

-BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

Thursday, 20th November, 2014

Present:- Councillors Robin Moss (Chair), Cherry Beath (Vice-Chair), Nathan Hartley, Patrick Anketell-Jones, Brian Simmons, Andrew Furse, Geoff Ward and David Martin

42 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

There were none.

44 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

45 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

46 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman informed the Panel that he would address the Cabinet on the issue of adequate provision of parking spaces for disabled outside the Keynsham Leisure Centre. The Chairman also said that he would need to address the Cabinet on behalf of the Panel, and for that reason he had asked for a cross-party support from the Panel.

The Panel unanimously **AGREED** that the Chairman should address the Cabinet on the issue of adequate provision of parking spaces for disabled outside the Keynsham Leisure Centre.

The Chairman added that he would draft a statement and circulate to political groups' spokespersons for approval before the next Cabinet meeting.

47 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

The Chairman informed the meeting that Susan Charles had sent her statement, which he read out in her absence.

In summary, Susan Charles expressed her concerns on the issue of adequate provision of parking spaces for disabled outside the Keynsham Leisure Centre.

The Chairman commented that the Panel had discussed this matter under Urgent Business Agreed by the Chairman item.

A full copy of the statement is available on the Minute Book at Democratic Services.

The Panel noted the statement.

48 MINUTES

The Panel confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

49 CABINET MEMBERS' UPDATES (15 MINUTES)

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Panel had received an update from Councillor Ben Stevens (Cabinet Member for Economic Development) and invited Councillor Stevens to highlight the main points in his update.

Councillor Stevens took the Panel through his update (attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes).

Members of the Panel welcomed an extensive update from Councillor Stevens.

Members of the Panel requested more information on the London Rd regeneration project in the update for the next meeting of the Panel. The Panel also said that an update could have more information on demolition of Bath's last remaining gas tower, and more information on the BDUK.

The Panel commented that the Council would need to insure that there must be enough car parking spaces in Bath for traders and visitors, in particular to those going to theatres and cinemas.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Stevens for his update.

Councillor Stevens then took the Panel through his update on a visit to China (attached as Appendix 2 to these minutes).

Members of the Panel welcomed the update and rationale behind the visit.

Councillor Stevens reminded the Panel that he was aware that the Panel had asked for a cost benefit analysis of the China trip, but he didn't feel that would be useful at this stage. As always with these programmes of developing economic relationships, the costs had been upfront and the benefits had been 'predicted'.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Stevens for his update.

50 PLACE - MEDIUM TERM PLAN UPDATE (45 MINUTES)

The Chairman invited Louise Fradd (Strategic Director for Place) to introduce the report.

Members of the Panel debated the report and highlighted the following issues:

- Restructure of services – It is about delivering better service but it should not happen all the time.
- Support for introduction of Heritage Tax
- Suggestion for an increase of 50p to Roman Baths entry
- Support for the River Corridor funding
- Victoria Art Gallery – charging for special events
- Support for inclusion of Bath Pavilion into leisure programme
- Suggestion for creation of formulae to attract more one-day visitors to stay in Bath
- Support for £100k allocated to Sawclose pedestrianised highway space
- Risk and needs assessment of the Rail electrification and Park & Ride
- Voluntary Tourist Tax – officers had been looking into that
- A request for a breakdown on figures for Zero Waste Policy
- Suggestion for income source – energy generation for waste
- Suggestion for income generation, such as more effective use of officers' and shared services.
- Support for existing income generators, such as parking, pre-planning applications and building control.

It was **RESOLVED** for officers to take on board comments made by the Panel

51 COMMUNITY SAFETY - CONNECTING FAMILIES UPDATE (30 MINUTES)

The Chairman invited Paula Bromley (Connecting Families Manager) to give a presentation to the Panel.

Paula Bromley highlighted the following points in her presentation:

- Payment by results
- Feedback
- The Expanded Programme/Phase 2 criteria
- Measuring Success: Breath and Depth
- Outcome dashboards (two documents)

Full copies of the presentation and two dashboard papers are available on the Minute Book at Democratic Services.

The Panel welcomed an update from Paula Bromley and congratulated the Connecting Families team on a successful work so far.

Councillor Simmons asked how many families, who had been in the Connecting Families programme, had been moving around from ward to ward.

Paula Bromley responded that the programme had not been monitoring movements of the family from ward to ward.

Paula Bromley added that the Government had been thinking on new ways of rewarding families involved in the programme, like Work Based Payments.

Councillor Beath asked about work with the voluntary sector.

Paula Bromley responded that work with the voluntary sector had been an important part of the programme because some of the families from the programme did not want to speak to employees of the Council.

The Panel asked if the Council has had statutory duty to make families with complex needs join the programme.

Paula Bromley responded the Council had been working with organisations such as Curo, the police and probation service on the project, to make families with complex needs join the programme.

The Chairman thanked Paula Bromley for the presentation. The Chairman commented that for one of the future meetings of this, or similar Panel, Paula Bromley should provide more information around difficult to engage families.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and presentation and also to congratulate to the Connecting Families team in good work being undertaken since the start of the programme.

52 PANEL WORKPLAN

It was **RESOLVED** to note the workplan with the following addition:

- Crime and Policing Act update – date to be confirmed

The meeting ended at 3.20 pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services