

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of Community Development and Regeneration Committee held in King's Hall, Kings Avenue, Prestatyn Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 6.15pm – 8.20pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: A. Sampson (Chairman), T. Flynn, R. Flynn, G. Sandilands, G. Davies, M. German, L. Muraca, A. Tomlin, B. Murray, G. Frobisher.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs C. Evans – Deputy Town Clerk, Mrs L. Hewitt – Committee Support Assistant, Mr T. Brown – Internal Auditor, Miss K. Thew – Town and Business Development Officer, Rachael Astle – Events Co Ordinator, Ms Sally Smart – Secretary of Prestatyn Business Forum, Mr Hal Pierce – Chair of Prestatyn Business Forum, Ms Wendy Jefferson – DCC Youth Services, PC R. Fishlock – Community Beat Manager NWP, Sgt Alex Baker, NWP.

APOLOGIES

Councillors: J Thompson-Hill, A. Frobisher, M. Poller, S. Frobisher, K. Jones, T. Jones. Mr N Acott (Town Clerk), Ms S. Edwards and Mrs D. Hughes PTC.

96 CONGRATULATIONS

Cllr A. Sampson, Chairman, congratulated Cllr G. Davies and Catrin on birth of baby boy.

97 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were reminded of the need to declare personal and/or prejudicial interests in tonight's proceedings.

98 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance applications had been received from Friends of Prestatyn Railway Station and Prestatyn Rocks. Cllr A. Sampson declared interest in the latter and left the meeting during discussion of this item.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Friends of Prestatyn Railway Station be awarded £500.
Financial/Legal Implications: £500 grant contained within Environmental /Community Projects 2019/20. Local Government Act 1972 section 137.
- 2) That Prestatyn Rocks event should not receive an award on this occasion as financial statements provided excluded details of the increase in sales of drink/food the Cookhouse had sold on the day. It was also felt that Council grants are normally awarded to voluntary and non profit organisations.

99 PRESTATYN BUSINESS FORUM

Cllr A. Sampson, Chairman welcomed Ms Sally Smart, Secretary, and Mr Hal Pierce, Chairman to the meeting and invited them to address Committee.

A little background information was given explaining that membership of the Forum is diverse and although businesses used to be mainly from the High Street the group membership is now expanding beyond those boundaries. This is also the only business group in Prestatyn.

Updates on Key Projects were then presented to Councillors.

- a) Art Work – the mural would soon be installed on the substation near the Scala Cinema. It was 21m long and would fill a whole corner. The theme within the art is to encourage customers to explore other areas of the town not just the retail park. The Business Forum offered thanks to Prestatyn Town Council for its support of this project.
- b) Whale Tails – six structures would be installed at Central Beach. From a business point of view they want tourists to be educated and made environmentally aware. They will stretch from the Nova to the Beaches hotel with different stages of dive motion. Some will be bins, some are for organisations to use. There has been huge community support for this project with Barclays match funding the project, The Hideaway has held money raising events, Prestatyn High School holding a sponsored walk and 12k has been contributed by Burbo Bank. £20K has been raised to date. The total required is £34k. A Masquerade Ball is planned to raise further funds next year. DCC will empty the tails and the Forum is hoping David Attenborough may open this project!

Ms Smart went on to explain that the planning application for the installation of the structures would be best achieved if submitted by Prestatyn Town Council. This could be achieved under permitted development rights

Cllr G Sandilands – congratulated the Business Forum and said there was great community support including schools, Rotary Club and businesses.

Cllr R Flynn – also proffered congratulations and enquired whether PBF was involved with the Small Business Saturday initiative to be held on 7th December 2019. She also enquired how the structures were to be fixed. Ms Smart replied they would be anchored.

Cllr T Flynn – advised that ownership of the structures was an important issue in terms of insurance etc. Ms Smart advised that DCC were overseeing the structural design of the installation and there would be minimal upkeep as they were designed to weather much like the statues on Formby Beach
Committee resolved that issue of insurance and ownership to be discussed at the next Finance and Management Committee meeting

The Forum are investigating ideas for new projects and are pursuing a VE Day on the High Street. Ms Smart offered thanks to Miss Kate Thew of PTC for all her assistance and support of the Business Forum and the initiatives.

Councillors offered their congratulations to the Forum and offered support for the planned future projects.

RESOLVED That MS Sally Smart and Mr Hal Pierce be thanked for their attendance and informative presentation.

100 YOUTH SERVICES

The Chairman welcomed Ms Wendy Jefferson to the meeting and requested an update on the Targeted Youth Session project for which Council had provided funding. A report prepared by Ms Wendy Jefferson was disseminated. This project concerned engaging with a gang of anti social young women who were causing problems in the town and educating them in becoming responsible young people. Ten people had been targeted and PTC had financed evening sessions for them. Wendy explained that two youths were responding very well despite never having been involved in a social group. Some of the youths had moved away from the town. One young lady had sadly gone into long term detainment. All participants had been on cannabis from the age of 15/16 years and their lives focussed on drink which left them open to sexual exploitation. However due to the sessions it was believed that anti social behaviour had declined. Attendance at the sessions had been good with most participants having attended eight of the ten sessions offered. A new group had been referred by social services and schools and Ms Jefferson was also looking to liaise with the police for any new recruits who would benefit and names were coming to the fore.

Councillors thanked Wendy for her hard work with such youngsters and was asked if any further assistance was needed. Cllr G. Frobisher expressed view that society should be spending more on projects such as this as it makes a huge difference to young people's lives. Ms Jefferson explained that Welsh Government money was being made available, but focusses on daytime sessions. More provision is needed for the evenings and that 5 nights a week would be the ideal. At the Youth Centre tonight 10-14 year olds were invited to attend and between 30-40 children would be there. The existing building is in poor condition, however DCC were now more on board with support for Youth Services which is a positive sign.

Wendy went on to thank Prestatyn Town Council for its support, which does not happen in other towns in the County. She also thanked Cllr G. Frobisher for his work with many groups. Cllr G Frobisher declared that it was Anti Bullying Week and provided booklets to all.

RESOLVED That Ms Wendy Jefferson be thanked for her attendance updates and work on such a worthwhile project.

101 CRIME AND DISORDER

Cllr A. Sampson, Chairman, welcomed Sgt Alex Baker and PC Richard Fishlock, Community Beat Manager to the meeting and invited them to address Committee.

Sgt Alex Baker had been attached to the Neighbourhood Policing section for 19 years in various areas and now operated from their base in Rhuddlan. His focus was on lengthy ongoing problems including arson and disorder. His team support all local events and provide response if required. Sgt Baker explained much time had been taken up with a problem family on Caradoc Road which had led to an eviction. He is also looking at licensed premises to come on board with Pubwatch scheme, and is keen to liaise with Youth Services for early intervention with problems as arresting people doesn't always work. He stated that community work is key to addressing issues.

Sgt Baker listed NW Police priorities: Child Sexual Exploitation; County Lines; Modern Slavery; Domestic Problems; Vehicle Crime – which is rife; Burglary – where security is key. Neighbourhood policing is key in all these areas.

Councillors were then invited to ask questions:

- Cllr AT** Spates of robberies – are they local? **Sgt B** Mixed really, travelling and locals
- Cllr AT** Are they drug users? Is it a common theme? **Sgt B** Not always however an addiction requires funds.
- Cllr GS** What happened to OWL? As Councillors we used to have more contact. We used to hear about the good news too. Praise to Barry who has local meetings.
- Sgt B** We have lost 50% of our staffing, which creates problems and shift patterns require management.
- Cllr RF** What kind of crimes are prevalent. Anti Social Behaviour has dropped recently due to Youth Services and police presence. How valuable is CCTV?
- Sgt B** Vehicle crime, burglaries particularly theft of car keys. There is a seasonal increase in the winter months as the dark nights make it easier. Scams, particularly on the elderly are prevalent. Prevention is so important in tackling the opportunist. CCTV is essential. Often it is the only piece of evidence. It's only part of the answer though. Monitored CCTV is much more effective for maintenance of community.
- Cllr G F** OWL ~~meetings~~ held twice weekly and he thanked the team
- PC Fishlock** ASB has significantly reduced
- Cllr LM** Cold callers – there have been a lot this summer. What should householders do? Do many then go on to burgle? **Sgt B** Can be scary and intimidating. If anyone is worried they should call the police.
- Cllr AT** A spate of motor home thefts have occurred with no report of any recovered. How does this happen **Sgt B** They are a high value commodity – criminals treat this as a job. Security and prevention is the key and recommend the fitting of trackers.
- Cllr AT** Maybe a victim impact report on your FB page might be effective.
- RESOLVED** Cllr A. Sampson thank Sgt Baker and PC R. Fishlock for their attendance and the work they do for us.

102 CCTV PARTNERSHIP

Cllr Bob Murray presented his report (previously provided with agenda) and informed Councillors that £3281.57 would be needed in order to replace old cameras. A discussion ensued regarding the differences in cameras and their effectiveness.

Cllr G. Sandilands proposed and Cllr R. Flynn seconded the amount required.

RESOLVED That funding should be made available for CCTV Partnership.

Financial/Legal Implications: 2019/20 CCTV service improvement £2k and 2019/20 Other Projects £1.2K. Local Government and Rating Act 1997 S31

(Cllr G. Davies left the meeting at 7.53pm during this item.)

103 OFFICER REPORTS

All reports had been received by Councillors with agenda one week prior to the meeting.

Past events and future events were discussed. The recent Halloween event was highly praised as was the effort of the Prestatyn in Bloom team and the many groups and volunteers who had helped the town of Prestatyn achieve Gold awards in Wales in Bloom and Britain in Bloom 2019.

Cllr A. Sampson thanked Ms K. Thew for organising her Business Breakfasts which have proved successful and popular within the business community.

RESOLVED All staff be thanked for reports and their hard work.

104 BUS SHELTER CEG Y FFORDD

Mrs Carol Evans explained that 5k funding of 10K total cost would be needed towards provision of two new bus shelters as proposed cost would be split equally between Town and County. One resident still objected to the proposal and Councillors discussed need to look at design and way shelters would face.

RESOLVED That Councillors agree to the siting of new shelters in principle and requested Deputy Town Clerk obtain designs of shelters for further consideration.

105 BENCH AT FFORDD PENRHWLYFA

Deputy Town Clerk explained Cllr Murray had requested a bench at Ffordd Penrhwylyfa however because of the implications of costs on maintenance a bench made from recycled plastic was suggested. A discussion ensued.

RESOLVED Committee agree to positioning of a bench on Ffordd Penrhwylyfa.
Financial/Legal Implications: 2019/20 Public Seats £1000 contained within budget provision.
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19

Chairman 