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Executive

Committee

Tue 19 Apr 2016 7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 Town Hall Redditch



If you have any queries on this agenda, please contact

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Tuesday, 19th April, 2016 7.00 pm

Committee

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

Agenda

(Pages 11 - 26)

Executive

Kevin Dicks, Chief

Membership:

Cllrs: Bill Hartnett (Chair)

Greg Chance (Vice-

Chair)

Juliet Brunner
Brandon Clayton
John Fisher

Mark Shurmer Yvonne Smith Debbie Taylor Pat Witherspoon

1.	Apologies	To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend this meeting.	
2.	Declarations of Interest	To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.	
3.	Leader's Announcements	 To give notice of any items for future meetings or for the Executive Committee Work Programme, including any scheduled for this meeting, but now carried forward or deleted; and any other relevant announcements. (Oral report)	
4.	Minutes (Pages 1 - 10) Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive	To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 8 th March, 2016. (Minutes attached)	
5.	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 1 st March, 2016,	

(Minutes attached)

There are no recommendations to consider.

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6.	Town Centre Public Realm (Pages 27 - 34)	To consider the enclosed report from the Heads of Environmental Services and Planning and Regeneration, setting out proposals for enhancing the town centre.
7.	Asset of Community Value - the Seven Stars Inn (Pages 35 - 46)	To consider the enclosed report setting out an application to list the Seven Stars Inn as an asset of community value. (Headless Cross & Oakenshaw Ward)
8.	Minutes / Referrals - Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels etc. Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive	To receive and consider any outstanding minutes or referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Executive Panels etc. since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, other than as detailed in the items above.
9.	Advisory Panels - update report (Pages 47 - 48) Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive	To consider, for monitoring / management purposes, an update on the work of the Executive Committee's Advisory Panels and similar bodies, which report via the Executive Committee. (Report attached)

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10. Exclusion of the Public

Should it be necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to consider excluding the public from the meeting in relation to any items of business on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be divulged, it may be necessary to move the following resolution:

"that, under S.100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, 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, as amended."

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 <u>labour relations matters</u>;
- Para 5 <u>legal professional privilege</u>;
- Para 6 <u>a notice, order or direction;</u>
- Para 7 the <u>prevention</u>, <u>investigation or</u>
 <u>prosecution of crime</u>;

may need to be considered as 'exempt'.

11. Confidential Minutes / Referrals (if any)

To consider confidential matters not dealt with earlier in the evening and not separately listed below (if any).



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Tuesday, 8 March 2016

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Bill Hartnett (Chair), Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Juliet Brunner, Brandon Clayton, John Fisher, Mark Shurmer, Debbie Taylor and Pat Witherspoon

Officers:

Clare Flanagan, John Godwin, Sue Hanley, Jayne Pickering, Amanda Singleton and Lindsey Wood

Committee Services Officer:

Debbie Parker-Jones

98. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Yvonne Smith.

99. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Witherspoon declared an Other Disclosable Interest in Agenda Item 6 (Redditch United Football Club) as detailed at Minute No. 103 below.

Jayne Pickering, Director of Finance and Resources, advised that she would be withdrawing from the meeting during consideration of the Redditch United Football Club item as her son played football for the Club's first team.

100. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Programme

The following reports which were due to be considered, or possibly considered, at the meeting had been deferred to a later date:

- Housing Business Case; and
- Applying Article 4 Directions to the Council's Schedule of Locally Listed Buildings.

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<u>Treasury Management Strategy, Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators report</u>

It was noted that the Treasury Management Strategy, Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators report, which had originally been scheduled for Executive that evening, had instead been referred to the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee on 28th January 2016 as approval of these was required before the new financial year. The resulting recommendations had been considered by full Council on 22nd February.

Agenda Item 6 – Redditch United Football Club

Members were advised that this was a Key Decision which had not appeared on the published Executive Work Programme as the Club had been seeking external finance towards the scheme and it had not been known if this would be successful. As progress had been made with this a decision was needed quickly in order to secure the funds. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had been informed of the position.

101. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 22nd February 2016 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

102. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16th February 2016.

It was noted that there were no recommendations to consider.

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 16th February 2016 be received and noted.

103. REDDITCH UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB - VALLEY STADIUM CONCESSIONARY RENT

Members were asked to agree to the surrender of the existing Redditch United Football Club lease and the granting of a new 30year lease at a concessionary rent, to support the Club in its project to provide facilities to the wider community of Redditch, including

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the provision of a third generation (3G) Astro Turf Pitch (ATP) at the Valley Stadium.

As detailed under Leader's Announcements (Minute No. 100 refers), this was a Key Decision which had not appeared on the published Executive Work Programme as the Club had been seeking external finance towards the scheme and it had not been known if this would be successful. As progress had been made with this a decision was needed quickly in order to secure the funds. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had been informed of the position.

Members noted the key areas for community benefit detailed in paragraph 3.6 of the report. It was agreed that the surrender of the existing lease and grant of the new lease at a concessionary rent was justifiable on the basis of the resulting benefits to the community and well-being of the Borough. The Heads of Terms for the new lease, as appended to the report and which also set out the terms of future rent reviews, were noted. Without the concessionary rent being agreed the business case prepared by the Club would not be seen as realistic and achievable by the funding bodies as it would prevent the Club from borrowing the amount of capital required to finance the match-funding element of the project.

Members expressed their thanks to all those at the Club and to Chris Swan, owner and Chairman, for their continuing hard work to improve the Club and its facilities. Best wishes were also sent to Mr Swan's wife Sallie, Vice-Chairman of the Club, who was currently unwell. Thanks were also expressed to the Football Association in supporting the Club's efforts and to Officers for their continuing endeavours in working with the Club, and Members looked forward to seeing the benefits that the new facilities would bring to the town. This included the launch of a full-time academy at the Valley Stadium, which was being run in partnership with Bournville College.

RESOLVED that

- the existing Redditch United Football Club Limited lease be surrendered and a new 30-year lease be granted to the Club; and
- 2) within the terms of the new lease for the Valley Stadium there be no increase of rent applied over and above the current rent of the site, and the rent of £2,000 per annum be reviewed in line with section 3.4 of the report until the expiry of the new lease in 2046.

(Prior to consideration of this item, Councillor Pat Witherspoon declared an Other Disclosable Interest in this matter in view of the

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fact that her grandson played football for one of Redditch United's junior teams. Councillor Witherspoon remained in the room and participated in the consideration of, and voting on, this matter.

Jayne Pickering (Director of Finance and Resources) withdrew from the meeting for this item and took no part in the consideration/discussion of this, as her son played football for the Club's first team.)

104. PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDY INTO THE POSSIBLE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE WINYATES DISTRICT CENTRE

Members received a report which sought approval to undertake a feasibility study into the redevelopment of the Winyates District Centre.

It was noted that the former New Town district centres of Church Hill, Matchborough, Winyates and Woodrow had previously been identified as areas for redevelopment. Following Members' approval to undertake a feasibility study into the possible redevelopment of the Matchborough Centre, there was also an interest to possibly redevelop the Winyates District Centre.

Members stated that the proposed feasibility study had briefly been touched upon at the Planning Advisory Planning meeting which had taken place immediately prior to Executive. It was noted that this was the initial feasibility study only and that the outcome of this would be reported back to Members in due course, together with suggestions from Officers about the next stages of the process of possible redevelopment.

Officers explained the process which would now take place. In response to Member questions Officers advised that there was deemed to be sufficient staff capacity to progress both the Matchborough and Winyates feasibility studies at the same time, and that the Winyates study would neither take priority over, nor have any detrimental effect on, the Matchborough study. Members wished to play a key part in the process and Officers advised that Members, particularly the relevant Portfolio Holders and Ward Members, would be sent a timescale for the future stages. Officers would also keep Members fully apprised and involved with developments throughout the process. The terms of existing leasehold agreements and the status of properties sold under right-to-buy were noted as legal issues which would be considered as part of the process.

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RESOLVED that

a feasibility study be undertaken as to the merits of the redevelopment of the Winyates District Centre.

105. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2017/18

The Committee received a report which set out a broad range of options for consultation in order to inform the development of the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme (CTSS) 2017/18.

In April 2013 council tax benefit had been replaced by a new local council tax support scheme. Local councils were required to design their own CTSS and to carry out consultation on the options being considered for inclusion in the Scheme. From April 2014 changes were made to the Council's CTSS which resulted in support being capped at 80% of Council Tax liability for all working age claimants. The Council had implemented a Hardship Fund to support the most vulnerable, with £13,066 of the fund having been awarded for 2015/16 as at 31st January 2016. Changes to the Scheme in April 2014 had offset an estimated funding gap for 2014/15 of £91k for the Council.

It was no longer possible to know how much funding was received towards the Scheme via the Government's Revenue Support Grant and by 2019/20 there would be no government funding for the Scheme. The total cost of the Scheme in Redditch was in the region of £6.5m. The proposals being considered for consultation were not intended to reduce the overall cost of support provided to residents, but to reduce the administrative burden to the Council where possible and to bring the Scheme in line with national changes to welfare support.

Officers explained both the process and different consultation phases involved, which would culminate in adoption of the final Scheme by 31st January 2017 at the latest. All possible options which might ultimately be included in the Scheme had to be consulted on as no changes which had not previously been consulted on could be included at a later stage. All options were purely options for consideration, with no decisions needing to be made as to what might be included in the draft Scheme at this stage. A range of consultation documentation had been prepared and all relevant frontline staff would be briefed on the position so that they were able to assist residents with any enquiries. All current claimants would also be written to by the Council and directed to the website and Officers for information and assistance.

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RESOLVED that

- 1) the options as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be put to public consultation in order to inform potential changes to the Council's Council Tax Support Scheme for 2017/18 and/or later years;
- 2) the Head of Customer Access and Financial Support be authorised to consult on the options set out in Appendix 1;
- 3) the Head of Customer Access and Financial Support report back to the Executive on the outcome of that consultation and any proposals for changes to the Scheme, for further consideration and resolution by the Executive, to consult on a draft Scheme;
- 4) further to the outcome of the Executive's decision on the draft regulations, the Head of Customer Access and Financial Support be authorised to carry out the statutory consultation required on the draft Scheme; and
- 5) the final Scheme be presented to the Executive to make recommendations to Council to allow for the necessary regulations to be published by 31st January 2017.

106. HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES

Members were asked to consider, for recommendation to full Council, the following health and safety policies which were either new policies or existing policies which had been revised to incorporate recent changes in legislation:

- Fire Safety Policy and Procedures;
- Manual Handling Policy and Procedures;
- Accident Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy and Procedures;
- Display Screen Equipment Policy and Procedures;
- Contractor Safety Policy and Procedures:
- Lone Working Policy and Procedures; and
- Substance Misuse (Drugs, Alcohol & Other Substances) at Work Policy.

Officers confirmed that all of the policies had been approved by the Council's Joint Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare Committee and the trade unions. As an employer the Council had a legal duty to have the policies in place. Whilst the Corporate Health and Safety Policy was an overarching policy, there was a requirement to also have specific policies. Officers advised that, whilst not

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explicitly stating this, all of the policies were intended to apply to councillors as well as members of staff, and that the same advice and procedures therefore applied to Members.

Members raised concerns in relation to the possible risks and practical issues which they faced with lone working, for example when visiting residents' homes. As Members were not specifically addressed in the Lone Working Policy and Procedures it was agreed that Officers would undertake an additional piece of work on this. The matter would be raised at the next meeting of the Joint Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare Committee on 18th March 2016, and as Councillor Yvonne Smith was a member of the Committee Officers would seek her input into this. Member awareness in considering the safety implications when carrying out their duties was deemed to be key. The importance of attending relevant training offered by the Council was highlighted by one Member, with previous training in this area having been poorly attended. Officers highlighted that the Lone Working Policy included use of the Lifeline facility, which not all Members were aware of.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) the Fire Safety Policy and Procedures at Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- 2) the Manual Handling Policy and Procedures at Appendix 2 to the report be approved;
- 3) the Accident Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy and Procedures at Appendix 3 to the report be approved;
- 4) the Display Screen Equipment Policy and Procedures at Appendix 4 to the report be approved;
- 5) the Contractor Safety Policy and Procedures at Appendix 5 to the report be approved;
- 6) the Lone Working Policy and Procedures at Appendix 6 to the report be approved; and
- 7) the Substance Misuse (Drugs, Alcohol & Other Substances) at Work Policy at Appendix 7 to the report approved; and

RESOLVED that

8) further consideration be given by Officers and the Joint Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare Committee in

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respect of elected Members and the Lone Working Policy and Procedures.

107. FINANCE MONITORING QUARTER 3 2015/16

The Committee received a report which detailed the Council's final financial position for both General Fund and Revenue for the period April to December 2015 (Quarter 3 15/16).

There was an overall underspend of £303k for the period, which was forecast to be a significant saving by the end of the financial year. This related in part to essential spend only across the Council following announcement of the financial settlement, together with vacancies and additional income generated in a number of service areas. These savings had not been made at a loss to the Council's frontline services. In addition to the £303k underspend it was anticipated that there would be a saving on the Council's borrowing costs of £124k, due to slippage in the capital programme. In relation to the £1k variation currently showing for Landscape and Ground Maintenance under 'Keep my place safe and looking good', Officers stated that a great deal of work was being undertaken with reallocating the costs for the Place Teams' work, which might result in a final underspend variance.

The capital expenditure in the third quarter showed that most projects were currently work in progress, with there being an anticipated £1.081m underspend by the end of 2015/16. Requests would be made to carry over budgets to the next financial year within the strategic purpose 'Keep my place safe and looking good' on the Crematorium Enhancements and the town landscape scheme, due to works not being able to take place in the winter months.

A Member queried whether all vacant posts had now been deleted. Officers advised that they were currently carrying out an exercise with Heads of Service to ascertain whether all vacant posts had been filled, and if not whether the posts had been given up. Heads of Service had been given until 18th March by which to confirm the position. Accordingly, if vacancies remained then the cost of these were currently included in the projected year-end figures.

It was noted that the General Fund Balance as at 31st March 2015 had been £2.005m, and that should the projected savings be made in the current financial year the revised balance for 31st March 2016 would be £2.432m. Whilst there was no room for complacency the Council was felt to be in as good a financial position as possible in light of the latest funding settlement, with both Officers and Members continuing to look at savings wherever possible.

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RECOMMENDED that

1) the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital budget for 2016/17 is increased by £60k to £160k for a Demand Case Management IT system, funded by HRA reserves; and

RESOLVED that

2) the current financial position for Revenue and Capital, as detailed in the report, be noted.

108. VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR GRANTS 2016-17

Members considered a report which made recommendations from a meeting of the Grants Panel on 24th February, for allocation of the remainder of the budget for major grants for 2016/17.

At its meeting in January the Executive Committee had considered recommendations for the allocation of major grants for 2016/17. The full amount was not allocated at that time and it was agreed that the unallocated sums be retained and their availability be readvertised in parallel with the Stronger Communities Grant applications.

RESOLVED that

the following major grants be awarded for 2016/17:

Theme	Organisation	Project name	Amount
Help me to be financially independent	What's Your Point	Young People - plan for financial independence	£1,569
Help me to be financially independent	Compass Community and Education Group	Money Matters	£3,325
Help me to live my life independently	What's Your Point	Introduction to mindful relaxation	£850
Keep my place safe and looking good	Redditch Community Amateur Boxing Club	Young Peoples Projects	£2,000

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

There were no outstanding referrals to consider.

110. ADVISORY PANELS - UPDATE REPORT

It was noted that the meeting of the Planning Advisory Panel scheduled for earlier that evening had taken place.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.30 pm

Chair

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 5



Overview and Scrutiny

Tuesday, 1st March, 2016

Committee

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Jane Potter (Chair), Councillor Gay Hopkins (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Natalie Brookes, David Bush, Andrew Fry, Gareth Prosser, Jennifer Wheeler and Nina Wood-Ford

Officers:

Helen Broughton, Rachel Dobson, Jayne Pickering and Amanda Singleton

Democratic Services Officers:

J Bayley and A Scarce

81. APOLOGIES AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Joe Baker and Paul Swansborough and it was confirmed that Councillor Natalie Brookes was attending as substitute for Councillor Baker.

82. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND OF PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations of interest nor of any party whip.

83. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting held on 16th February be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

84. LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP - MONITORING UPDATE REPORT

The Chair reminded Members that following a recommendation made a number of years ago the Committee was responsible for holding the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) to account and received this report on an annual basis.

Chair	

Overview and Scrutiny

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Officers introduced the report and provided background information in respect of the Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and the recent mini refresh of the SCS's priorities which had been undertaken during 2015. During the presentation of the report the following areas were highlighted:

- There were various groups and bodies that formed the LSP or contributed to the work of the partnership.
- The Redditch Partnership Executive Group (RPEG) was chaired by the Chief Officer from the YMCA. This would assist with the Connecting Families Project moving away from being Council led as the programme developed.
- Connecting Families was a new way of working, which was being rolled out across Worcestershire with a pilot scheme in Redditch.
- The Redditch Economic Development Theme Group (REDTG)
 was chaired by the Portfolio Holder, Councillor Greg Chance
 and involved a number of other elected Members and local
 business representatives.
- Redditch Community Wellbeing Trust (RCWT) was supported by a dedicated officer from Worcestershire County Council (WCC). A significant number of projects were commissioned by this group.

The Wellbeing in Partnership Newsletter had been produced following a number of requests for the production of a directory of local groups and projects. Members were advised it was not practicable to produce such a directory due to the resources needed to set up and maintain such a document. The newsletter was a simple and quick format in which to highlight what was currently available.

Following presentation of the report Members raised a number of points and discussed these in detail:

- The action that could be taken to monitor the impact of the work of the LSP.
- The difficulty for Members knowing where to refer residents as there were so many different projects and voluntary organisations.
- The option for a "high level" directory to be produced in order for Members to have some contact details for specific projects.
- The measures in place to ensure projects did not overlap or duplicate work, with particular reference being made to the Connecting Families project and the work of Early Help.

Overview and Scrutiny

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 The role of the Locality Teams and how the officers assessed what support would be most appropriate for a family to in the first instance.

RESOLVED that

the Redditch Sustainable Community Strategy Monitoring Update Report March 2016 be noted.

85. HOUSING BENEFITS - PRESENTATION

The Chair reminded Members that this item had been brought before the Committee as a result of discussions at the training event held at the beginning of the municipal year whilst Members were considering topics for further scrutiny. Officers proceeded to deliver a detailed presentation which covered the impact of changes to welfare support; (the presentation is attached at Appendix 1 to these Minutes).

Following presentation of the report Members discussed a number of points including the allocation of the Spare Room Subsidy in respect of families with shared child care arrangements. It was confirmed that ordinarily the subsidy would be allocated to the parent in receipt of the Child Benefit, in accordance with specific guidelines. Members also questioned whether people with severe health problems, which necessitated use of the spare room of their home, were required to pay the Spare Room Subsidy. Officers confirmed that whilst there were strict guidelines which needed to be adhered to, in exceptional circumstances officers could work with the individuals and / or their family to identify possible support.

The Committee noted that there would be further significant changes taking place in the coming months, which had been announced in July 2015, and asked that an update report be received when those changes were in place.

RESOLVED that

- a further presentation be delivered on the subject of welfare reforms and housing benefit changes in due course; and
- 2) the report be noted.

86. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

The Chair introduced the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's draft Annual Report 2015/16. In so doing she thanked Members of the Committee and the Democratic Services Officers with lead

Overview and Scrutiny

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responsibility for scrutiny for their hard work and support over the past 12 months.

During her presentation of the report, the Chair highlighted the following areas:

- The success of the LGBT Task Group and the production of a leaflet by LGB&T Support Services Redditch, which would make a difference to the lives of so many people in the Borough.
- The improved Budget Scrutiny process and the detailed work which had been carried out. Officers in the Financial Services department were thanked for their hard work on this process.
- The disappointing response from the Committee in respect of the Leisure Services Short, Sharp Review.
- The work of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel.
- The regular updates received from the Council's representative on the Worcestershire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), Councillor Nina Wood-Ford.
- The attendance by Portfolio Holders on two occasions which had been most useful and a positive step forward.

Following presentation of the annual report Members discussed the Committee's relationship with the Executive Committee and the role of being a critical friend. Members also considered future plans and ideas for short, sharp reviews and task groups together with specific training needs for the following year.

RESOLVED that

the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Annual Report 2015/16 be approved.

87. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES AND SCRUTINY OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME

Officers confirmed that there were no updates in relation to Overview and Scrutiny within the Executive Committee minutes from 22nd February 2016. In respect of the Work Programme Officers confirmed that the latest version, which had been tabled at the meeting, contained a number of updates and new items, which Officers highlighted to Members, whilst reminding them that there was an opportunity for pre-scrutiny of any items which they felt were suitable. Members discussed the Leisure Intervention Update which was due to be considered by the Executive Committee at is meeting on 19th April. Officers agreed to confirm whether the

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report would be available in time for the Committee to pre-scrutinise in April.

RESOLVED that

the Leisure Intervention Update be included within the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for prescrutiny in April 2016.

88. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Officers confirmed that there were no updates to the Work Programme; however Members were reminded that there would be a presentation in respect S106 Funding and the Corporate Dashboard, to which all Members had been invited.

RESOLVED that

the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme be noted.

89. TASK GROUPS - PROGRESS REPORTS

Improving Disabled People's Access to Redditch's Taxi Fleet Short, Sharp Review – Chair Councillor Gay Hopkins

Councillor Hopkins informed Members that the Short, Sharp Review was moving at a fast pace and had already held two meetings and begun to interview relevant witnesses. The Members had formulated some ideas for the final report, which would be presented at the Committee meeting due to be held on 12th April 2016.

<u>Joint Worcestershire Increasing Physical Activity Task Group – Redditch Borough Council Representative, Councillor Gareth Prosser</u>

Councillor Prosser informed Members that progress continued to be slow and a date was yet to be set for an interview with the relevant Cabinet Member as there had been difficulties in finding a convenient date for all Members.

IMPACT OF CHANGES TO WELFARE SUPPORT

Amanda Singleton

Head of Customer Access and Financial Support

Rachael Dobson

Assistant Financial Support Manager



Impact of changes to Welfare Support

- Background
 - Changes to welfare support in April 2013
 - Benefit cap
 - Spare Room Subsidy
 - Changes to Council Tax Benefits
 - Universal Credit
 - Delegation of local welfare assistance (ELF)

Benefit Cap

- The cap applies to the total amount that the people in a household get from the following benefits: Bereavement Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Child Benefit, Child Tax Credit, Employment and Support Allowance, Guardian's Allowance, Housing Benefit, Incapacity Benefit, Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Maternity Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance, Universal Credit, Widowed Parent's Allowance (or Widowed Mother's Allowance or Widows Pension if received before 9 April 2001)
- The level of the cap is:
- £500 a week for couples (with or without children living with them)
- £500 a week for single parents whose children live with them
- £350 a week for single adults who don't have children, or whose children don't live with them
- · The cap is applied via Housing Benefits

Benefit Cap

- Impacted on 40 households to date
- Current live cases 28
- Impact relatively low
 - Most stayed in homes and found ways of meeting the financial gap

Spare Room Subsidy

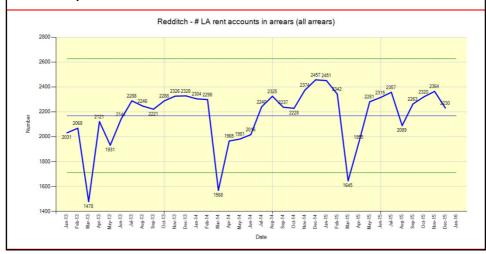
- From April 2013 Housing Benefit is based on the number of people in the household and the size of the accommodation.
- This applies to all working-age tenants renting from a local authority, housing association or other registered social landlord.
- Brings the Housing Benefits payable to tenants of social housing in line with private tenants.

Spare Room Subsidy

- This means those tenants whose accommodation is larger than they need may lose part of their Housing Benefit. Those with one spare bedroom lose 14% of their eligible rent and those with 2 or more spare bedrooms lose 25%.
- RBC Room Restriction current live cases
 - -14% = 380
 - -25% = 66

Spare Room Subsidy

Impact on rent arrears



Welfare Support Changes

- · What did we do to support those affected
 - Worked directly with individuals where possible to identify possible support.
 - Introduced measures to provide up to date information regarding the changes and when they are to be implemented.
 - Through transformed working arrangements families in crisis are identified and a Locality Officer work directly with them to help them find solutions
- Householders generally prefer to find a way of staying in the property and manage their reduce income
- Housing, Locality and Benefits Officers continue to identify families experiencing difficulties and work with them to help them identify lasting solutions



Discretionary Housing Payments

- · Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs)
 - introduced in July 2001
 - used to provide financial assistance to claimants in receipt of housing benefit where it is considered that additional help with housing costs is required.
- Housing costs are generally defined as
 - a rental liability
 - rent deposits
 - rent in advance
 - other lump sum costs (e.g. removal costs).
- DHPs may be awarded as a one-off payment or periodically for an appropriate period.

Discretionary Housing Payments

- Officers work with applicants to identify other support that may be appropriate.
- DHP awards are not conditional and any decision will be based on a fair assessment of need.
- The wider Housing issue will be considered and discussed, where appropriate, with an appropriate Housing Options Officer before a decision is made.
- Consideration will be given to:-
 - what an award of DHP will achieve;
 - the consequences of not making the award; and
 - whether any alternative support can be provided.

Council Tax Benefit

- CTB ended March 2013
- LA required to introduce local Council Tax Support Scheme.
- Pensioners protected
- 10% cut in the funding as well as reductions in administration grant
- Default scheme in 2013/14
- 80% support introduced in April 2014
- All working age claimants pay a minimum of 20% towards their Council Tax Liability
- Scheme mostly mirrors existing HB requirements

Changes to Council Tax Benefit - Impacts

- 3606 households working age which were impacted as of November 2015
- 300 less than at start of new scheme in April 2014
- Impact on Council tax collection
 - In 2014/15 96.32% collected
 - In 2013/14 97.65% collected
 - As at end Jan 16 collected 93.72% for 15/16

Hardship Scheme

- £25k per annum
- Transitional relief for those facing hardship as a result of changes to Council Tax Support
- · Applications and officer identified
- Personal assessment
- · Full financial review
- Transitional relief and long term solutions

Hardship Scheme

- 211 customers
 - 66 direct applications
 - 145 customers were approached because officers identified that some support may be appropriate.
 - 30% were dealt with by Officers in the Locality teams
- Support provided in 2014/15
 - £12,272.68 support to pay Council Tax.
 - £31,294.22 value of other financial support provided.

Hardship Scheme

- 51% single persons
- 59% were on Employment Support Allowance.
- 27% not awarded hardship funding but officers identified other financial support that could be provided.

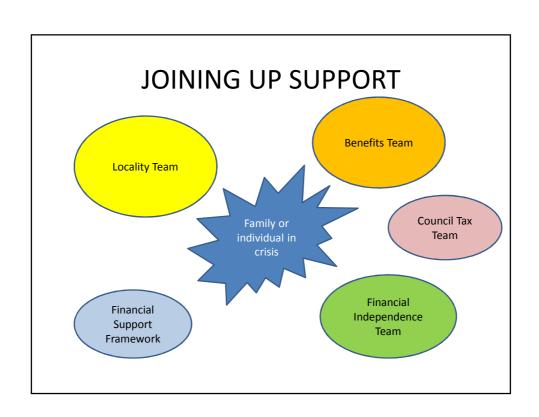
Universal Credit

- Introduced in Redditch in February 2015
- Single, job seekers making a new claim.
- 460 claims since go live
- 48 current claims at Feb 2016 on our system.
- Delivery Partnership Agreement in Place with RBC
- Support online claims, personal budgeting, manual council tax support claims



Essential Living Fund

- Previously operated by DWP (Crisis Support)
- Responsibility passed to WCC
- RBC lobbied for local delegation to ensure could best meet local needs
- Flexible discretionary scheme
- Face to face assessment of need
- No cash



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Public Realm Scheme

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr Greg Chance Planning, Regeneration, Economic Development & Transport/Cllr Debbie Taylor, Housing, Local Environment & Health
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Ruth Bamford Head of Planning & Regeneration/Guy Revans, Head of Environmental Services
Ward(s) Affected	Central
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	Yes
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Key Decision

1. <u>SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS</u>

This report provides information for members on a proposed public realm improvement scheme for the Town Centre.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE

- 1. That the plan as set out in Appendix 1 and timescales for the enhancement of Alcester Street and Market place, be approved:
- 2. That Capital expenditure of £250k towards the estimated total cost for this phase of the public realm scheme be approved.

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 The cost of the Alcester Street scheme is being funded by Worcestershire County Council and Redditch Borough Council.
- 3.2 It is estimated that the total costs for the schemes are:
 First Phase: Alcester Street & Market Place £850k
- 3.3 There are a number of funding elements that will pay for the scheme. The current fund of £850K is made up as follows:

WCC Highway funds	£500k
RBC Capital Budget	£275k
Section 106 monies	£75k

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The RBC Capital money detailed above has been allocated for some time and will not have an impact on current budgets.

Legal Implications

- 3.4 The town centre enhancement scheme is collaboration between the Council and Worcestershire County Council. The works to be carried out by the County Council and / or its contractor/s will be procured by the County Council. The scheme details are set out in **Appendix 1**
- 3.5 In November 2015, the County Council agreed to allocate £500K to the scheme. The Borough Council will contribute to the cost of the scheme up to the sum of £275K, for which expenditure members' approval is sought.
- 3.6 Agreements will be required between the Council and the County Council for the delivery of the scheme by the County Council, the works to be undertaken and the financial contributions to pay for them. These are currently under discussion.
- 3.7 The potential improvements will support the Councils Corporate Priority of "Community Safety" and to discharge the Council's statutory duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, 1988, the duty on the authority to exercise functions with due regard to the likely effect on and the need to, prevent crime and disorder in its area.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.8 In order to secure the future of Redditch Town Centre, Redditch Borough Council oversaw the production of the Redditch Town Centre Strategy approved by Members in 2009. This Strategy outlines the vision for the future of the Town Centre and the means of delivering this vision. The strategy was re assessed approximately one year ago with colleagues from North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration to ensure contents and priority projects are still valid with up to date costings.
- 3.9 Successful town centres have at their heart an area of civic space, where shoppers, workers and residents alike can meet and feel safe in a pleasant environment. This space serves not only as a focal point for community activities and events but also defines and identifies the centre itself. Improvements have already taken place to the public realm at Redditch Train Station and the north of St Stephens Church around the bandstand area. However' it is believed more can be done to develop the infrastructure of the Town Centre as a whole. This aligns with recommendations in the Redditch Town Centre Strategy to

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improve public realm in the town centre reinforcing the sense of place and image of Redditch. These improvements will complement the extensive refurbishment work already carried out inside the Kingfisher Centre and act as a 'draw' between the Kingfisher and the rest of the Town Centre and also as a draw between the town centre and the surrounding areas and districts.

- 3.10 The public realm improvements work across services meeting the following Council strategic purposes;
 - Keep my place safe & looking good
 - Help me run a successful business
 - Provide good things for me to see, do & visit
- 3.11 The enhancements will provide a clean, attractive and safe place for residents of the Borough and visitors alike. Alterations to the area will include resurfacing, new street furniture and signage and cleaning and repainting of the pole planters and street lights. By ensuring that the Town Centre is a vibrant place to live and work it will help to attract inward investment and new businesses.
- 3.12 The proposed enhancements cover a wide section of the town centre including Alcester Street, Market Place, South of St Stephens Church, Church Green East & West, Unicorn Hill, Bates Hill & a section of Prospect Hill.
- 3.13 The project will be split into various phases with each phase being presented to committee in due course to show the proposed changes. It is intended to start with Alcester Street and a section of Market Place as phase one. Improvements here will enhance both the day and night time economy and compliment the residential development being implemented at Threadneedle House by providing a clean and pleasant place for residents to live. Increased footfall in the area will result in increased natural surveillance helping to reduce issues of crime and anti-social behaviour. Materials to be used for resurfacing would be similar in nature to those used within Worcester City Centre which provides the following benefits;
 - Easy to source
 - Economies of scale
 - Agreement with WCC for like for like repair works
 - Extra stores of materials will be stocked at the Lydiate Ash depot.
 - Ease of maintenance

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3.14 Implementation works for this first phase are proposed for January 2017. These changes are shown in more detail in appendix 1– Proposed public realm scheme Phase 1.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.15 The upgraded Public Realm uses distinct linear zones which are different in a tactile sense and also visually. This helps the navigation of the Alcester Street/Market Place for those with some visual impairment. Clear lines of sight and unfettered movement along the Alcester Street/Market Place will also be possible on Market Days. A full Impact Assessment Record has been prepared. It should be noted that currently the surface at Alcester Street is very uneven with dips and tree root problems particularly outside Weatherspoon's and The Abbey Pub.
- 3.16 Consultation has begun with relevant public sector stakeholders and internally to ensure the scheme works well across services both from and aesthetic and operational perspective, these departments include;
 - WCC Lighting
 - WCC Highways
 - Redditch Town Centre Partnership
 - RBC Landscape
 - RBC Asset Maintenance team
 - RBC CCTV
- 3.17 Previous consultation has been carried out with the public when the overall vision for the Town Centre was detailed through Askew Nelson Architects in conjunction with St Stephens Church. As the proposals are now in final detail and will impact on all residents of the Borough and visitors using the Town Centre, it is proposed to hold a 4 week information period in mid-May organised by both RBC and WCC. This will include the following means of consultations;
 - Local Press
 - Social Media
 - Information drop in events
 - Exhibitions

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 The Public Realm budget will continue to be reviewed on an ongoing basis against the agreed costs of the scheme, completed elements, contingency elements and the availability of additional third party and 106 funding. Further reports will be brought to the Executive Committee accordingly.

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- 4.2 The project plan aims to cause minimal disruption and loss of trade for Redditch Market and impact to local businesses. This will be achieved by offering alternative locations for traders when works will affect the market area and appropriate screening treatment for businesses to ensure customers are aware they are open.
- 4.3 The Town Centre Coordinator and RBC Engineer will continuously monitor works planning, stakeholder consultation, construction progress and completion certification in order to constantly review and agree the ongoing programme to ensure the works programme is expedited efficiently with no un-necessary delays.

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Proposed public realm scheme phase 1

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7. <u>KEY</u>

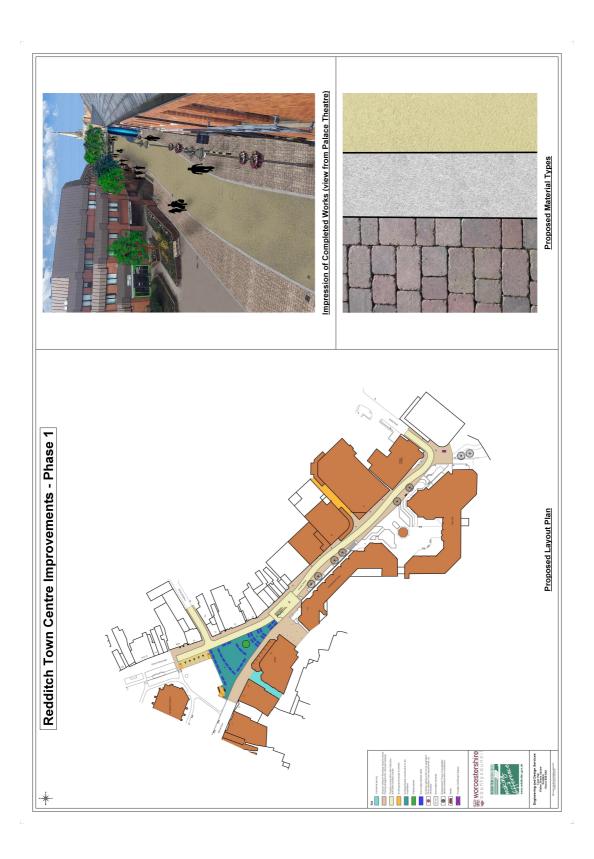
WCC – Worcestershire County Council RBC – Redditch Borough Council

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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EXECUTIVE

19th April 2016

NOMINATION OF AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE

Key Decision – N/A	
Wards Affected	Headless Cross and Oakenshaw
	Regeneration
Relevant Head of Service	Ruth Bamford – Head of Planning &
Portfolio Holder Consulted	
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr Greg Chance

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

To consider a request to list The Seven Stars Inn, Birchfield Road, Redditch as an Asset of Community Value.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Executive Committee consider the contents of the report and decides to either:-

- (a) Support the listing of The Seven Stars Inn, Redditch as an Asset of Community Value; or
- (b) Not support the listing of The Seven Stars Inn, Redditch as an Asset of Community Value

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 As Members are aware from previous reports the Localism Act included the 'Community Right to Bid' which gave communities a right to identify a building or other land that they believe to be of importance to their community's social well-being. If it comes up for sale there is a six month period within which they can prepare their bid to buy the asset. The property in question can then be sold on the open market. Community groups have the same rights as any other bidders but there is no preference given to the local community bid.
- 3.2 Officers have received a nomination for The Seven Stars Inn, Redditch of which the freehold is owned by Rocklands Social Club and currently tenanted. The nomination has been made by CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale), Bromsgrove and Redditch Branch. CAMRA has requested that the asset be nominated to give the ability for it to remain as a community asset in the future. The nomination is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 Rocklands Social Club and the local ward Councillors have been consulted as part of the process. There have been no responses received from the owners during the consultation period. It is worth noting that any sale of a going concern business would be exempt from

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the legislation relating to assets of community value. Therefore if the pub was to be sold on as a going concern the 6 month moratorium would not apply.

- 3.4 The nomination from CAMRA supports the inclusion of the asset due to the fact that The Seven Stars Inn provides a number of services that they believe further the social wellbeing and interests of the local community. These are detailed in the nomination form attached at Appendix 1 and include:
 - The only pub in the village of Headless Cross
 - Live Music Events
 - Local Community Groups meet regularly Ramblers, Sports teams
 - Good transport links
 - Sponsorship of a local football team
 - Fundraising events
- 3.5 CAMRA have provided officers with the constitution of the organisation.
- 3.6 Members are reminded that under the new process for assets of community value introduced in November 2012 the final decision regarding whether to list an asset rests with the Head of Planning and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration.
- 3.7 Ward members have been consulted about the application and at the date of publication we have received comments from one ward councillor supporting the proposed addition of the pub to the register of assets of community value. This is on the basis that the pub is one of a line of licensed premises along the route into the town centre and as such helps to contribute to the local economy and that of the town.

Financial Implications

3.8 Property owners who believe they have incurred costs as a result of complying with these procedures can apply for compensation from the Council. As previously reported to Council, Government recognises this as a potential risk to local authorities and will provide a safety net whereby any verified claims of over £20,000 will be met by Government. The owners also have a right to appeal the decision made by the Council in agreeing that the building be included on the Assets of Community Value.

Legal Implications

3.9 The Localism Act 2011 made provision for a new system of listing of assets of community value, giving community groups the right to make

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nominations, and requiring local authorities to maintain local registers. Further more detailed rules around the operation of assets of community value are set out in the Assets of Community Value Regulations 2012.

- 3.10 The test for listing an Asset of Community Value as set out in Section 88 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 is as follows:-
 - "A building or other land in a Local Authority's area is land of community value if in the opinion of the authority:-
 - (a) an actual current use of the building or other land that is not an ancillary user furthers the social well-being or social interests of the local community, and
 - (b) it is realistic to think that there can continue to be non-ancillary use of the building or other land which will further (whether or not in the same way) the social well-being or social interests of the local community."

Service/Operational Implications

3.11 There are no specific operational implications for the Borough. The list of nominated assets will be maintained by Land Charges officers and will be available on the Councils Website.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.12 The approval of the nomination of The Seven Stars Inn will ensure that should the property be declared for sale any community group would be able to express an interest in purchasing the asset. This would result in up to 6 months of moratorium whereby any sale could only be to a community group. Following this the owner can sell to any purchaser. This excludes the sale as a going concern.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 The register will be maintained to ensure that all assets nominated are included to mitigate any risks associated with assets not being included on the register. Consideration by officers and members will be undertaken at each nomination to ensure a consistent approach is taken.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Nomination Form

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EXECUTIVE

19th April 2016

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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Tel: (01527) 881202

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE - THE COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID

NOMINATION FORM

Section A: About your organisation

A1 Organisation's name and address

Name of organisation: Redditch & Bromsgrove CAMRA Branch
Address including postcode:
*full name as written in your constitution or rules (if appropriate)
A2 Contact details
Name: Martin Hancox
Position in organisation: Public Liaison Officer
Address including postcode:
Daytime telephone no:
Email address:
How and when can we contact you?
*by email or phone, and days of the week and/or times of day you would prefer

A3 Type of organisation

Description	Put a cross against all those that apply	Registration number of charity and/or company (if applicable)
Neighbourhood forum		
Parish Council		
Charity		
Community interest company		
Unincorporated body		
Company limited by guarantee	X	1270286
Industrial and provident society		

A4 Number of members registered to vote locally (unincorporated bodies only)

In the case of an unincorporated body, at least 21 of its members must be registered
to vote in the Redditch Borough . If relevant, please confirm the number of such
members. If they are registered to vote in the area of a neighbouring local authority,
rather than in Redditch, please confirm which area that is.
·

A5 Local connection

Your organisation must have a local connection, which means that its activities are wholly or partly concerned with the administrative area of Redditch Borough Council or a neighbouring local authority. In some cases this will be obvious, eg. a parish council in Redditch, or an organisation whose activities are confined to the district. If your connection may not be obvious to us please explain what your organisation's local connection is.

- The CAMRA Branch hosts a beer festival in the local area
- The Branch hosts meetings in the local pub and the local area
- The Branch nominates a local pub of the year in this area
- The Branch presents awards to pubs in the area
- The Branch runs campaigns to save local pubs in the area
- The Branch writes a local newsletter about pubs and campaigns in the area

A6 Distribution of surplus funds (certain types of organisation only)

If your organisation is an unincorporated body, a company limited by guarantee, or an industrial and provident society, its rules must provide that surplus funds are not distributed to members, but are applied wholly or partly for the benefit of the local area (ie. within the administrative area of Redditch or a neighbouring local authority). If relevant, please confirm that this is the case, and specifically which area this applies to.

CAMRA is a company limited by guarantee and is not profit distributing. CAMRA's National surplus is not distributed to its members and the individual CAMRA Branch activity is wholly or partly applied to the local authority area where the asset nominated is located. The group benefits the local community by hosting a local beer festival, supporting pubs in the area through campaigning and custom, and by writing a local newsletter for the local community.

A7 More about your organisation

What are the main aims and activities of your organisation?

- The CAMRA Branch hosts a beer festival in the local area
- The Branch hosts meetings in the local pub and the local area
- The Branch nominates a local pub of the year in this area
- The Branch presents awards to pubs in the area
- The Branch runs campaigns to save local pubs in the area
- The Branch writes a local newsletter about pubs and campaigns in the area

A8 Your organisation's rules

Please send us a copy of the relevant type of document for your organisation, and put a cross in the next column to indicate which one this is	X
Memorandum and Articles of Association (for a company)	X
Trust Deed (for a trust)	
Constitution and/or rules (for other organisations)	

Part B: About the land or building(s) you are nominating

B1 Description and address

What it is (eg. pub, local shop) Public House
Name of premises (eg. Post office , Community Centre) The Seven Stars Inn
Address including postcode (if known) 57 Birchfield Road, Headless Cross, Redditch Worcestershire, B97 4LB

B2 Sketch plan

Please include	(here or or	n a separat	e sheet)	a sketch	plan o	f the land.	This s	should
show:-								

• The boundaries of the land that you are nominating

 The boundaries of the land that you are normhaling The approximate size and position of any building(s) on the land. Any roads bordering the site. 					
We have attached documentation from the land registry to the application.					

B3 Owners and others with an interest in the building or land You should supply the following information, if possible. If any information is not known to you, please say so.

	Name(s)	Address(es)
Names of all current occupants of the land	Please see documentation from the land registry	Same as B1.
Names and current or last known addresses of all those owning the freehold of the land (ie. owner, head landlord, head lessor)	Please see documentation from the land registry	Please see documentation from the land registry
Names and current or last known addresses of all those having a leasehold interest in the land (ie. tenant, intermediate landlord, intermediate lessor)	Please see documentation from the land registry	Please see documentation from the land registry

B4 Why you think the building or land is of community value

Note that the following are not able to be assets of community value:-

- A building wholly used as a residence, together with land "connected with" that
 residence. This means adjoining land in the same ownership. Land is treated as
 adjoining if it is separated only by a road, railway, river or canal.
- A caravan site.
- Operational land. This is generally land belonging to the former utilities and other statutory operators.

Does it currently further the social wellbeing or social interests* of the local community, or has it done so in the recent past? If so, how?

Yes -

- Live music events are often hosted at the pub
- The pub hosts advertising for local events
- There is a beer garden attached to the pub which is used and enjoyed by local people
- There are televisions screening sporting events enjoyed by patrons
- The pub hosts regular quiz nights which bring the community together
- Free wifi is available for customers
- This pub is a member of CAMRA's LocAle scheme, committed to serving locally produced real ales and meeting consumer demands for local produce
- This is the only pub in the village
- There are good transport links available to/from the pub
- Local sport teams meet in this pub
- The pub sponsors a team which represents it in sports leagues
- There is good access for disabled people at the pub
- Both the pub and some of it's locals either help to raise funds for local and national charities or participate in events to raise funds. Charities supported are as follows Air Ambulance, Bromsgrove Primrose Hospice, Redditch Talking Newspaper, Cystic Fibrosis
- The Local Ramblers hold meetings here to discuss the forth coming rambles also The Redditch & Bromsgrove branch of CAMRA meet at this pub from time to time for the monthly meetings
- Local sports team meet at the pub including: The Seven Stars Darts, Dominoes, Crib and Pool Teams
- The pub provides other important local services to the community including access to free local newspapers and employment opportunities for young people
- The pub offers: A Dart Board, A Quiz Machine, Pool Tables and Board Games for the community to enjoy
- The pub holds regular team board games with other Redditch & Bromsgrove
 Pubs and also gets involved with the Wassale event in February in conjunction
 with a local members club The Rocklands Social Club and other local groups The
 pub regularly hosts charity fundraising nights to support its chosen charities
- Should this pub close it would have a major impact within the local community for all residents including one pensioner who is 94 years old and the groups / clubs that meet there would become homeless and in the case of the clubs they would have to disband as they are directly linked to this pub Activities that take place in the pub are darts matches social pool games charity raffles and events and one of the regulars is participating in a sponsored swim in aid of Cystic Fibrosis and all regulars are encouraged to sponsor this regular
- This Pub has been closed within the past 5 years so the locals are keen to acquire the A C V status for this establishment.

^{*}These could be cultural, recreational and/or sporting interests, so please say which one(s) apply.

Section C: Submitting this nomination

C1 What to include

- The rules of your organisation (question A8).
- Your sketch plan (question B2).

C2 Signature

By signing your name here (if submitting by post) or typing it (if submitting by email) you are confirming that the contents of this form are correct, to the best of your knowledge.

Signature			

C3 Where to send this form

You can submit this nomination:-

- By post to: Jayne Pickering, Executive Director Finance and Resources, Redditch Borough Council, Town Hall, Walter Stranz Square, Redditch, B98 8AH
- By email to: <u>j.pickering@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk</u>

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

19th April 2016

ADVISORY PANELS, WORKING GROUPS, ETC - UPDATE REPORT

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor John Fisher, Portfolio Holder	
	for Corporate Management	
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services	
Non-Key Decision		

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

To provide, for monitoring / management purposes, an update on the work of the Executive Committee's Advisory Panels, and similar bodies which report via the Executive Committee.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that

subject to Members' comments, the report be noted.

3. <u>UPDATES</u>

A. <u>ADVISORY PANELS</u>

	Meeting :	Lead Members / Officers : (Executive Members shown underlined)	Position: (Oral updates to be provided at the meeting by Lead Members or Officers, if no written update is available.)
1.	Planning Advisory Panel	Chair: Cllr Greg Chance / Vice-Chair: Cllr Bill Hartnett Ruth Bamford	Meeting dates: Tuesday 19th April
2.	Housing Advisory Panel	Chair: Cllr Mark Shurmer / Vice-Chair: Cllr Bill Hartnett Liz Tompkin	Last meeting – 15 th March 2016.

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

19th April 2016

B. <u>OTHER MEETINGS</u>

3.	Constitutional Review Working Party	Chair: Cllr Bill Hartnett / Vice-Chair: Cllr John Fisher Sheena Jones	Last meeting – 27 th January 2015
4.	Member Support Steering Group	Chair: Cllr John Fisher / Vice-Chair: Cllr Bill Hartnett Sheena Jones	Last meeting – 19 th April 2016.
5.	Grants Assessment Panel	Chair: Cllr David Bush / Vice-Chair: Cllr Greg Chance	Last meeting 24 th February 2016.

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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