

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Date: Tuesday, 7 June 2022

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor D G Foot (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs L E Clubley (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: R Bird, Mrs K K Trott, Miss T G Harper and Mrs P M Bryant
(deputising for M J Ford, JP)

**Also
Present:**



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors M Ford and Mrs S Bayford.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel meeting held on the 11 January 2022 be signed and confirmed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements made by the Chairman.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. LEISURE AND COMMUNITY PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

The Panel received a presentation from the Executive Member for Leisure and Community, Councillor Mrs S Walker providing an overview of the Leisure and Community Portfolio. A copy of the presentation is appended to these Minutes.

The Director of Leisure and Community introduced the item to the Panel and began by highlighting the purpose of the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel to Members. This included highlighting the areas of responsibility which sit within the Leisure and Community Portfolio and explaining the scrutiny role of the Panel.

Councillor Mrs Walker then delivered the remainder of the presentation to the Panel explaining in detail what is provided within the Leisure and Community Portfolio that she, as Executive Member, is responsible for. She began by highlighting to the Panel that the only statutory provision that the Council is required to provide is allotments.

The presentation went on to discuss Community Buildings, Leisure Centres and an overview of the play areas throughout the Borough including the destination play areas at Holly Hill, Daedalus and Abbey Meadows. Councillor Mrs Walker expressed delight at the recent installation of a wheelchair swing at the Holly Hill play area and hoped that more inclusive equipment will be installed at more sites across the Borough.

Also highlighted within the presentation were the many events that the Leisure and Community Team had organised across the Borough. In particular Councillor Mrs Walker praised the team for the recent Queens Platinum

Jubilee celebrations at Portchester Castle. The Beacon Lighting saw in excess of 5000 people in attendance which is testament to the hard work of the Leisure and Community Team.

Members of the Panel asked questions for clarification throughout the presentation. Namely questions were asked about the ongoing challenges with moving forward the Cams Alders Vision. This has been an item of discussion for the Panel for some time and Members requested an update. The Director of Leisure and Community reassured the Panel that a great deal of discussions had been taking place and it is hoped that an update would be brought to the Panel within this calendar year.

Lastly, Members expressed disappointment that the sand pit would not feature within the programme of events for the Town Centre this summer. Officers explained that although the sand pit was very popular last year and had attracted many visitors to Fareham Town Centre, the challenges faced with logistics and funding had meant that the Council wasn't able to provide the facility this year. It is hoped that the proposed programme of events will be as popular, and officers will investigate securing the sand pit for future years.

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

7. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

(1) Community Fund Application - Dinky Tinkers

No comments were received.

(2) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Proposals

No comments were received.

(3) Grant Money for Carbon Reduction Initiatives at Community Centres

No comments were received.

(4) Community Fund Application - Funtley Village Society

No comments were received.

8. LEISURE AND COMMUNITY SCRUTINY PANEL PRIORITIES

The Panel considered the Scrutiny Priorities for the Leisure and Community Scrutiny Panel.

The Director for Leisure and Community addressed the Panel to highlight the priority areas that had been identified in the last municipal year and talk through some of the topics which the Panel can expect to be brought by way of pre-scrutiny within this municipal year.

The Chairman asked Members if they had any topics which they wished to brought to a future meeting.

The Panel agreed that they wish to invite the Hampshire Cultural Trust to a future meeting in order to ask questions about the Westbury Manor Museum. Members expressed interest in footfall for both the café and the museum, including details on the impact the Covid-19 Pandemic has had on attendance to both the café and the museum and what is being done to encourage people to visit the venue. Members would also like to know about the volunteer provision as it is believed there have been challenges with staffing. It was agreed that officers would compose a scoping report in consultation with the Chairman to invite the Hampshire Cultural Trust to a future meeting of the Panel.

Members of the Panel also asked if some information could be provided through an agenda item on the grant money that has been made available to Community Centres to reduce their carbon footprint. Specifically, Members asked for information on what this money had been spent on and what other measures the Centres are introducing to reduce their impact on the environment. The Director of Leisure and Community advised that officers would investigate this as an item to be brought to a future meeting of the Panel.

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

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 7.00 pm).