

## **DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**HELD ON MONDAY 3 JUNE 2024 FROM 7:00 pm**

Present: Councillors Louise O’Riordan (Town Mayor), Sally Kimondo (Deputy Mayor), Liz Jones (Chair), Matthew Neall (Vice-Chair), Trevor Adams, Robert Blennerhassett, Peter Hollick, Gregory Alderman, Mark Davis, John Gurney, and Nicholas Kotarski.

In Attendance: Gina Thanky (Events Officer), Gill Peck (Youth and Community Manager), Georgia Pearson (Democratic Services Manager) and Paul Hodson (Town Clerk and Chief Executive)

In Attendance: Annette Clynes (Town Centre Manager), Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services), and Michelle Collings (HSHAZ Manager)  
(Remotely)

Apologies: Councillor Wendy Bater

Public: Nil

#### **108/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Jones declared an interest in Agenda item 11, Peter Newton Centre due to the centre being named after her late father.

#### **109/24 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of the Community Services Committee held on 4 March 2024 and 7 May 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **110/24 GROVE CORNER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Youth and Community Manager summarised the report provided to members.

It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** to accept the UKSPF Pilot and Test funding, should the application submitted by the Head of Community Services and the Events Officer be successful, for a youth festival.

#### **111/24 YOUTH WORKER APPRENTICE**

The Youth and Community Manager summarised the report provided to members and highlighted the importance that a Youth Worker Apprentice would bring to the Council and wider community.

It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** to approve the hourly rate of £12 for the new Apprentice Youth Worker and the additional budget required for the Apprentice

**112/24**      **OLDER PEOPLES' SERVICES**

Members noted the report provided which was summarised by the Youth and Community Manager.

**113/24**      **TOWN CENTRE SERVICES**

The Town Centre Manager highlighted the key points of the report to members.

Unfortunately, it was noted that the Ashton Square toilets were vandalised on the previous Thursday and as a result of this it may be necessary to close the men's toilets for one day to re-seal and mend the toilets.

The Town Centre Manager advised that on Thursday coming new bunting was to be put up in Middle Row and that the hats will be coming down and anyone who wishes to collect their hats to please do so.

**114/24**      **EVENTS**

The Events Officer summarised the key points in the report. The Events Officer updated members that for the Dunstable Classic Motor Rally on Saturday 8 June 2024, since writing the report, 250 cars have now entered.

16,000 events leaflets which include the Classic Motor Rally, Dunstable Live, Sunday Concerts, Party in the Park, Around the World and Priory Pictures, will be trialled as a leaflet drop to be delivered to households in Dunstable which will commence this week, with the remaining 2,000 being placed throughout the town centre.

**115/24**      **PRIORY HOUSE**

The Head of Community Services summarised the report provided to members and highlighted key information.

**116/24**      **UKSPF COMMUNITY FUNDING SECOND ROUND**

The HSHAZ Programme Manager summarised the key elements of the report to members.

Since the report was prepared the Cultural Services Manager and the HSHAZ Programme Manager had attended 2 meetings with contractors who provide the technology for the smartphone applications being used at outdoor sites, with avatar based storytelling and quizzes and have also been provided with a ballpark costing from a third contractor.

It was also mentioned that since the report was prepared, 2 contractors have advised that there would be some ongoing charges. One provider has advised that there would be no maintenance charge for the first year however for the ongoing years there would be a cost of £750 per annum. One of the other providers have also advised that there will be an annual charge for hosting and software updates for a cost of £2,000.

It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** to apply for, accept and spend a UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) community grant should the application be successful.

It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED:** to fund the necessary £8,000 match funding for a UKSPF community grant from existing budgets should the application be successful.

**117/24**      **BEDFORDSHIRE FA, PETER NEWTON CENTRE**

The Head of Community Services summarised key points of the report.

**118/24**      **REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

South Beds Dial-a-Ride Management Committee – Councillor Peter Hollick

Councillor Hollick advised members that some new local bus services have been taken on very recently.

Dunstable Town Band – Councillor Robert Blennerhassett

No Update.

Men in Sheds – Councillor Richard Attwell

Councillor Jones updated members on behalf of Councillor Attwell that he has not been successful in obtaining any update from the organisation. Councillor John Gurney advised as a trustee of the organisation that he has written to the chairman asking them to explain to Councillor Attwell what they would like him to do as their representative and to also provide him with a summary of their recent trustee meeting.

**The meeting closed at 8:17 pm**