

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GROVE HOUSE, HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE

ON MONDAY 11 MARCH 2019

Present: Councillors John Kane (Town Mayor), Nigel Warren (Deputy Town Mayor), Pat Staples (Chairman), Eugene Ghent (Vice Chairman), Patricia Russell and Johnson Tamara

In Attendance: Councillors Peter Hollick and Liz Jones, David Ashlee (Town Clerk and Chief Executive), Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services), Kelley Hallam (Office Administrator), Sandy Coyle (Community and Young People's Services Manager) and Lisa Vincent (Events and Marketing Officer)

Apologies: Councillors Lisa Bird, John Chatterley, Terry Colbourne, Claire Meakins and Mike Mullany

Public: Two

33 MEETING DECLARED INQUORATE

There being insufficient Members present to constitute a quorum, those Members present agreed to continue with the meeting to receive and discuss reports.

34 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no specific declarations of interest.

35 EVENTS AND MARKETING

The Events and Marketing Manager presented an update report on the planning and development of this year's events. She also updated members on the usage of the Council's website and social media.

Members were informed that at this year's Priory Pictures, an adapted screening of one of the selected films would be shown at an earlier time. This would be an autism and hearing impairment friendly film with lower sound volume, subtitles, a wheel chair user viewing area and enclosed quiet space.

36 OLDER PEOPLE'S DAY CARE SERVICE

The Community and Young People's Services Manager reported on attendances, activities and outings for the Good Companions Club and the Creasey Park Community Football Centre over 55s Lunch Club.

The last coffee morning held at the United Services Club had been a great success with 16 in attendance. The next coffee morning would be in Grove Corner on 12 March with 6 more arranged throughout the year.

The Big Lunch would be held on Tuesday 11 June. Over half the tickets had already been issued.

37 GROVE CORNER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Community and Young People's Services Manager reported on recent attendance figures and activities at Grove Corner and reported on recent community engagement activities.

The daytime hire of Grove Corner had again increased. Sight Concern, NOAH Community Café, Minds2gether and the NHS were all currently using the centre.

Officers had met with Groundwork and agreed arrangements for the delivery of youth provision from April 2019 for 12 months. They would deliver a variety of activities and projects as well as 12 hours of face-to-face delivery.

The Friends of Dunstable Cemetery now had a Chairman and a Treasurer. They would be hosting another Headlines Behind the Headstones event in July based on WWII graves.

38 PRIORY HOUSE

The Head of Community Services presented a report on recent operations and activities at Priory House, including trading account figures and Priory House maintenance.

The recruitment process had started for one Duty Manager following a resignation. This would leave Priory House short staffed from April until the position was filled.

Two bookings for weddings in the Jacobean Room had now been confirmed.

Members noted that the Income and Expenditure report showed a positive variance.

39 DUNSTABLE TOWN CENTRE SERVICES

The Head of Community Services updated the Committee on Town Centre Services including Ashton Square Toilets and the themed and craft market trader figures.

Members were informed that the Town Centre Services Officer was planning several events to take place on The Square including maypole dancing, a table football tournament and a beach snow globe. Officers were also working on an 'Awards for All' bid to hold a cultural weekend event to increase The Square's profile as a community space and encourage others to use it.

40 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER REQUEST FOR FUNDING

The Town Clerk and Chief Executive presented a report that requested a response to the letter received from the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) that requested funding for additional Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) in Dunstable.

The Committee agreed that one PCSO would not have much of an impact on Dunstable and the request had arrived too late as the budget had already been set for 2019/2020 but as the Committee was not quorate a resolution and formal response would have to be decided by the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

41 **REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

South Bedfordshire Dial-a-Ride:

Dial-A-Ride were not happy with CBC's tendering process and had made a complaint. This was being looked into by CBC.

Dunstable Town Band:

Dunstable Town Band had four concerts lined up so far this summer with the possibility of an additional one so were practicing hard for those.

As this was the last Committee meeting that Councillor Staples would be Chairman she thanked all the Councillors and Officers for their hard work and support over the years.