
LEISURE, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on Wednesday 16 October 2019 from 7.30pm to 8.00pm

Councillors present:

Councillors Chris Lloyd (Lead Member Leisure)	Phil Williams (Lead Member Environmental Services)
Roger Seabourne (Lead Member Community Safety and Partnerships)	Alison Scarth
Stephen King	Jon Tankard
David Major	Kate Turner (joined the meeting at item 8)
David Sansom	Alison Wall
	Phil Williams

Also in attendance:

Ray Figg – Head of Community Services
Nigel Pollard – Section Head Financial Planning and Analysis
Malcolm Clarke – Waste and Environment Manager
Debra Sandling - Animal Welfare and Licensing Inspector
Andy Stovold – Head of Community Partnerships
Shivani Davé – Partnerships Manager
Sherrie Ralton - Committee Manager
Geof Muggeridge – Director of Community and Environmental Services
Councillor Sara Bedford

Councillor Phil Williams in the Chair

LEC 08/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

LEC 09/19 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Leisure, Environment and Community Committee meeting held on Wednesday 21 August 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

LEC 10/19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of other business.

LEC 11/18 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

LEC 12/19 BUDGET MONITORING (PERIOD 4)

The Section Head Financial Planning and Analysis introduced the report which had been presented to the Policy & Resources Committee at its meeting on 2 September 2019 and sought approval to a change in the Council's 2019 - 2023 medium-term financial plan.

On being put to the Committee the recommendation was declared CARRIED the voting being 7 For; 0 Against and 3 abstentions.

RESOLVED:

That Members noted and commented on the contents of the report.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY

Councillor David Sansom left the meeting.

LEC 13/19 CONTRACT WITH HCC – WEED SPRAYING (GLYPHOSATE)

The Waste and Environment Manager introduced the report proposing that the District Council immediately hand back the responsibility for killing highway weeds to the County Council as insufficient budget was allocated by HCC for effective treatments and the materials specified to be used – namely glyphosate were no longer considered appropriate.

The following points were raised by Members, responded to by the Head of Community Services:

- *What research had been looked at to show the risks of using glyphosate?*
An increasing number of Councils were moving away from using this product as a precautionary measure. The exception being for the treatment of Japanese Knotweed. The specification from HCC stated that Glyphosate would be used.
- *Had Parish Councils been contacted to look into working with them?*
Working with Parish Councils would not alter the fact that the specification states the use of Glyphosate so would not be of benefit.
- *Would HCC Continue to use Glyphosate if we hand back the weed killing responsibility*
Three Rivers were unable to force HCC to cease the use of Glyphosate but would write to them to request they do not use.

On being put to the Committee the recommendation was declared CARRIED the voting being unanimous

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Committee agree to transfer the responsibility for killing highway weeds back to the County Council from the District Council, with immediate effect,
- 2) That HCC be requested to cease the use of glyphosate within Three Rivers District and
- 3) That any additional income to be reported in the next (Period 6) budget management report to the Policy and Resources Committee.

LEC 14/19 ANIMAL ACTIVITY LICENSING FEES REVIEW

The Animal Welfare and Licensing Inspector introduced the report setting out the proposed fees for licenses that fall under the scope of the Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018.

Councillor Chris Lloyd moved the recommendation, duly seconded.

On being put to the Committee the recommendation was declared CARRIED the voting being unanimous.

RECOMMENDED:

- 1) The proposed fees for Animal Activities Licenses attached to this report as Appendix 2 be approved, and
- 2) That the proposed fees commence with immediate effect to ensure all licensed operators are included in the increase.

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PARTNERSHIPS

LEC 15/19 EVALUATION OF PILOT SHEPHERD SCHOOL PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

In December 2017 the Council agreed to establish a Public Spaces Protection Order for Shepherd Primary School for a period of 2 years.

It was agreed to pilot the use of the anti-social behaviour legislation to assess its usefulness with road safety and anti-social behaviour associated with the school run and the related cost. The Head of Community Partnerships introduced the report feeding back on the pilot.

Members said it had been a worthwhile exercise and there had been an improvement.

On being put to the Committee the recommendation was declared CARRIED the voting being unanimous

RESOLVED:

- 1) Noted the evaluation of the Pilot PSPO, and
- 2) Agreed for the School PSPO to continue in place without routine enforcement until it expired on 3 June 2020.

WORK PROGRAMME

LEC 16/19 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee reviewed and made necessary changes to the Committee's work programme.

The Committee Manager advised that the PSPO Report would be brought forward to the March 2020 meeting.

RESOLVED:

That subject to the change above the work programme be agreed.

CHAIRMAN