

Policy and Resources Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, 06 September 2016 at 18:30

Present:

Councillor Plant (in the Chair), Councillors Annison, Carpenter, B Coleman, A Grey, K Grey, Jeal, Thirtle, Wainwright, Walker and Williamson.

Councillor Flaxman-Taylor attended as a substitute for Councillor Smith.

Mrs S Oxtoby (Chief Executive), Mrs J Beck (Director of Customer Services), Mrs K Watts (Transformation Programme Manager), Ms K Sly (Interim Section 151 Officer), Mr T Chaplin (Group Manager Housing Services), Mrs M Lee (Group Manager Customer Services), Mrs D Summers (Group Manager Resources), Mr R Hodds (Corporate Governance Manager), Mr C Rowland (Corporate Policy and Performance Officer) and Mrs L Snow (Capital Projects and senior Accountant).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hacon and Smith.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Walker declared a non pecuniary interest in relation to the item in respect to site 12a Beacon Park and was allowed to speak and vote on the item.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2016 were confirmed, subject to

the inclusion of a declaration of interest by Councillor Carpenter in relation to the item concerning the Community Governance Review.

4 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee received and noted the items contained within the Forward Plan for the Policy and Resources Committee. The Corporate Governance Manager reported that there would be a special meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on the 27th September 2016 to consider the ERDF - ESF Bids.

5 QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered the Transformation Manager's report which gave an update on the current performance for the first Quarter 2016/2017 (April - June) where progress was assessed against targets which had been set at the start of the financial year. The summary report highlighted performance measures that had not achieved the target for this period and measures that do not have a target but are moving in the wrong direction. The report also highlighted a number of measures that are showing exceptional performance against targets.

With regard to the performance indicator HN08 (Number of complaints of ASB's received), Councillor Wainwright asked for further information as to where these complaints had been received from to determine if there was a pattern for these complaints. The Group Manager (Housing Services) reported that these figures would be reported to the Housing and Neighbourhoods Committee and that details of these would be sent to Councillor Wainwright.

The Interim Chief Executive Officer also referred to the performance indicators relating to planning performance which would be subject of a report to the next Policy and Resources Committee and also on outstanding audit recommendations which would be the subject of consideration by the Audit and Risk Committee at its next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That all measures be monitored during the next quarter.
- (ii) That EMT review the number of internal audit recommendations outstanding (past agreed implementation date, all priority levels (PR26) with the aim to reduce the number of outstanding recommendations during 2016/17 and set a target of 0 from April 2017.

6 BUSINESS RATES - WRITE OFFS

The Committee considered the Revenue Manager's report which gave details of Business Rates that are currently considered uncollectable.

Councillor Jeal asked whether there was any action that could be taken to improve the procedure for the collection of outstanding rates and the Group Manager (Customer Services) reported that the Council was bound by legislation on the procedure to seek payments. The Interim Chief Executive Officer reported that a schedule could be prepared for consideration by members showing all the outstanding debts owed to the Council.

RESOLVED:

That the schedule of business rates arrears totally £35,652.13 as detailed in the Revenue Manager's report be written off for accountancy purposes.

7 2016/17 PERIOD 4 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Committee considered the Housing Business and Finance Manager's HRA budget monitoring report for period 4.

RESOLVED:

- (i) To agree an increase in existing 2016/17 HRA capital programme as detailed in table 5 of the Housing Business and Finance Manager's report.
- (ii) To agree a virement from HRA reserves to revenue contribution to capital, as detailed in table 3 of the Housing Business and Finance manager's report, subject to approval from the Section 151 Officer.
- (iii) To agree a virement on the HRA Revenue, Repairs and Maintenance Budget to the HRA Capital Programme, as detailed in table 5 of the Housing Business and Finance Manager's report, subject to approval of the Section 151 Officer.

8 2016/17 PERIOD 4 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Committee considered the Group Manager (Resources), period 4 budget monitoring report.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the 2016/17 budget monitoring position to the end of period 4 (31 July 2016) be noted.
- (ii) That approval be given to the criteria as outlined at paragraph 3.4 of the Group Manager Resources report for the allocation of funds from the Invest To Save earmarked reserve.

9 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act.

10 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON SITE 12A BEACON PARK
(Confidential Minute on this Item)

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at: 19:13

Economic Development Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, 07 September 2016 at 18:30

PRESENT: Councillor B Coleman (in the Chair), M Coleman, Grant, Hammond, Jeal, Thurtle, A Grey, K Grey, Pratt, Reynolds, Wainwright, Walch, Walker.

Councillor A Grey substituted for Councillor Stenhouse, Councillor M Coleman substituted for Councillor Hanton.

Mr A Carr (Group Manager - Tourism & Communications), Mr D Glason (Group Manager - Growth), Mr R Gregory (Group Manager - Neighbourhoods and Communities), Mr R Read (Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities), Mr G Jones (Information Manager), Mrs K Watts (Transformation Programme Manager).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Stenhouse and Hanton.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors B Coleman, Wainwright and Walch declared a personal interest in St Georges Trust.

In line with the Constitution they were allowed to speak and vote on this matter.

3 MINUTES

Councillor Hammond's name was added to the Minutes.

The Minute on Item 6 regarding appeals was clarified. Members agreed with the Monitoring Officers advice to keep the status quo.

4 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising that are not covered by the agenda.

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Forward Plan was agreed.

6 CULTURE STRATEGY

A briefing on the new Culture Strategy was presented.

The Committee received the report from the Group Manager Neighbourhoods and Communities.

A Member asked if the cost of the Strategic Project Manager would be met from existing budgets. It was reported that there would not be an additional cost as the Borough Council would be putting in a bid for additional funding.

A Member asked how many responses had been received to the consultation. It was reported that 47 of the responses were confirmed to be from residents.

A Member asked if we received funding would it be on-going. It was reported that there would be no on-going liability.

RESOLVED:

The Cultural Strategy be approved.

7 GREAT PLACE SCHEME

The Committee received the report from the Group Manager Neighbourhoods and Communities.

It was noted that the Council as a Non Profit Organisation is eligible to bid for funding but will do so as part of a wider partnership of cultural organisations, it was also reported that an approach had been made by Waveney Council with

regard to a joint submission.

A Member asked if the Committee could make the recommendation or if it needed to go to Policy and Resources. The Committee were advised that under the Constitution they were able to make the recommendation.

A expression of interest needs to be submitted in October with the full submission in January 2017.

RESOLVED:

That an Expression of Interest to the Great Place Scheme be made.

8 WINTER GARDENS RESTORATION PROGRAMME

The Committee received the report from the Group Manager Neighbourhoods and Communities.

It was noted that a press release had been issued due to public interest.

The Committee were advised that this would be a 2 stage submission. Stage 1 would be the initial application that needed to be submitted in November 2016, if this was successful a robust plan would need to be submitted with a decision expected by September 2017. The second stage would be looked at nationally not regionally.

Following discussions with Heritage Lottery Fund the Council would need to fund some initial feasibility work ahead of stage 1.

It was noted that the stage 2 submission must contain a substantial business plan and the end use must be sustainable.

A Member asked if the Borough Council had the skills to put the plans together and if not successful can the Borough Council be assisted to de-list the building. It was reported that the Principal Conservation Officer and his team had the skills and this would be supplemented by buying in services of experts. It was not likely that we would be able to de-list the building due to its national importance. it was also noted that its final use does not have to be heritage based.

A Member asked who would decide if the end use was sustainable. It was reported that this Committee would make that determination in the first instance.

A Member asked for clarification on the timescale and was advised that Stage 1 would be submitted in November 2016 and the result would be known by December 2016, stage 2 would be known by September 2017.

RESOLVED:

That approval for the initial funding be agreed and that a robust submission be prepared and submitted.

9 EVENTS

The Committee received the report from the Group Manager Tourism and Communications.

RESOLVED:

The Committee voted to endorse the progression with the events programme and to agree the events detailed for 2017.

10 EASTER FAIR

The Committee considered the report presented by the Transformation Programme Manager.

The Chairman reminded members that there was a caveat on the Financial Breakdown.

A member asked why the Showmans Guild had not attended all the meetings. It was reported that no explanation had been given by the Guild.

A member asked why the Fair was costing the Council money and should not the full cost be charged to the Guild. It was reported that this was part of the discussion to be held with the Guild along with safety following the incident at Kings Lynn.

A member asked if the loss of revenue from parking had been taken into account. It was confirmed that the figures included losses from parking.

A number of members indicated that they wanted the event to be cost neutral for the Council.

RESOLVED:

1. Ask officers to further investigate alternative management options
2. Request officers to work up increased fees and charges proposals for 17/18 budget setting process.

11 GO TRADE INTERREG FUNDING APPLICATION

The Committee received the report from the Transformation Programme

Manager.

It was noted that the initial bid failed at phase 2 but feedback from this highlighted the areas that needed further development.

RESOLVED:

That officers resubmit the application following the advice for further development.

12 ICE RINK

The Committee received the report from the Group Manager - Tourism and Communications which provided a final update on the work undertaken in scoping the running of an Ice Rink in the Town Centre for the second year..

A member noted that it encouraged people to visit the town centre but traders needed to adjust their opening times to take advantage of this increased footfall.

A member noted that this would cost the Council over £100,000 per year for the next three years to run.

A member asked if other avenues had been explored as we needed to look at more cost effective options.

A member stated that the figures as presented were misleading.

It was reported that other avenues had been explored but the cost differences were minimal.

A member stated that it was not always possible for traders to change their opening hours. they also expressed concern that advertising would not be taken up as this was in addition to other projects being considered.

A member noted that we subsidise other events and we do this for the benefit of the area. We need to create the appropriate atmosphere and project like this one will do that.

A number of members asked how the cost to the council could be reduced.

it was reported that this could be achieved by increasing the hire costs.

RESOLVED:

That the proposal to hold a Ice Rink over the next three years be not approved.

13 TOWN CENTRE SHOP FRONT IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

The Committee received the report from the Transformation Programme Manager.

Members were reminded that this was an outline proposal and that they were being asked to endorse the scheme.

A member asked why owners were not being required to keep their shop fronts up to standard. it was reported that a list of shops that didn't keep up to standard would be drawn up and enforcement action would be taken.

RESOLVED:

That the report be approved.

14 TOWN CENTRE HERITAGE MAP DEVELOPMENT. pdf

The committee received the report from the Transformation Programme Manager.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to fund a Town Centre map project, to be delivered through the Preservation Trust as part of the Town Centre Initiative, totaling £5,000.

15 QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT

The committee received the report from the Group Manager - Growth.

RESOLVED:

That all measures be monitored during the next quarter.

16 THIRD RIVER CROSSING

The Group Manager - Growth gave a verbal update to the Committee .

It was noted that a bid for £1M was successful and that the business case would be progressed.

A member requested a breakdown of traffic movement from the original figures and it was agreed that this would be supplied.

17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items had been referred to the Chairman for consideration.

The meeting ended at: 20:30

Environment Committee

Minutes

Monday, 12 September 2016 at 18:30

PRESENT :

Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Annison, Fairhead, Hacon, Hanton, Grant, Pratt, Walch, Waters-Bunn and Wright

Councillor K Grey attended as a substitute for Councillor Jones

Mrs J Beck (Director of Customer Services), Mr G Buck (Group Manager, Environmental Services), Mr R Hodds (Corporate Governance Manager), Mr P Shucksmith (Senior Environmental Ranger) and Mrs N Holden (Director GYB Services).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jones and Weymouth.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 20 July 2016 were confirmed.

4 MATTERS ARISING

With regard to the item in respect of the Air Quality Status Report, the Group Manager, Environmental Services reported that the diffusion tubes as discussed at the last meeting would be located when the tubes are next changed which should be in about two weeks time.

5 DOG CONTROLS

The Committee considered the Senior Environmental Ranger's report which provided Members with details about a review being carried out of dog control measures within the Borough with a view to consolidating existing bylaws and designation orders along with any new requirements under a single Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

The Senior Environmental Ranger reported that a review of dog control measures across the Borough had been undertaken with a view to updates bylaws and controls many of which were created in the 1980's. The new controls will be regulated under the recently introduced Anti Social Behaviour, Crime And Policing Act 2014. Initial consultation has been carried out internally with Officers, Management and Councillors and externally with Parish Councils and a number of land owners as to what control measures are felt are required on publicly accessible land across the Borough. These proposals had been collated into a draft PSPO, and as part of the legal process to implement a PSPO public consultation must be carried out to provide the opportunity for comment and views on the proposals. Furthermore, the Senior Environmental Ranger had recently attended a workshop at Barking and Dagenham Council who had carried out a trial of using DNA sampling to help address the issue of dog fouling.

In discussing the report Members raised queries on the sites that had been identified which currently have no Borough Council control measures in place but for which Environmental Services had received a proposal. A Member commented that there was a need to advise the public as well as where dogs should be kept on a lead where dogs can be exercised off the lead. A Member also commented that the Council should not take on the responsibility for enforcement of the provisions on privately owned land.

The Committee recorded their thanks and appreciation to the work carried out by the Environmental Rangers throughout the Borough.

RESOLVED :

(1) That approval be given to the consolidation of dog control legislation within the Borough into a new PSPO as detailed in the Senior Environmental Ranger's report.

(2) To agree to the methodology of the public consultation as detailed in the Senior Environmental Ranger's report.

(3) To agree that following the public consultation the final draft version of the PSPO will be brought back to the Environment Committee for ratification.

(4) To agree that for the present time the Council will not pursue the issue around DNA testing on dog faeces.

6 QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered the Director of Customer Services report which gave Members an update on the current performance of Environment Committee measures for the first quarter of 2016 / 17 (April to June) where progress has been assessed against targets which had been set at the start of the financial year.

RESOLVED :

That all measures be monitored during the next quarter.

7 GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

The Committee considered the Group Manager, Environmental Services report which advised Members of the proposed arrangements to improve the system of collection of the annual renewal of residents subscriptions to the Council's garden waste collection service. The report requested Committee to endorse Executive Management Team's recommendation for the release of £17,400 from the Council's Spend To Save budget to enable the purchase of a software system to handle the proposed arrangements.

RESOLVED :

That the Group Manager Environmental Services report be noted, and that the Committee endorse the decision made by Executive Management Team that £17,400 be used from the Spend To Save for the initial up front cost to purchase the Bartec System.

8 MAINTENANCE OF A12 ROUNDABOUTS

The Committee considered the Director of Customer Services report which informed Members of the current position with the A12 Highway England roundabouts and asked Members to consider possible options for their future maintenance provision.

The Director of Customer Services reminded the Committee that Highways England currently maintains the roundabouts at Hopton, Gorleston Beacon Park, Middleton Road, Victoria Road and Harfreys industrial Estate. The roundabouts at Gapton Hall Industrial Estate and Vauxhall roundabout are maintained through the joint venture contract with GYB Services. Highways

England had acknowledged in September 2015 that the condition of the roundabouts was poor and had agreed a range of works to improve the locations bringing them back up to the Highway England defined standard. This work originally due to be undertaken in November 2015 did not take place until February 2016. Since the work in February minimal works have been undertaken on the five Highway England roundabouts the result being that again all are in poor condition and confirmation has been received that no further work is anticipated to be undertaken on any of these roundabouts until September / October 2016.

The Director of Customer Services reported that Highways England had outlined an option for the Council to take over the management and maintenance of the five roundabouts which would be based on a Section 142 Licence Agreement. The Director of Customer Services referred to the work that needed to be undertaken to the roundabouts and on the issue of equipment being able to access the roundabouts to carry out the necessary works.

RESOLVED :

(1) That approval be given to progress negotiations with Highways England towards a Section 142 Agreement.

(2) To identify options to mitigate additional costs through Private Sector funding.

9 EXTRA WORKS UPDATE

The Director of Customer Services reminded the Committee that Norse had agreed to provide extra funding for a 4 week period to undertake extra works throughout the Borough. The Director of GYB Services reported that this 4 week period had been extended for a further 2 weeks.

The Committee also considered a power point presentation from the Senior Environmental Ranger which identified the monitoring that had been undertaken to the extra works that had been carried out throughout the Borough.

The Director of GYB Services reported that the 4 week operation known as "Sparkle" had finished and that GYB Services had now caught up as to where they should be with the level of work to be carried out, and all issues had been brought up to the required standard.

A Member stated that there were still some areas in the Borough that required attention and the Chairman suggested that individual Councillors should approach GYB Services direct with any current issues they may have.

RESOLVED :

That the report with regard to the extra works update be received and that any individual Councillors who have particular issues in their wards should contact GYB Services direct with their issues.

10 VISIT TO RECYCLING FACILITY IN NORWICH

The Group Manager, Environmental Services reported that he had arranged for up to nine Members to visit the recycling facility in Norwich on Tuesday 29 November. The Group Manager would be writing to Members to indicate whether they wished to attend this visit.

The meeting ended at: 19:45

Housing and Neighbourhoods Committee

Minutes

Thursday, 15 September 2016 at 18:30

PRESENT:-

Councillor Carpenter (in the Chair); Councillors Borg, Grant, K Grey, Mavroudis, Robinson-Payne, Walch, Waters-Bunn & Williamson.

Councillor Annison attended as a substitute for Councillor Hacon.

Councillor Bensly attended as a substitute for Councillor M Coleman.

Councillor Smith attended as a substitute for Councillor Flaxman-Taylor.

Councillor Jeal attended as an observer.

Mr R Read (Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods), Mr T Chaplin (Group Manager Housing Services), Mrs V George (Group Manager Housing Health & Well-being), Mr R Gregory (Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities) and Mr P Shucksmith (Senior Environmental Ranger).

Mr G Hollingdale (Managing Director - GYN), Mr S Baker (Property Services Manager - GYN) & Mr R Oliver (Asset Manager - GYN).

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors M Coleman, Flaxman-Taylor & Hacon.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors K Grey & Smith declared a personal interest in agenda item 15, but in accordance with the Council's Constitution were allowed to speak and vote on the matter.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2016 were confirmed.

4 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee received and considered the Forward Plan.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note the Forward Plan.

5 PRESENTATION BY GY NORSE ON HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT

Mr Oliver, Assets Manager, GY NORSE, gave a presentation to the Committee on Housing Asset Management.

The Chairman thanked Mr Oliver for his informative presentation.

6 GYBC SOCIAL HOUSING TENANCY FRAUD POLICY

The Group Manager Housing Services reported that the Council had recognised procedures for investigating social housing tenancy fraud but did not have a published policy. The draft policy presented to the Committee for consideration brought together current practice and provided a clear message to tenants, residents and staff, of the Council's approach to tenancy fraud.

A Member asked if Community Housing had a dedicated Housing Fraud Officer as fraud was riddled with technicalities and officers needed to be trained correctly to deal with cases of fraud with tact and sensitivity. The Group Manager Tenancy Services reported that most cases of housing fraud were investigated by Estate Manager's and all housing staff were trained to operate with tact and sensitivity at all times.

RESOLVED:

That the Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee approve the Social Housing Tenancy Fraud Policy.

7 HRA BUDGET MONITORING REPORT PERIOD 4 2016-17

The Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods reported that the majority of the HRA revenue income and expenditure budgets were on track with the budget, with only changes to the repairs and maintenance budget and revenue funding for capital works. The forecast deficit for the year had increased to £1.4m from an original £1.1m. The deficit would be financed from the HRA revenue reserves. The capital budget had increased by £759k, which was good news, as this would result in higher volumes of delivery.

The Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods reported that it was planned to introduce a solid 5 year Capital Programme.

A Member requested that the loss of parking spaces for tenants and residents on Daphne Way which resulted from the Council disposing of the Shrublands Community Centre and associated car park without any consultation with Ward Members needed to be addressed, as lack of parking was a real issue for the residents. The Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods reported that it could be considered for inclusion in the Capital Programme.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the Committee note the 2016/17 Housing Revenue Budget Monitoring Position,

(ii) That the Committee agree an increase to the existing 2016/17 HRA Capital Programme, as detailed in Table 5 of the report,

(iii) That the Committee agree a virement from HRA reserves to revenue contribution to capital, as detailed in Table 3 of the report, subject to approval from the GYBC Section 151 Officer; and

(iv) That the Committee agree a virement from HRA reserves repairs & maintenance budget to the HRA Capital Programme, as detailed in Table 5 of the report, subject to approval from the GYBC Section 151 Officer.

8 CAR ENTHUSIASTS - GREAT YARMOUTH SEAFRONT

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported on the current and ongoing issues around the escalation of unauthorised car and motorbike enthusiast events on Great Yarmouth seafront and proposed multi-agency response, including the implementation of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) by the Council.

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported that several projects and operations had been attempted in the past to deal with this issue and had had varying levels of success. In late 2015, complaints had fallen to the lowest ever, due to a decrease in numbers of enthusiasts on the seafront. However, in 2016 there had been an escalation in the size of these events, unlike anything that had been witnessed for a number of years.

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported that existing powers and byelaws/legal orders available to agencies did not allow enforcement of all the issues in the affected area and along the remainder of the seafront. The proposed area for the PSPO would cover the entire length of Great Yarmouth Seafront from the Seashore Holiday Park in the north to the entrance to the Port in the south together with anticipated displacement routes within the immediate vicinity.

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported that the introduction of a PSPO presented an opportunity to tackle the anti-social behaviour associated with unofficial vehicle events. This would not prevent organised tourism events from happening on the seafront. Enforcement of the PSPO would be at the discretion of the Council. A further Traffic Regulation Order around parking times would help to assist the Council in enforcing issues relating to parked vehicles causing a nuisance for residents and local businesses.

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported that the establishment of a PSPO would have immediate financial implications for the Council. The Council would have an obligation to provide appropriate signage within the designated area of a PSPO. The cost would be approximately £5k to £7k. If the Council decided to delegate powers to enforce a PSPO to Civil Enforcement Officers or Environmental Services Officers this would incur overtime staffing levels on a Sunday evening. There would also be a requirement for additional staff time to prepare paperwork should cases progress to court.

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported that an establishment of a further Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to address parking issues would cost approximately £5k. Norfolk County Council were exploring how they might be able to resource this work. A TRO would take approximately 8 to 9 months to implement.

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported that a consultation had been launched on 24 August and would run until 21 September 2016. To date, 92 responses had been received.

A Member requested that the proposed area for the PSPO be extended to include Jellicoe Road/Fremantle Road/North Denes Bridge as the car enthusiasts used these roads as a warm up track. A Member requested that the PSPO include no defecating or urinating. The Group Manager Housing & Communities agreed to include these requests in the consultation.

The Group Manager Neighbourhoods & Communities reported that he would bring the consultation findings and a further report on the implementation of the PSPO to the next Committee meeting in October.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the Committee note the report,

(ii) That the Committee approve additional set-up costs for signage associated with the implementation of a Vehicle-Related Public Space Protection Order and approve up to £7,000 for associated signage,

(iii) The Committee note the implications relating to resourcing the enforcement of a Vehicle-Related Public Space Protection Order and the implications relating to enforcement of the current Traffic Regulation Order; and

(iv) The Committee note the Norfolk County Council position with the regard to the implementation of further Traffic Regulation Orders.

9 VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR SUPPORT SERVICES - COMMISSIONING PROCESS

Councillor Jeal declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in this item and left the room whilst the matter was dealt with.

The Group Manager Housing & Communities reported that for more than ten years the Council had provided financial assistance in the form of core grants to a range of Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations to contribute to the delivery of their support services. Annual grants were awarded to the same organisations for several years without the need to re-apply, without definite criteria linked to the Council's corporate priorities and with limited monitoring and performance management.

The Group Manager Housing & Communities reported that Internal Audit had examined grant processes during July/August 2015 and had recommended a review and re-commissioning be undertaken. The review recommended :

- Establishment of a clear, open process for commissioning (replacing the current closed group of annual grant recipients)
- Establishment of a Grants Allocation Panel or a Strategic Commissioning Panel, to approve all funding applications based on clear and agreed eligibility criteria, explicitly linked to the current Council's corporate priorities;
- The initiation of Service Level Agreements with successful applicants for

longer periods (up to three years) with claw back conditions.

The Group Manager Housing & Communities reported that a one year extension (2016-17) to existing funding arrangements with grant recipients was proposed by Councillors, and agreed at Full Council in November 2015. Applicants would be able to apply for one or more of the lots, individually or in partnership, from a total budget of £50,000.

The Group Manager Housing & Communities reported that a "Grants Page" had been set up on the Council's website outlining application procedures, procurement cycles and timelines, assessment criteria and delivery specifications. on-going work would continue in order to develop partnerships with VCS organisations in the Borough to better support local residents. This includes working to build stronger communities, increasing capacity at the neighbourhood level and reducing demand across frontline services. There were no financial implications beyond the budgeted annual £50,000 to support voluntary sector organisations from 2017 onwards.

The Group Manager Housing & Communities reported that the refreshed approach to resourcing the VCS to deliver services in line with corporate priorities would allow the Council to have an improved strategic approach to working with the voluntary sector, ensuring the process was open, accessible and transparent. The new model complemented existing delivery and would allow for collaborative forward planning regarding support services and changing needs within communities. The outcomes from the first year of delivery would be presented to the relevant Council committee.

A Member queried why the funding pot for this year had been reduced. The Group Manager Housing & Communities reported that the funding pot was still largely the same, for the award of commissioning grants, discretionary rate relief and the Centre 81 grant (which had been rolled into one amount).

A Member asked for clarification as to whether this new funding arrangement would encompass new charities and enable them to apply for funding from the Council. The Group Manager Housing & Communities reported that this would be an open and transparent process which would be fair to all charities both new and old.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Committee note the report and approve the commissioning process; and
- (ii) That the Committee nominate Councillors Carpenter, Robinson-Payne & Walch as a sub-group to ratify decisions.

10 NEIGHBOURHOODS THAT WORK - STUDY VISIT 2016

The Group Manager Housing & Communities briefed the Committee on the forthcoming study visit for the Neighbourhoods that Work programme. The

Study Visit would provide a key opportunity to promote and share the developments and outcomes of the high profile Neighbourhoods that Work (NTW) programme in Great Yarmouth. It also provided a significant opportunity to explore and progress place based leadership for the Borough. The outcomes from the first complete year of NTW delivery would also be presented to the relevant Council committee.

The Chairman congratulated the team on their successful delivery of the NTW programme to date.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note the report.

11 OVERVIEW OF PSPO'S - DOG FOULING

The Senior Environmental Ranger reported that it was intended to have an overarching Boroughwide Dog Fouling Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) which would cover all land which could be designated. In addition, a Boroughwide Dog on Lead Request Public Space protection Order had been proposed, allowing officers to deal with accompanied dogs causing nuisance across the Borough. There were more site specific proposals for PSPO's relating to dog bans or lead requirements to be placed on fenced play areas, the main tourist beaches and adjoining promenade and cemeteries.

A Parish Council consultation had been undertaken and the Council had received a number of other suggestions and proposals from members of the public and private land owners. The next step would be an Internal Consultation to seek Member's and departmental views on any orders that might be required in addition to those proposed. Once these had been collated, a final draft report would be presented to the Environmental Committee together with a proposed Public Consultation which will be required to be undertaken.

The Senior Environmental Ranger reported that once the consultation process had taken place, consideration would be given to each suggestion and the proposals would then be finalised. They would then be presented for a decision as to whether the Council wished to proceed with the Orders. These would also need to be considered and agreed by the Police.

A Member proposed that the PSPO should include that dogs must be put on a lead when games were taking place on all playing fields in the Borough. The Chairman seconded this proposal.

RESOLVED:

That the Public Space Protection Order to include the proviso that dogs must be put on a lead when games were in progress on all playing fields in the Borough.

12 BETTER CARE

The Group Manager Housing Health & Wellbeing reported the next steps in making the Better Care Fund Locality Plan operational.

The Group Manager Housing Health & Wellbeing reported on the recruitment process required to engage two officers who would be crucial to the delivery of the plan and achieving the capital spend.

The Group Manager Housing Health & Wellbeing reported a proposed new fee structure which would be applied to this project and the works undertaken by the Safe at Home, Home Improvement Agency.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the Committee approve recruitment to the two new posts; and

(ii) That the Committee recommend to Full Council that they approve the schedule of fees for both Better Care Fund and Disabled Facilities Grant elements of work.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Sport, Play & Leisure Strategy

The Chairman reported that the Council's Sports Strategy now came under the remit of the Committee.

The Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods reported that he would forward a copy of the summary document of the Sport, Play & Leisure Strategy to all Committee members.

14 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

The Committee moved the following resolution:

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the said Act.

15 FOOTBALL CLUBS AND FACILITIES

(Confidential Minute on this Item)

The meeting ended at: 20:30