

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel (to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 4 February 2025

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor F L Burgess (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs L E Clubley (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs S M Bayford, R N Bird, Miss T Harper, L J Whittle and
D P Wiltshire

Also Present: Councillor Mrs C L A Hockley (Executive Member for Leisure and Community), Councillor F W Birkett (Item 8) and Councillor Mrs L M Birkett (Item 8).



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies of absence were received.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes from the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel meeting held on the 02 October 2024 be signed and confirmed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made no announcements at the meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

No declarations of interest were received at the meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received at the meeting.

6. OPPORTUNITIES PLAN UPDATE

The Panel received a report from the Policy, Engagement and Research Manager which presented an overall update on the current Opportunities Plan including projects linked to the Leisure and Community Portfolio.

Members of the Panel had attended a Opportunities Plan Workshop prior to the Panel meeting. The Policy, Engagement and Research Manager thanked the Panel Members for attending the workshop as their input is fundamental in developing the plan moving forward.

RESOLVED that the Leisure and Community Panel considered the progress of the current Opportunities Plan projects.

7. SCOPING REPORT - EVERYONE ACTIVE

Members of the Panel considered a Scoping Report that had been drafted to accompany an invitation to ask Everyone Active to attend a future meeting of the Panel.

The Leisure and Community Manager advised that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel will be invited along to the same meeting, as several elements of the presentation from Everyone Active will be of interest to Members of that Panel.

Members considered the contents of the scoping report and agreed that this will be a very informative presentation for the Panel.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the contents of the scoping report.

8. FAREHAM PARK VISION

The Panel received a presentation from the Leisure and Community Manager which provided an update on the Fareham Park Vision. The presentation provided details on the progress of both Phase 1 & 2 of the project and information on the next steps. A copy of the presentation has been published with these Minutes.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Mrs, L and F Birkett to the meeting as Ward Councillors for Fareham Park.

Phase 1 of the project includes the installation of the new play area which is near completion. Members were delighted with the new facility which has equipment for children of all ages and abilities. The play area will be open within the coming weeks, with a formal grand opening to take place in the Spring.

Phase 2 will provide a new Community Centre at the site, for which an outline planning application has been submitted. The Leisure and Community Manager explained the planning process and how it is hoped that this phase will be funded. Information was also provided on the role of the Advisory Committee, which is Chaired by Councillor F Birkett and how this is an integral part of the ongoing consultation with the community in the development of the new community facility.

RESOLVED that the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel note the contents of the presentation.

9. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Members of the Panel were asked for any comments or questions with regards to the items of Executive Business.

(1) Voluntary Sector Funding Application - Titchfield Community Association

No questions or comments were received.

(2) Fareham Park Vision Update

No questions or comments were received.

(3) Community Funding Application - Portchester Choir

No questions or comments were received.

(4) Community Funding Application - Titchfield Village Trust

No questions or comments were received.

10. LEISURE AND COMMUNITY SCRUTINY PANEL PRIORITIES

Members of the Panel were asked to consider the Scrutiny Priorities for the Panel. Members of the Panel asked if a scoping report could be considered to invite Y-Services to a Panel meeting during 2025/26.

The Assistant Director (Democracy) addressed the Panel to advise that Officers have already contacted Everyone Active who are able to attend the meeting on the 25 March 2025. The hope is also to draft another Scoping report for Shopmobility to attend a future meeting of the Panel which will also be brought to the March meeting for consideration, along with a Leisure and Community Project update.

RESOLVED that the Panel considered the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Priorities.

(The meeting started at 6.06 pm
and ended at 7.05 pm).

..... Chairman

..... Date

Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel

Page 5

Fareham Park Vision Update

Tuesday 4 February 2025

Minute Item 8

Fareham Park Vision Aims

- To develop new leisure and community facilities to meet the needs of our most deprived area in consultation with local residents
- To free up land for much-needed affordable housing.
- The effective and efficient use of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund allocation (£700K) – needs to be spent by March 2025!

Page 6



Phase 1 Update

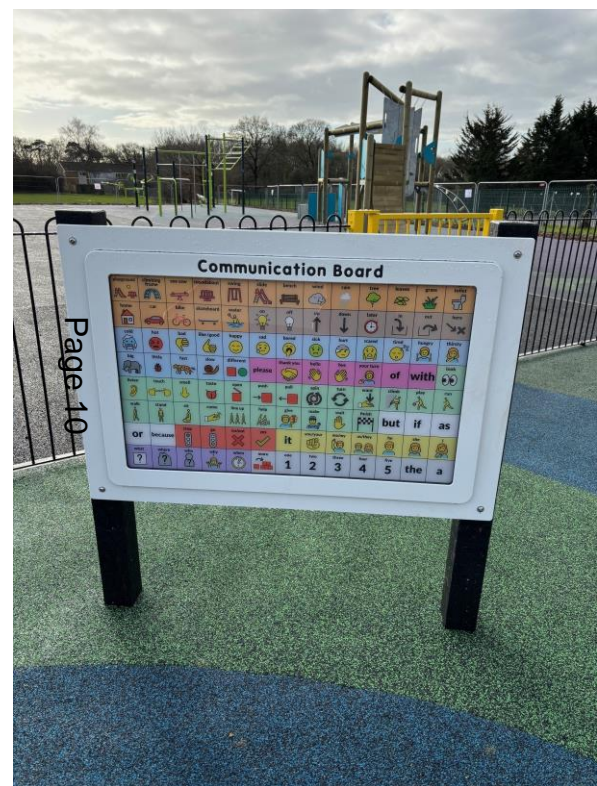
Play Improvements

- Play area, multi-use social area and gym equipment waiting to be inspected prior to being opened
- Line marking the MUSA and running track to be completed when the weather is better
- Landscaping, fence protection, signage and path works to be completed in the Spring
- Old play area and MUGA removal works have just started
- Official opening in the Spring

Play Improvements



Inclusive equipment



Multi-Use Social Area



FAREHAM PARK MUSA, WELLNESS ZONE AND INCLUSIVE PLAY AREA

150+ USERS
2-18+ YEARS
30+ PLAY VALUES

NEW INCLUSIVE WELLNESS ZONE



Page 12

Pitch and Site Improvements

- Reorientation of football goals
- Pitch drainage
- Removal of mound
- Installation of benches and bins
- Improvements to car parks

Page 13



Image showing the mound and old fencing



Image showing the area afterwards

Corporate Social Responsibilities

- Play contractors, Eibe have donated:
 - Two electronic tablets to Henry Cort Community College and St Columba School
 - £200 to Hampshire Food Revolution
 - Donation of around 300 trees
 - Support at the official opening

Page 14



Community Engagement

- Door-to-door engagement prior to Planning Application submission
- Community stroll event
- Identification of community volunteers for the Advisory Committee
- Let's Talk Fareham
- On-site communications

Page 15



Community Stroll – 9 November 2024



On- site communication

Phase 2 Update

Advisory Committee

- Chaired by Councillor Fred Birkett
- 3 Community representatives
- Representation includes Community Association, Hampshire Food Revolution, Petanque Club, Key to Joy, Social Prescribers, Citizens Advice, Y Services.

Page 17

Internal layout feedback and webpage drafting

- Ongoing consultation – development of the new community facilities
- Training sessions for 1 year to add confidence and upskill new committee members
- Transfer to Community Association Trustees so Association is engaged and effective ready to take on the responsibility of running the new Community Centre

Planning

- Submission of Outline Planning in December.
- Few public comments received
- Further information requested from Ecologist
- Delegated decision – 14 February

• Page 18 •



Grant Funding Opportunities

- Work with Moneytree
- Case of Support
- Identification of potential funders
- Memorandum of Understanding
- 15-20% success rate currently
- Working with Finance colleagues

Page 19



Next Steps

- Update from HCC on Henry Cort College – review car park requirements
- Working with Property Services to develop a specification to appoint a design team
- Finalise costs for delivery and timeframes – anticipate up to 3 years before completion of community centre.
- Progress with grant funding applications

Next Steps

- Continue to work with Advisory Committee to make sure design reflects the needs of the community
- Further updates to be presented to the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel as project progresses
- Reserved matters to be approved (appearance, access, environmental impact, layout, scale/dimensions)
- Report to the Executive to flag any identified funding shortfall and to appoint contractors to build the new community centre

Questions?