on this basis.

RESOLVED that

the Executive Director of Finance and Resources be authorised to consult on the options to change the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme with effect from April 2014 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report and as amended in the preamble, above.

26. REVIEW OF POLICY FOR LEASES OF COUNCIL LAND AND PROPERTY AT A CONCESSIONARY RENT

Members considered a report which set out a number of proposed changes to the policy for leases of Council land and property at a concessionary rent.

The initial aim of developing a transparent and consistent policy was very much to the fore in Members consideration of the suggested amendments and it was agreed that the Policy, as amended, would meet this aim.

RESOLVED that

the updated Policy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved and implemented with immediate effect.

27. SELECTION OF REGISTERED PROVIDER FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HEWELL ROAD SWIMMING BATH SITE.

Members received a report which set out the recommendation for the selection of a Registered Provider from the Council's Preferred Partner list to deliver affordable housing on the Hewell Road swimming baths site.

It was noted that the Panel had reached a consensus based on the scoring matrix employed for the process and Redditch Co-op Homes had been recommended as the preferred partner to develop the site. It was suggested that, in future, the Council might be more prescriptive in detailing the numbers and types of properties it desired on a development site but Officers were of the opinion that, beyond advising of the primary housing need at the time of selection, it would be difficult to stipulate at the outset what was to be built as subsequent surveys might dictate that certain developments were unsuitable.

The loss of the play area was commented upon but Officers confirmed that Ward Members and Officers had consulted with the local community and had determined that the play area on site was poorly used and a focus for anti-social behaviour.

RESOLVED that

- 1) **Redditch Co-op Homes be selected as the preferred partner to deliver affordable housing on the Hewell Road swimming baths site; and**
- 2) **authority be delegated to the Head of Finance and Resources and the Housing Strategy Manager to complete the transfer of the site to Redditch Co-op Homes subject to planning permission being obtained.**

(During consideration of this item, Councillor Bill Hartnett declared an other disclosable interest as a Member of the Board of Redditch Co-operative Homes, appointed by the Council, and vacated the Chair and the Chamber for the duration of this item. The Vice-Chair, Councillor Chance, assumed the Chair in Councillor Hartnett's absence.)

28. LEASE OF THE ANCHORAGE

An opportunity had arisen through the Council's Joined Up Working to allow NEW College access to a property where the skills of its apprentices might be developed alongside those of the Council's own workforce and, as a consequence, a property would be returned to the Council in a refurbished condition at the end of the lease period.

Members were delighted to endorse the scheme as it promised to provide benefits to the local economy, the Council's own workforce and the Council's property portfolio. It was hoped that the present scheme might be adopted as a model for the future.

RESOLVED that

- 1) **"The Anchorage" property be let to the NEW College on a 5 year Full Repairing & Insuring lease which would include the NEW College returning the property in a lettable state;**
- 2) **a "peppercorn" rent only to be charged to the NEW College due to the benefits to the community and the in-house workforce, who would gain long term from the training the College would be able to provide in the building during the lease period; and**
- 3) **authority be delegated to the Head of Housing and Head of Legal Services to finalise the detailed provisions of the Lease and implement this decision.**

29. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 4th June 2013.

Members were keen to receive updates through the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in due course on the activities of Healthwatch Worcestershire.

Healthwatch Worcestershire

RESOLVED that

the Borough Council make representations to Healthwatch Worcestershire on behalf of local residents.

30. MINUTES / REFERRALS - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE PANELS ETC.

There were no minutes or referrals to consider under this item.

31. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

The latest update on the activity of the Council's Advisory panels and similar bodies was considered by the Committee.

RESOLEVD that

the report be noted.

32. ACTION MONITORING

The Committee's Action Monitoring report was received by the Committee. It was noted that the action requested at the previous meeting had been undertaken.

RESOLVED that

the Action Monitoring report be noted.

**The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 8.45 pm**

.....
Chair



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

No Direct Ward Relevance

23rd July 2013

WORK PROGRAMME

(Report of the Chief Executive)

Date of Meeting	Subject Matter	Officer(s) Responsible for report
ALL MEETINGS	REGULAR ITEMS	(CHIEF EXECUTIVE)
	Minutes of previous meeting Consideration of the Forward Plan Consideration of Executive Committee key decisions Call-ins (if any) Pre-scrutiny (if any) Consideration of Overview and Scrutiny Actions List Referrals from Council or Executive Committee, etc. (if any) Task Groups / Short, Sharp Review Groups - feedback Committee Work Programme	Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive Chief Executive
	REGULAR ITEMS Update on the work of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel. Quarterly Tracker Report	Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service

Overview and Scrutiny

Committee

23rd July 2013

	<p>REGULAR ITEMS</p> <p>Updates on the work of the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Bi-Annual Recommendation Tracker Reports – Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Bi-Annual Monitoring Report – Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy</p>	<p>Redditch Borough Council representative on the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service</p> <p>Relevant Lead Head(s) of Service</p>
OTHER ITEMS - DATE FIXED		
23rd July 2013	Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Biannual Monitoring Update Report	Relevant Lead Director
23rd July 2013	Promoting Sporting Participation – Monitoring Update Report	Relevant Lead Head of Service
23rd July 2013	Proposed Abbey Stadium Task Group – Submission of Scoping Document	Councillor Derek Taylor
13th August 2013	Section 106 Agreements - Presentation	Relevant lead Director
10th September 2013	Land Ownership and Maintenance - Presentation	Relevant Lead Head of Service
8th October 2013	Vacant Redditch Borough Council Properties – Update Report	Relevant Lead Head of Service

Overview and Scrutiny

Committee

23rd July 2013

8th October 2013	Positive Activities – Update Report	Relevant Lead Head of Service
5th November 2013	Living Wage – Update Report	Relevant Lead Head of Service
9th January 2014	Budget Scrutiny Meeting	Relevant Lead Head of Service
4th March 2014	Dial a Ride - Monitoring Update Report	Relevant Lead Head of Service
OTHER ITEMS – DATE NOT FIXED		
	Healthwatch Worcestershire – Update Report	
	Joint Worcestershire Regulatory Services Review – final report	Councillor Mason
	Proposed Housing Review – Submission of Scoping Document	Councillor Brazier
	Proposed Trees and Landscaping Task Group – Submission of Scoping Document	Councillor Hopkins

