

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY WELLBEING
- 30 JUNE 2020

(To be read in conjunction with the Agenda for the Meeting)

Present

Cllr Kevin Deanus (Chairman)
Cllr Kika Mirylees (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Sally Dickson
Cllr Jenny Else

Cllr Mary Foryszewski
Cllr Val Henry
Cllr John Robini
Cllr George Wilson

Apologies

Also Present

Councillor Chris Howard, Councillor Jerry Hyman, Councillor Trevor Sadler and Councillor Paul Follows

6. MINUTES (Agenda item 1.)

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th January 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

It was noted that apologies for absence had been recorded for Cllr J Keen, Cllr Keen had left the committee prior to this meeting and therefore was no longer a member.

The chairman advised that Cllr S Cosser had now left the committee and he welcomed Cllr M Foryszewski to the committee.

7. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTES (Agenda item 2.)

No apologies for absence were received and no substitutes required for this meeting

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (Agenda item 3.)

There were no declarations of interests in connection with items on the agenda.

9. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (Agenda item 4.)

No questions had been received from members of the public for this meeting.

10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS (Agenda item 5.)

No questions had been received from members for this meeting.

11. COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE (Agenda item 6.)

Andrew Smith and Katie Webb outlined the report to members covering the three areas of work carried out over the COVID period: SLA's, Community Response and recovery phase.

It was agreed that a lot of excellent work had been carried out by voluntary organisations, Waverley staff and the public but there was a fear this good work could just fade away if not harnessed. It was suggested that Waverley hold a 'Thank You' event.

Andrew Smith advised that Waverley would continue to support the voluntary groups in the area and a survey would be sent out to ascertain 'what communities need' as it may be that voluntary organisations are not in a position to provide the help that is actually needed.

Action: Andrew Smith to provide an update on this to each meeting.

Members were concerned that with many day centres still closed, vulnerable residents were isolated. It was asked if there was any update on when these facilities could re-open? Andrew advised that we were awaiting government guidance on this. Members were advised that the Maltings were due to make an announcement soon on re-opening their café etc.

The Committee discussed help for the centres who kept open during lockdown to provide Community meals but received no income and whether there was any financial help for them.

The Committee wished for their gratitude to the Voluntary Sector and Waverley Staff to be recorded.

Katie Webb advised that letters had gone out to organisations with SLA's with Waverley looking at if any moneys could be clawed back where services were not provided over lockdown. Also a SWOT analysis was being carried out and the results of this would be feedback to the committee at each meeting.

Action: Response and Recovery – Community Resilience to be a standing item for foreseeable future.

12. MUSEUM OF FARNHAM WORKING GROUP UPDATE - THE FUTURE OF THE MUSEUM (Agenda item 7.)

Kelvin Mills outlined the background to this report and what was required of the committee regarding the future of Wilmer House and the Farnham Museum housed within the building.

The committee were advised there had been low level scaffolding erected on the building since November 2018 due to the poor condition of the building. It was estimated that £450-500k would be required to carry out the necessary repairs and there was a limited timescale to carry out the repairs (spring/summer) due to the materials required.

The committee considered the four options outlined in the report alongside pros and cons for each option.

- a) Council pay for repairs and museum continues to operate from the building.
- b) Council pays for repairs irrespective of whether the museum continues to operate from there.
- c) Sell building in present condition and accept any losses.
- d) Defer decision for 2020/21 and continue with scaffolding.

The committee agreed that options c & d were not appropriate and only option a & b were suitable. It was felt we could consider the future of the museum at a later date and getting the urgent repairs carried out was the priority.

Action: The Committee RECOMMENDS to the Executive:

- a) **That repairs to Wilmer House be carried out**
- b) **That the consideration of the future of Farnham Museum be considered at a future date.**
- c) **To use some of the capital budget that was set aside in 2017/18 for the museum repairs to contract a specialist bid writer to produce funding applications for the conservation works.**
- d) **That O&S do not need to make a decision on the future of the building and/or museum as this is a tactical decision for Council.**

13. UPDATE ON LEISURE CENTRES (Agenda item 8.)

Kelvin Mills outlined the current position on the Leisure Centres in Waverley. He explained that all the centres closed on 20/03/2020 and are currently still closed.

Before re-opening the centres need to consider current changes in the law and the contractual impact of these changes. Discussions are currently taking place with Places for Leisure to look at the various operational issues that will need addressing. There will be a 3-4 week delay following the government giving guidance that leisure facilities can open for measures to be implemented.

The committee were also advised that Leisure Capital Investment was currently suspended and this would be for at least the next 6-8 months.

The Chairman asked about the current position of the Cranleigh Leisure Centre as it was in a bad state of repair. Also the Farnham Leisure Centre had been the subject of a Call-In. It was agreed that an update would be provided at next meeting, however, the longer term impact on leisure centres following the lockdown will take a lot longer to evaluate.

Action: Update on both Cranleigh and Farnham leisure centres would be presented to the next meeting.

14. CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT - Q4 2019-2020 (JANUARY - MARCH 2020) (Agenda item 9.)

Housing Delivery and Communities (Community Safety and Safeguarding)

Andrew Smith highlighted the areas of concern or to note from this section of the Corporate Report.

- There had been some youth ASB issues in Farncombe which were being addressed by the installation of CCTV at Baring House.
- The Safeguarding Policy for Children and Adults at Risk had now been ratified by Council.

Commercial Services

Kelvin Mills highlighted the areas of concern or to note from this section of the Corporate Report.

- Good year overall despite the challenges of COVID-19.
- Leisure Centres had a good start before COVID. (see previous item)
- Recent issues been encountered with visitors to outside spaces (e.g. Frensham) following easing of lockdown regulations.
- Due to lockdown the Careline data was unavailable for this quarter as no staff in office.
- Some service plans have been deferred as they were over optimistic.

The committee acknowledged to excellent work WTS were providing.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item)

Cllr J Else asked that 'Waverley's Civil Emergency Plan' be added to the work programme and how it worked regarding the fire in Thursley. This would be taken to Co-Ordinating Board to discuss any O&S crossover. Annie Righton advised that Executive were also looking at this issue.

The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm and concluded at 8.10 pm

Chairman