

‘Subject to Approval at the Next Working Group Meeting’

ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE WORKING GROUP

29 August 2017 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: - Councillors Hitchins (Chairman), Warren (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Bence, Brooks, Cates, Dingemans, Maconachie, Mrs Neno, Reynolds and Dr Walsh.

8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Ambler and Buckland.

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Monitoring Officer has advised Members of interim arrangements to follow when making declarations of interest. They have been advised that for the reasons explained below, they should make their declarations on the same basis as the former Code of Conduct using the descriptions of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

Reasons

- The Council has adopted the government’s example for a new local code of conduct, but new policies and procedures relating to the new local code are yet to be considered and adopted.
- Members have not yet been trained on the provisions of the new local code of conduct.
- The definition of Pecuniary Interests is narrower than the definition of Prejudicial Interests, so by declaring a matter as a Prejudicial Interest, that will cover the requirement to declare a Pecuniary Interest in the same matter.

Where a Member declares a “Prejudicial Interest” this will, in the interest of clarity for the public, be recorded in the Minutes as a Prejudicial and Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Dr Walsh declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 6, Arun Wellbeing 2016/17, as Chairman of the County Council’s Health & Adult Services Committee.

10. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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11. CHANGE TO THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Chairman advised that he had agreed to a change to the order of the Agenda as a representative from West Sussex County Council was in attendance for Agenda Item 6, Arun Wellbeing 2016/17.

12. ARUN WELLBEING 2016/17

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting the Partnership Manager, Community Wellbeing, and Tamsin Solomon, West Sussex County Council Public Health Lead – Wellbeing Hubs.

The Partnership Manager gave a brief but interesting presentation on the purpose, aims and outcomes of the Arun Wellbeing Programme. She informed Members of the case of “Henry” to illustrate how the team had been able to turn around his feelings of loneliness, isolation and anxiety to such an extent that he was now attending clubs and had made friends.

The Working Group heard that over 3,000 people had made contact with the Arun Wellbeing team during 2016/17, with nearly 50% having one-to-one interviews with an adviser. Numbers continued to increase but there had been decreased funding to the programme each year for the past two years, and clarification on 2018/19 funding would not be confirmed until early 2018. However, it had not been an issue as services had been rearranged to accommodate the decrease and if there was a further decrease next year, full consultation would be undertaken with partners before any changes were implemented.

The Partnership Manager was pleased to advise that a brand new website for Arun Wellbeing was being launched in October and she encouraged Members to log in and see what was on offer.

Mrs Solomon thanked the Partnership Manager and the team for their sterling work and went on to say that the programme had been set up to address inequalities and hard to reach groups and sought to achieve long term health outcomes. She provided more detail and background to the working of the programme.

Before opening the discussion, the Chairman thanked the Partnership Manager and Mrs Solomon for their work and commitment.

Members then participated in a full question and answer session with the officers. It was mentioned that more detail would have been welcomed in the report with regard to outcomes, particularly as paragraph 1.5 illustrated the potential for a public health time bomb. The outcomes would show what return the County Council was getting for its money and give an indication of the measureable effect of what, if anything, was being achieved. The Partnership Manager advised that meticulous records were kept due to the programme being highly monitored, and that this detail could be provided to

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Members if that would be helpful, particularly as that information was already provided to Public Health every quarter.

Further questions and comment centred on weight management, smoking, alcohol, drug abuse and how to improve the drop out statistics.

The Chairman then thanked the Partnership Manager and Mrs Solomon for their input and attendance at the meeting.

13. LEISURE CENTRE UPDATE

The Principal Landscape Officer presented this report which provided an update on the current progress of the new leisure centre project at Littlehampton; slides were also shown to better illustrate the current status of the site.

Members were informed that a really significant milestone had been achieved in that the pre-construction phase was reaching its end and work was moving towards the main construction phase, when everyone would be able to see things happening on site. The construction team would be commencing work in early September.

The Working Group also heard that:-

- The Development Control Committee at its meeting on 24 August 2017 had discharged 2 conditions relating to drainage and kitchen and catering.
- Site preparation enabling works were now complete.
- Southern Water had now finished the repair work and normal access arrangements had been resumed.
- Stakeholder engagement was working well and residents were being kept informed – the Facebook page was proving very popular. Wilmott Dixon would be sending out a letter to residents within the vicinity of the site.

In noting the update, a request was made that any letters and information sent to residents should also be sent to the relevant Ward Councillors so they were kept in the loop as members of the public often contacted their Councillor for information and it would be helpful to know what was going on.

Some questions were then asked by Members and responded to at the meeting by the Principal Landscape Officer.

The Chairman thanked the Principal Landscape Officer for her update and said he was looking forward to further updates on the project.

(The meeting concluded at 7.05 pm)