

Community Services Committee – 27 November 2001

Minutes of the meeting of the **Community Services Committee** held on **27 November 2001** when there were present:

Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn – Chairman

Cllr R S Allen
Cllr R A Amner
Cllr Mrs R Brown
Cllr P A Capon
Cllr T G Cutmore
Cllr D F L Flack
Cllr Mrs J Ford
Cllr Mrs J Hall

Cllr Mrs J Helson
Cllr C C Langlands
Cllr V H Leach
Cllr R A Pearson
Cllr Mrs W M Stevenson
Cllr Mrs M Vince
Cllr Mrs M J Webster
Cllr Mrs M A Weir

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs K Gibbs, J E Grey and Mrs L I V Phillips.

SUBSTITUTES

Councillor T Livings.

VISITING MEMBER

Cllr D R Helson (also representing Rayleigh Association of Voluntary Services)

OFFICERS PRESENT

G Woolhouse	– Head of Housing Health and Community Care
D Deeks	– Head of Financial Services
L Lapite	– Principal Solicitor
J Bourne	– Leisure and Contracts Manager
H Drye	– Corporate Policy Manager
S Garland	– Community Safety Officer
A Wyatt	– Committee Administrator

408 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs M S Vince declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item “StAR Partnership” by virtue of her association with the partnership, however, did not take part in any voting on the proposal.

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Councillor Mrs H L A Glynn declared a non-pecuniary interest in the item “Disability Discrimination Act – Clements Hall Leisure Centre” by virtue of her work with the deaf.

409 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 October 2001 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

410 OUTSTANDING ISSUES

The Committee received the Schedule relating to decisions made since the previous meeting. Outstanding issues would be carried forward.

Matters Arising

Hullbridge Youth Issues

It was noted that the meeting with Essex Police, the Parish and Essex County Youth Service was scheduled for 7 December 2001 at 9.30am at the Civic Suite, Rayleigh.

Digital Cinema

Members wished to congratulate Officers on the improved quality of leaflets which had been produced advertising the digital cinema at Mill Hall. Furthermore, it was considered that the Parishes should be approached to ascertain how many posters they required to advertise the cinema and its forthcoming events.

411 SUB- COMMITTEE MINUTES

(1) Leisure Sub-Committee – 6 November 2001

Minute 126 – Leisure Connection Management Report

Resolved

That Essex County Youth Service be invited to send their mobile outreach group to Clements Hall Leisure Centre in an attempt to alleviate youth nuisance problems that are currently occurring at the site.

Minute 127 – Summer Holiday Activities

Resolved

That a sum of £12,000 be included in the draft estimates for 2002/2003 for swimming, with an inflation related increase for summer day camps. (CD(F&ES))

Minute 128 – Rochford Residents Leisure Card

Resolved

That the report be noted and that discussions take place with the preferred contractor on the basis detailed in the report. (CD(F&ES))

Minute 129 – Castle Hall Update Report

Resolved

That Members note the content of the report and

- (1) Require Leisure Connection to have a person present on the site for the duration of all disco type events, with a report being brought back to the Leisure Sub-Committee on the resource consequences of such a demand.
- (2) That Leisure Connection be required to ensure that all windows and doors remain closed during a disco type event. The main entrance door may be open only for access (both subject to public safety issues).
- (3) That Officers investigate the cost of installing a noise limiter set at a level which ensures that the music level does not cause a nuisance.
- (4) Investigate the cost of installing an air-conditioning/mechanical ventilating/triple glazing/double porching facility, or not to hire the hall during warm weather for disco type of events.
- (5) Defer any decision on event bookings from May 2002 onwards until discussions with the new Leisure Contractor about future use of this hall taking into account the issues in this report.
- (6) Authorise the review and strengthening of the regulations and conditions of hire. (CD(F&ES)).

Minute 130 – Rayleigh Town Council Anglia in Bloom Competition

Resolved

That Geoff Dawson, Parks Officer, be this Authority's representative on Rayleigh Town Councils 'Anglia in Bloom Committee'. (CD(F&ES))

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(2) Housing Management Sub-Committee – 7 November 2002

Minute 142 – Capital Programme 2002/3

Resolved

That the Capital Programme, as appended to the report to the Sub-Committee, be agreed. (HRHM)

Minute 143 – Sheltered Schemes – Link Radio Project

Resolved

That £25,600 be included in the 2002/03 Capital Programme for the Link Radio Project. (HRHM)

(3) Community Safety Sub-Committee – 8 November 2001

Minute 199 - Rochford District Crime Statistics

Resolved

- (1) That advice on crime statistics be deferred for detailed information and explanation to be provided for the next available meeting of the Community Safety Sub-Committee.
- (2) That the standard item “Police Report” be placed on all future Agenda for the Community Safety Sub-Committee (Police).

Minute 201 – Member Training for Emergency Planning

Resolved

- (1) That Emergency Planning feature as part of in-house training for Members
- (2) That attendance at a training start seminar at the Home Office Emergency Planning College be held in abeyance pending the in-house Member training and the elections in May 2002.

Minute 202 – Provision of Flood Defences at the Depot

Resolved

That provision of £2000 be put in the budget estimates each year for the provision of simple flood defence measures. (CPM)

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Minute 203 - Antisocial Behaviour Order Protocol

Resolved

That the Council accept the principles in the Antisocial Behaviour Order protocol, and that the final version of the protocol be circulated to the partnership organisations and Members. (CPM)

Minute 204 – The Community Against Drugs Initiative

Resolved

That the report be noted and that further reports be submitted in due course.

Minute 205 – Home Office Partnership Development Fund

Resolved

That the report be noted and that progress be reported to the next Meeting of Community Safety Sub-Committee. (CPM)

Minute 206 - Vandalism Damage

Resolved

That the report be noted.

(4) Community Safety Sub-Committee – 19 November 2001

Minute 208 – Rochford Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002/2005 Draft

Resolved

That subject to the comments outlined in the Sub Committee Minutes, the objectives and actions within the new strategy for crime and disorder reduction be accepted prior to wider consultation, to include the Crime and Disorder Partnership. (CPM)

412 NEW HEALTH AUTHORITY FOR ESSEX – CONSULTATION

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Housing Health and Community Care which sought Members views on the proposed formation of a strategic Health Authority for Essex.

Noting the aims of the proposals, in particular, the way forward for one Health Authority covering whole of Essex, Members considered that the matter was to be supported, however, that regrets should be

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expressed at the continued lack of direct accountable democratic input into the Health Service. Furthermore it was considered that Doctors and Nursing staff should lead more on matters relating to service provision.

Resolved

That the NHS regional office be advised that the Council supports the formation of the Strategic Health Authority for Essex, subject to the points raised above. (HHHCC)

413 SHAPING LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Housing Health and Community Care, on a consultation on proposals for the provision of specific mental health service to be delegated from Essex County Council, Social Services department, to South Essex Mental Health and Community Care NHS Trust, (The NHS Trust), under new partnership arrangements.

Noting that the intention was to delegate the mental health services provided to adults of working age and child and adolescent mental health services, Members expressed concern that not all mental health services would be dealt with in the same manner. Mention was also made of failings of the current mental health service and that the service should be driven by clients needs.

Resolved

- (1) That South Essex Mental Health and Community Care NHS Trust be advised that the Council supports these proposals for the reasons indicated in the report, although it would be hoped that the change would empower both clients and professionals to provide a holistic approach to mental health services.
- (2) That South Essex Mental Health and Community Care NHS Trust be requested to consider giving more clarity to the proposed Trust name as indicated in the report. (HHHCC)

414 HOUSING CORPORATION FUNDING BIDS

It was noted that this item had been withdrawn from the Agenda and would be considered at Extraordinary on 4 December 2001.

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415 PIGEONS – RAYLEIGH HIGH STREET, RAYLEIGH

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Housing Health and Community Care which provided an update on progress to reduce the pigeon problem in Rayleigh and suggested a proposed scheme for the allocation of financial assistance for providing pigeon proofing measures to businesses in Rayleigh Street.

In endorsing Officers' suggested way forward, mention was made of the pigeon fouling problems in Rochford town centre and it was agreed that in the first instance, four signs and a number of leaflets should be made available for use in the town centre. Furthermore, it was agreed that any further pigeon proofing initiative should be placed on hold pending the outcome of the Rayleigh scheme.

Resolved

- (1) That the proposed scheme for allocating financial assistance for proofing measures for businesses in Rayleigh, as outlined in the report, be agreed.
- (2) That four signs and a number of leaflets be made available for use in Rochford Town Centre
- (3) That a report be brought back to Members on the success of the scheme in Rayleigh, with a view to the Pigeon Proofing Initiative being rolled out across the District as necessary. (HHCC)

416 CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS – MONITORING REPORT

The Committee noted the report of the Head of Housing Health and Community Care which advised Members of orders valued at £5,000 or above for the period 1 January 2001 to 30 September 2001.

417 STAR PARTNERSHIP

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on progress with StAR Partnership Initiatives in the Roche and St Andrews Wards of Rochford and sought Members views on the further support for the Community Development Work post.

It was considered that the report should stand deferred to the next Meeting of the Community Services Committee in order for clarification of South Essex Health Authority's position with regard to their contribution to the Community Development worker post.

Resolved

That the report be deferred to the next Meeting of Community Services Committee.

418 BULKHEAD LIGHTS – ROCHFORD TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive which sought Members approval for funds to be made available from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy Budget for bulkhead lighting in Rochford Town Centre as part of the overall Town Centre Enhancement Scheme. On a Motion put by Councillor V H Leach and seconded by Councillor T G Cutmore, it was

Resolved

- (1) That an amount of up to £2000 be made available under the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy Budget for bulkhead lighting alongside the alleyway next to Barclays Bank, to be organised through the Working Group and appointed lighting engineers.
- (3) That Rochford Parish Council be requested to take over maintenance and power supply costs for the bulkhead lights. (CE)

419 THE ESSEX GALLERY

The Committee considered the report of Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which sought Members views on the proposal to build a new art gallery in Colchester.

Resolved

That Members support in principle the concept of a second gallery in the south of Essex and no extra cost. (CD(F&ES))

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

To agree that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in paragraphs 12 and 4 of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

420 CARAVAN SITE LICENSING

The Committee considered the exempt report of the Head of Housing Health and Community Care which provided an update on license condition breaches at 3 caravan sites and sought Members approval to the granting deferment from carrying out works to a porch on one of the caravan sites.

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Resolved

- (1) that progress on Crouch Caravan Park and Hockley Mobile Homes be further monitored with a progress report in 12 months.
- (2) That a request for deferment of enforcement action regarding distance breaches, received by the licence holders of the Dome caravan park, be refused as not all model standards are met on the site.
- (3) That the Head of Housing Health and Community Care be given delegated authority to instigate legal proceedings against the licence holders of the Dome Caravan Park for breaches of licence condition 3.1 regarding porches, should significant progress not have been made by June 2002.
- (4) That the Head of Housing Health and Community Care be given delegated authority to instigate legal proceedings against the licence holders of the Dome Caravan Park for breaches of licence condition 4.1 regarding the condition of the roads and footpaths, if significant progress has not been made by 23 November 2001, or the works are not completed by 1 June 2002.
- (5) That the application for further deferment for the resident specified in the report be granted until there is a change of occupier/mobile home and that the resident and site licence holders be notified accordingly.

421 DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT – CLEMENTS HALL LEISURE CENTRE

The Committee considered the exempt of the Corporate Director (Finance and External Services) which advised Members of the situation involving a deaf/blind customer who uses Clements Hall Leisure Centre and the possible implications of the Disability Discrimination Act.

Resolved

That the report be noted and that no further action be taken in supporting the request for an interpreter. (CD(F&ES))

The Meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Chairman _____

Date _____