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| TRDC | Three Rivers House  Northway  Rickmansworth  Herts WD3 1RL |

**GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on Thursday 9 March 2017 from 7.30pm to 8.20pm.

Present: Councillors Phil Brading (Lead Member, Public Services), Roger Seabourne (Lead Member, Community Safety), Rupert Barnes, Martin Brooks, Marilyn Butler, Debbie Morris, Sarah Nelmes, Andrew Scarth and Ann Shaw OBE.

Officers: Malcolm Clarke, Services Manager, Batchworth Depot

Chris Hope, Head of Community Services

Jennie Probert, Environmental Projects Officer

Andy Stovold, Head of Community Partnerships  
Sarah Haythorpe, Principal Committee Manager

**Councillor Phil Brading in the Chair**

**GPS22/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kemal Butt and Stephen Cox.

**GPS23/16 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the General Public Services and Community Safety Committee meeting held on Thursday 1 December 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairmen.

**GPS24/16 NOTICE OF OTHER BUSINESS**

The Head of Community Services reported that a report due to be presented at this meeting on Glis Glis was no longer required as concerns raised by WBC have now been resolved. The 12 month review of the pest control service with Watford Borough Council will be presented at the June 2017 meeting.

**GPS25/16 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None received.

**GPS26/16 PRESENTATION FROM YOUTH CONNEXIONS ON THE PREVENT DUTY**

The Committee received a presentation from Youth Connexions on the Prevent Duty which provided details on how the service was used by the young people.

The Committee were advised that 32 Prevent workshops were delivered to three secondary schools in the District with 657 young people attending the workshops. Subjects covered included extremism, persuasion and influence, digital awareness and stereotyping in the media. The Committee were also provided with details on the feedback obtained on the workshops from the young people and teachers.

Members made the following comments:

* + - Delivering the workshops to 657 was an excellent achievement.
    - Only 3 secondary schools accepting the offer of the workshops was disappointing.
    - Could Private schools be contacted as they were just as important?
    - Was there any funding still available to deliver further workshops?

In response to Members questions it was advised:

* + - It was difficult for some schools to timetable the workshop into their curriculum.
    - The funding had finished but discussions could take place with the Police and Crime Commissioner to put forward a bid for funding. However as this affected all schools in the County some consideration was needed of a County-wide approach. Schools were able to buy in the workshops at a cost of £175 for half a day.

The Chairman thanked Mr Kips Green from Youth Connexions for the presentation.

RESOLVED:

That the presentation be noted.

**PUBLIC SERVICES**

**GPS27/16** **BUDGET MONITORING – MONTH 10 (JANUARY)**

The budget monitoring report was a key tool in scrutinising the Council’s financial performance. It was designed to provide an overview to all relevant stakeholders. It was essential that the Council monitored its budgets throughout the year to ensure that it was meeting its strategic objectives and that corrective action was taken where necessary.

In response to a question on the £750 budget for abandoned vehicles, the Services Manager advised that this was just for the disposal of the vehicles.

Councillor Phil Brading moved, duly seconded, that the Committee had no revenue or capital variances to report.

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

RECOMMEND:

That the Committee have no revenue or capital variances to report.

**GPS28/16 PROVISION OF BAGS FOR FOOD WASTE**

To review the provision of corn starch caddy liners for food waste and promote the use of plastic bags.

Members noted that all types of packaging food were still acceptable.

Councillor Phil Brading moved, duly seconded, the recommendations at Paragraphs 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3 of the report.

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

RESOLVED:

1. That Corn starch liners are no longer sold to outlets / residents and instead residents are directed to purchase or use their own bags (as per the second option, para 3.2);
2. That all outlets are written to advise of this and supplied with information to display for residents emphasising that plastic bags are preferred and to highlight the use of bags residents may already have; and
3. That any fluctuation in income is dealt with via budget monitoring.

**GPS29/16 SERVICE PLANNING 2017-2020 – COMMUNITY SERVICES – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICE PLAN**

This report enabled the Committee to comment on the Community Services

* Environmental Protection Service Plan.

Members raised the following points:

Could the target of 78% success for satisfaction in keeping public land clear of litter and refuse be made higher?

Could more awareness be made of the Barrowbeat service.

Why was the target for the percentage of household waste recycled only 28%.

Officers advised that the 78% satisfaction score was an above average score and was taken from the Omnibus survey. The recycling rates across the country were reducing but Officers were always looking at ways to increase the rates.

Councillor Phil Brading moved, duly seconded, the recommendation at 7.1 of the report.

Upon being put to the Committee, the motion was declared CARRIED, the voting being unanimous.

RECOMMEND:

That the service plan attached at Appendix 1 and its content be recommended to Council at its meeting on 16 May 2017.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**Councillor Roger Seabourne in the Chair**

**GPS30/16 SERVICE PLANNING 2017-2020 – COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS SERVICE PLAN**

This report enabled the Committee to comment on the Community Partnerships Service Plan for the three years commencing on 1 April 2017. The Head of Community Partnerships advised that the target for families being supported by Families First and Thriving Families was 83 per year.

A Member asked if contact details for members of the public could be provided on the signage located across the District to enable any breeches to the Public Space Protection Orders to be reported.

POST MEETING NOTE:

A copy of the signage regarding Public Space Protection Orders, located across the District, was attached to the minutes and included the Council’s telephone contact details and website address.

A Member asked if checks could be made if regular complaints were being received from particular locations in the District.

Councillor Roger Seabourne moved, duly seconded the recommendation at 7.1 of the report.

Upon being put to the Committee, the motion was declared CARRIED, the voting being unanimous.

RECOMMEND:

That the service plan attached at Appendix 1 and its content be recommended to Council at its meeting on 16 May 2017.

**GPS31/16 WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee noted that two new items were to be added to the work programme as follows:

Review of the Pest Control service with Watford Borough Council – June 2017

Review of the Garden Waste service – September 2017.

RESOLVED:

That subject to the addition of the items listed above that the Committee work programme be agreed.

**CHAIRMAN**