

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY REGENERATION, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH AND WELL BEING) COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Scrutiny (Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being) Committee in virtual environment on Thursday 24th September 2020.

Present:

Councillors A Clarke (Chairman), Mrs P L Ackroyd, L Beech, Mrs B Brady, Mrs V J Gould, P Hudson, S A Hussain, Mrs J A Killoran, Ms A J Legg, M Metcalfe, M Shrive, P Walker and C D Wileman.

Also Present:

Councillor B G Peters, Deputy Leader (Regulatory and Community Support) (min nos 71/20-75/20 only)

Officers Present:

The Head of Service (Mark Rizk), the Enforcement Team Leader (min nos 71/20-74/20 inclusive), the Communities and Open Spaces Manager, the Programmes and Transformation Team Leader, the Project Officer, Open Spaces (min nos 71/20-75/20 inclusive) and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor G Lamb.

71/20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations at the commencement of the meeting.

72/20 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

73/20 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 18th August 2020 be approved as a correct record.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion Councillor	Those voting against	Those abstaining
A Clarke		Mrs P L Ackroyd
Mrs B Brady		
Mrs V J Gould		
P Hudson		
Mrs J A Killoran		
Ms A J Legg		
M Metcalfe		
M Shrive		

Those voting for the motion Councillor	Those voting against	Those abstaining
P Walker		
C D Wileman		

74/20 **FLY TIPPING AND LITTERING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The Committee received a presentation from the Communities and Open Spaces Manager on the work of the Community and Civil Enforcement team during the pandemic. Councillors noted that officers had been responding to calls for enforcement action throughout the borough during the period as necessary. During March – September 2020 there had been 505 new cases reported with 170 cases of fly tipping reported during the lockdown period. A peak in the number of jobs was recorded during July, with 99 recorded and one of the highest wards for fly tipping was Anglesey ward with 38% of the jobs coming from that area.

At this juncture Councillor L Beech joined the meeting.

Councillors noted that once reported, removal times varied, dependant on the nature of the waste dumped (ie. hazardous etc). The Enforcement Manager agreed to provide the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued during the period, in addition to the cost of removal to the Committee under separate cover.

NOTED.

75/20 **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

Councillors received a presentation from the Communities and Open Spaces Manager on Grounds Maintenance and volunteering within the Borough.

At this juncture Councillor S A Hussain joined the meeting.

Councillors noted that the maintenance of open spaces was based on universal schedule of rates and that any works carried out by the Contractor were inspected by the Open Spaces team. Grass cutting took place 10 times a year between March and October. It was highlighted that volunteers did not replace any part of the Grounds Maintenance Contract and nor did they replace any officers. 1,726 working hours had been recorded from volunteers in 2019/20 and there were approximately 50 volunteers aged between 18-75 years old from all aspects of the community. Councillors noted the past “In Bloom” successes and that the volunteers played an integral role in this success.

At this juncture Councillors M Shrive and P Walker left the meeting.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED.

76/20 **FLOODING AND DRAINAGE IN THE BOROUGH**

Questions received from Councillors had been forwarded to Staffordshire County Council, but no response had been received as yet. Councillors noted that the relevant Cabinet member had confirmed his attendance at the December meeting of the Committee.

NOTED.

77/20 **CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21 QUARTER 1**

The report of the Head of Service (Sal Khan) on the update on progress at the end of the first quarter of 2020/21 financial year in achieving the “Community Regeneration” and “Environment and Health and Well Being” priorities set out in the Corporate plan was considered. The following appendices had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix 1: Contains comprehensive data on all Corporate Indicators;
- Appendix 2: Contains comprehensive data for Quarter 1 2020/21 from the benchmarking exercise coordinated by East Staffordshire Borough Council;
- Appendix 3: Contains comprehensive data on the benchmarking exercise for the end of year 2019/20 coordinated by East Staffordshire Borough Council.

It was noted that following an appraisal of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the delivery of the Corporate Plan targets, an Executive Decision was taken to revise 25 targets. This included agreeing targets for 10 indicators, amending 4 targets, the deferral of 8 targets, the deletion of 2 targets and the introduction of 1 new target as detailed in EDR number 232/20 and therefore the report provided a quarter 1 update against the revised set of targets.

Councillors noted that out of the 109 indicators in total 27 contributed to the “Community Regeneration” Corporate priority and of these 20 were green status, 1 was amber, 0 were red, 2 have been deferred and 4 were not yet due to be reported. Of the 21 live targets 95.24% were green status, 4.76% were amber and 0 were red. 26 targets contributed to the “Environment and Health and Well Being” Corporate priority and of these 26 targets, 15 were green status, 1 was amber, 0 were red, 4 had been deferred and 5 were not yet due to be reported. Of the 17 live targets, 94.12% were green status, 5.88% were amber and 0 were red.

NOTED.

78/20 **SCRUTINY REVIEW UPDATES**

In the absence of Councillor G Lamb, the Chairman read out an update. It was anticipated that a final report on the review of Sports Development would be submitted to the next meeting.

The Chairman asked the Committee to consider any new topics for review, Councillor S A Hussain suggested Coronavirus response and significant lessons which can be learned could be considered as a topic for future review.

It was agreed that the next topic for review would be Supporting and Engaging with Community Groups, Councillors A Clarke, Mrs V J Gould, S A Hussain and Ms A J Legg agreed to serve on this sub group.

NOTED.

79/20 **PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

Councillors received for information a list of public Executive Decision Records.

NOTED.

80/20 **QUESTIONS**

No questions had been received prior to the meeting.

81/20 **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was agreed that a special meeting be arranged in early November, with an invitation being extended to the CCG to attend this meeting, subject to confirmation of Councillor availability.

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on 16th December 2020.

NOTED.

82/20 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

