

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Prosperous Communities Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall, Gainsborough on Tuesday 18 September 2012 at 7.00 pm.

Present : Councillor Malcolm Parish (Chairman – In the Chair)
Councillor Gillian Bardsley (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Jeff Summers (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Nigel Bowler
Councillor Jackie Brockway
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Geoff Wiseman
Councillor Trevor Young

In Attendance :
Rachel North Director of Communities & Localism
Frank O'Brien Interim Group Accountant
Nicola Calver Governance and Civic Officer
Katie Coughlan Governance and Civic Officer

Also In Attendance:
David Hickman Environmental Services Strategy and Partnerships Team Leader

Also Present: Councillor Irmgard Parrott.

Apologies : Councillor Lesley Rollings
Councillor Lewis Strange

Membership : No substitutes appointed for the meeting.

26 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting and indicated he had two "good news" stories he wished to share with the Committee, as follows:

(a) Clean Britain Awards 2012 - Awarded by Chartered Institute of Waste Management and the British Cleaning Council

The Chairman was pleased to advise that West Lindsey District Council were awarded the **Silver Clean Britain Award** in the small local authorities

category (less than 100,000 population) at the presentation held at the Recycling and Waste Management exhibition at the NEC Birmingham on Thursday last week. The Council was also awarded **five stars** recognising an excellent standard of cleanliness.

The award followed an unannounced inspection by a team of inspectors inspecting a series of roads in the Gainsborough area in August. The inspectors reported that the general standards of cleanliness achieved were very high with most sites scoring very well on all of the marking criteria and with one site scoring a perfect 100% and others reaching almost 100% score.

(b) Trinity Arts Centre – current performance

The Chairman was further pleased to advise that since the Committee's decision back in November 2011 to change the way the centre operated, performance, both in terms of attendance levels and financially, had significantly improved. For the period January – July 2012 when compared with the same period for 2011, film audiences had risen by 114%, and live events by 55%. The Committee were provided with a full briefing note on the positive improvements being seen at the centre including year on year financial performance information which now showed the centre was making a profit.

27 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

28 MINUTES

Meeting of the Prosperous Communities Committee – 17 July 2012

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Meeting of the Prosperous Communities Committee held on 17 July 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

29 MATTERS ARISING SCHEDULE SETTING OUT THE CURRENT POSITION OF PREVIOUSLY AGREED ACTIONS AS AT 10 SEPTEMBER 2012 (PRCC.13 12/13)

Members gave consideration to the Matters Arising Schedule which set out the current position of all previously agreed actions as at 10 September 2012. It was noted that all actions had been completed on target.

RESOLVED that progress on the Matters Arising Schedule, as set out in report PRCC.13 12/13 be received and noted.

30 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this point in the meeting.

31 PRESENTATION BY DAVID HICKMAN - JOINT LINCOLNSHIRE FLOOD RISK AND DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2012 – 2025.

The Chairman welcomed and formally introduced Mr David Hickman to the Meeting and invited him to make his presentation to the Committee.

In opening, Mr Hickman outlined in detail the history, background and context for needing such a Strategy, making reference to the Pitt Review following the 2007 floods and the resulting new legislation which gave new responsibilities to County and District Councils.

The key aims of the Strategy were highlighted to the Committee, these being: To make better use of resources; to develop a single action plan; and to avoid working in the previous silo approach.

Members further noted the flood risk management work streams which had been undertaken to-date by the partnership across the District, many of which had been recognised by Defra and the Local Government Association as national best practice.

A number of questions were posed and responded to as required, following which, the Chairman thanked Mr Hickman on behalf of all Members for the very informative and interesting presentation.

32 CONSULTATION DRAFT – JOINT LINCOLNSHIRE FLOOD RISK AND DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2012 – 2025 (PRCC.14 12/13)

Members gave consideration to a report which presented the Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk & Drainage Management Strategy 2012 – 2025 consultation draft on which their views were sought.

In the ensuing debate Members welcomed the document and made the following comments which they would wish to see incorporated into the Council's formal consultation response: -

- Members / The Council is very impressed with the document overall
- Would like to emphasise the focus on local communities – different places, different solutions
- Acknowledge the value in local people and their knowledge about flooding etc
- Want to ensure the Strategy delivery is integrated with the Council's Localism Programme – to support engagement with local communities

including parish and town councils and would like to see local solutions incorporating co-production and community action referenced

- Council is pleased to see the foundations built by WLDC with our Citizens Jury and Partnership work around flooding in 2007
- Consider a Reserve Fund for emergencies

Members also indicated that they would wish to see an Annual report each year to update the Committee on progress and issues

RESOLVED that Members' views on the consultation draft Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk & Drainage Management Strategy 2012 – 2025 (Appendix A to report PRCC.14 12/13), as expressed during the course of the debate, form the basis of the Council's response to the consultation, and be submitted to Lincolnshire County Council by 21 September 2012.

Note: Councillor Jackie Brockway declared a non-pecuniary interest in the above item of business as a riparian drain owner.

33 POST CONSULTATION HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY FOR WEST LINDSEY 2012-2015 (PRCC.15 12/13)

Members gave consideration to a report which presented the final version of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for West Lindsey for the period 2012-2015, for approval, publication and launch, following the recent public consultation.

Debate ensued during which Members welcomed the formation of such a document and commented on the user friendly style in which it had been produced. During the course of the debate, with reference to the identified priorities for the Gainsborough area, a local Member raised concerns regarding residents' difficulties in accessing a GP in the town. He outlined in detail a number of cases which had been recently brought to his attention and was of the view that this issue did not come through strongly enough in the document and should therefore be strengthened.

The Committee shared the concerns raised and all were in agreement and believed it was a duty of the Committee to ensure that these were formally raised with the relevant body. Officers undertook to write to the area's Clinical Commissioning Group setting out Members concerns regarding access to GP services.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the feedback received following consultation on the draft Health and Well-being Strategy for West Lindsey 2012 – 2015 (Appendix B and C to report PRCC.15 12/13) be noted;

- (b) the publication and launch of the final version of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for West Lindsey 2012-2015 (Appendix D) be approved, subject to any further changes deemed appropriate or necessary by the Head of Public Protection Services being incorporated, after consultation with the Chairman of the Prosperous Communities Committee, following receipt of an outstanding consultation response from the Lincolnshire Health Scrutiny Committee; and
- (c) Officers write to the area's Clinical Commissioning Group setting out Members concerns regarding access to GP services in Gainsborough.

Note: Councillor Trevor Young declared a non-pecuniary interest in the above item of business as he was employed in Mental Health Services.

34 WEST LINDSEY COMMUNITY AWARDS (PRCC.16 12/13)

Members gave consideration to a report which set out a proposal by the Community Awards Panel for honouring the people of the District with Community Awards, as discussed at a previous meeting of Prosperous Communities Committee.

On the whole, Members welcomed the proposals and looked forward to the event growing and evolving over the coming years.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the Community Awards Panel's recommendations for the format by which awards will be presented on behalf of the Council in 2012 as set out in report PRCC.16 12/13 be agreed; and
- (b) the Community Award Panel's recommendations for the titles of the awards to be presented at the West Lindsey Community Awards 2012 as set out in report PRCC.16 12/13 be agreed.

35 PROGRESS AND DELIVERY REPORT – FINANCE (BASED ON INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN THE PERIOD – 1 APRIL 2012 TO 31 JULY 2012) (PRCC.17 12/13)

Members gave consideration to a report which set out the annual income and expenditure (subject to audit) based on transactions for the period 1 April 2012 to 31 July 2012. The report further provided explanations for any differences between the forecasts and approved budgets.

PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 18 September 2012
Subject to Call-in. Call-in will expire on 12 October 2012 at 4.30 pm

RESOLVED that the contents of report PRCC.17 12/13 and the budget position for 2012/13, based on income and expenditure to 31 July 2012 be noted.

Note: Councillor Geoff Wiseman abstained from voting on the above decision and requested that this be recorded in the minutes.

The meeting concluded at 8.29 pm.

Chairman