

**Minutes of the Community, Environment and Partnerships Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 19 December 2018 in Committee Rooms 1 & 2 - Deanes, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council at 6.30 pm**

**Members of the Community, Environment and Partnerships Committee in attendance:** Councillor R Golding (Chair), Councillor T Capon, Councillor K Carruthers, Councillor D George, Councillor R Hussey, Councillor A McCormick, Councillor K Rhatigan, Councillor K Taylor, Councillor M Taylor and Councillor J Richards

Also present:

Councillor Clive Sanders – Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Corporate Affairs

Councillor Terri Reid – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration, Arts and Heritage

Daniel Cameron - Ipsos MORI

**35/18 Apologies for absence and substitutions**

Councillor T Jones was replaced by Councillor S Grant.

**36/18 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**37/18 Urgent matters**

There were no urgent matters considered.

**38/18 Minutes of the meeting held on 31 October and 14 November 2018**

Councillors requested that the wording of the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November be amended at minute item 32/18 on the Brighter Futures 2050 report from:

There was a request that the plan contain some measurable indicators and incorporate a shorter timescale than 2050.

To

There was a request that the plan contain some measurable indicators and incorporate a shorter **milestone** than 2050.

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 October and 14 November 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

39/18 **Horizon 2050: The journey to 2050**

The Leader introduced the report that presented the Committee with the outcome of the work carried out in regard to Horizon 2050. Officers also gave the Committee a brief presentation that included a summary of the research and engagement activities.

The Chair invited visiting speakers Paul Beevers and Mick Hook to address the Committee, their comments included:

Overall the vision was welcomed, however, there were some concerns such as:

- It was felt that the conservation of some of the land managed by the Council was not always the best it could be, but acknowledged that this was often due to staffing issues and resource allocations.
- There was a need to restore habitats and improve biodiversity on Council managed land and that it was not featured in the vision.

Mr Beevers also made reference to a paper he had produced in regard to the Funding & Management of Borough Land for Biodiversity. The Committee agreed that this would be an important item for them to review and requested a report from officers.

The Committee discussed the vision and made the following comments:

- Had residents expressed any views in regard to a future vision for the hospital and whether they would like it to be a specialist hospital or not.
- The Committee hoped that after Brexit, with a greater emphasis being on the environment instead, the Council would be willing take advantage of opportunities, such as the restoration of habitats.
- As residents had responded positively to questions raised regarding renewable energy options, The Committee hoped that the Council would see it as an opportunity to look at renewable energy options in more detail.
- Would like to see incentives to help improve air quality within the borough.

Some members felt that the education mission statement did not go far enough to show the strength of feeling from residents, some residents had stated that they would prefer to have more local smaller schools that were a walkable distance from their houses than a smaller number of larger schools. It was acknowledged that this came with tensions as often teachers in larger schools were paid more and therefore the schools had better levels of staff retention.

The committee noted that residents had not strongly supported the idea of a higher education offer with the borough. It was also felt that a sixth form offer would damage the existing colleges (BCOT and QMC) which currently had good reputations.

Although overall there was a sense of satisfaction from residents, it was noted that residents tended to feel more pride within a borough when it was particularly known for something, such as the history of an area.

It was questioned whether the views of residents in rural wards differed from those in town centre wards, it was confirmed that although there were some differences, overall there were a lot of similarities across the borough.

As the borough continues to grow, the identity and separateness of rural areas should be protected from urban sprawl.

**Resolved:**

- 1) The Committee notes the report
- 2) The Committee requests that the Leader considers its views.

40/18 **B LOVE and Basingstoke Festival Review**

The Deputy Leader introduced the report that updated the Committee on plans for the Basingstoke Festival and B LOVE in 2019. Officers also gave the Committee a brief presentation that featured some of the events that ran in 2018 and some of the feedback from them.

The Committee discussed the report and made the following comments:

- Would like to see the attendance figures of those who attended from within the Borough against those from outside included within the next review.
- Would like to continue to see an increase of engagement from rural wards and acknowledged that it was an aim of the cultural strategy.
- Some members felt that as the concessionary tickets were a low proportion of the overall ticket sales, the price increases should not apply to the concessionary tickets.
- Would there be an opportunity include to stalls at the festival in order to raise more money for the event.
- Would the Arts Council grant that the Council received in 2018 be available again in 2019.

**Resolved:** The Committee notes the report.

41/18 **Community Environment and Partnerships work programme**

The Chair introduced the work programme and gave a brief overview of the items that would be included on the agenda for the upcoming meetings.

The regeneration strategy would be removed from the work programme.

The CSPO motion would be timetabled for the first meeting in the new municipal year.

Councillor Rhatigan gave an update to the Committee in regard to the CCG task and finish group and explained that the group would meet again before the end of January and report back to the Committee at its March meeting.

Further, the Chair agreed to review the position of the Ice Rink review and an update on modern slavery and add to the committee's future work programme.

The meeting ended at 8.42 pm.

**Chairman**