# NOTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP
# TUESDAY 23 AUGUST 2016
Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

**PRESENT:**

Councillors T Combellack (Chairman), J Donoghue, M J Edwards, R A Inglis, K A Khan, F A Purdue-Horan, Mrs M Stockwood (Substitute for A L R A Pell) and J E Thurman

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

| | |
|---|---|
| A Godfrey | Regional Director, Parkwood Leisure |
| J Palfrey | General Manager, Parkwood Leisure |

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

| | |
|---|---|
| A Goodman | Constitutional Services Officer |
| D Mitchell | Executive Manager - Communities |
| G Pickering | Environment and Licensing Manager |
| C Taylor | Community Development Manager |

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors B Buschman and A L R A Pell

6. **Declarations of Interest**

There were none declared.

7. **Notes of the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24 May 2016 were accepted as a true record.

8. **Leisure Facilities Strategy**

The Community Development Manager reminded Members that at its last meeting the Group had considered the key influences affecting the strategy, clarified the scope and established the priority outcomes the strategy was seeking to achieve. He explained that this second meeting would focus on gathering information in order to develop an understanding of demand through research findings on participation trends within Rushcliffe. Members would also receive a presentation from Justin Palfrey and Alex Godfrey from Parkwood Leisure that gave an overview of trends they were observing and an insight into a vision for a leisure centre of the future.

The Community Development Manager updated Members on the progress made by officers since the last meeting. As agreed, the scope of the strategy would focus on leisure centres directly provided by the Council and publically accessible sports playing pitches provided by various bodies. Community halls, children's play, golf and countryside/natural resources such as facilities for sailing or rowing were outside of scope.

A playing pitch strategy would be developed with the support from specialist consultants as an appendix to the overarching Leisure Facilities Strategy. Subsequently a tender brief had been produced which contained the requirements for the local plan stage 2. This was currently being consulted on by Sport England and various sports governing bodies to ensure that it would meet their requirements to support potential funding bids.

Members had individually identified five priority outcomes for the assessment of need from a list of ten options which provided a clear focus to the work. The five most popular outcomes, in priority order, which would be incorporated into the refreshed Strategy were;

- Contributing to aims and objectives for improving health and wellbeing and increasing participation in sport
- Developing a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies; provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work
- Providing evidence to help protect and enhance existing provision
- Providing evidence to help secure internal and external funding
- Ensuring the most efficient management and maintenance of sports facility provision in response to identified pressures such as budgetary pressures

The Community Development Manager reported that Officers had held a meeting in July with the Nottinghamshire Sports Partnership Insight team to explore in detail the physical activity participation data for Nottinghamshire and Rushcliffe. This had identified the emerging trends and would be used to help establish broad local issues for future action. The physical activity levels breakdown showed that participation levels in Rushcliffe for 150 minutes or more exercise each week were higher than the national average. Some of the key activities that contributed to this were sport, dance, gym and keep fit, all of which were provided at Council owned facilities. Rushcliffe also scored better than Nottinghamshire and the national average for low rates of inactivity with just over 20%. Although Rushcliffe was currently above the Nottinghamshire trend point for each measure recent trends gave cause for concern. Disabled people and lower socio-economic groups were a particular concern in terms of trends and inequalities of participation.

Mr Palfrey and Mr Godfrey informed Members that there were currently 6,435 gyms with a 9.2 million members which equated to 14.3% of the population. The market value was £4.4 billion, with 224 new centres opening last year and 158 closures of public authority facilities. Future provision would have greater focus on health and wellbeing and would need the ability to keep up with national trends such as high intensity and functional fitness. A greater number of new facilities were based on the commercial principle of return on capital expenditure and there would be a reduction in the number of facilities such as

crèches and bars, which previously may have existed. The current model for a leisure centre would include; a large fitness suite with100 to150 stations, at least two dedicated fitness studios, a dedicated teaching pool for swimming lessons, technology such as moveable floors, changing village style changing in pool areas, cafe facilities similar to a coffee shop style/ brand, shared services with as libraries and job centres and renewables technology for utilities. Changes in behaviour meant that customers had a greater use of social media streams such as Twitter and Snapchat and expected high quality equipment. They had reduced leisure time, but greater expectation on facility openings times as 14% of people work shifts. In respect of future trends they explained that functional fitness was still in growth, there would be greater lobbying by UKActive and similar health promotions and that members would expect greater value for money. The main competition for local authorities was from budget Fitness Clubs, trampoline Parks, Theme Parks, open Spaces and Fitness On Demand.

Members considered the link between health and illness, age and the issues of accessibility. Mr Godfrey confirmed that there were consultation rooms at the gyms and that private companies could provide physiotherapy sessions.

**Action** **The Community Development Manager to include the key issues of accessibility and age in the refreshed strategy**

Members discussed the importance of the link between nutrition and health and felt that the Strategy should reflect this. The Community Development Manager explained that that nutrition could be reflected under the health and wellbeing outcomes and that this was connected to wider actions plans that the Council has in place. The Executive Manager – Communities explained that nutrition was included in the Health Strategy and that the Council worked closely with its partners on this issue. Parkwood were responsible for the range of food that was provided at the centres and that it was aims to be both healthy and commercially marketable.

In response to questions, Mr Palfrey confirmed that discounted offers were offered to local business to encourage staff to use the facilities. Concessionary memberships were offered to people on GP referrals and Parkwood was currently working with its sister company to improve this service.

Members raised the issue of the ageing facilities and poor access at Bingham Leisure Centre being a barrier for potential users. The Executive Manager – Communities explained that Bingham was a key facility in the original Strategy and that this would be carried through into the refreshed version.

Mr Godfrey explained that Parkwood actively engaged with young people under the age of 16 as they were the future customers. They worked with many local clubs to provide classes including swimming and judo and worked with partners on initiatives including “this girl can”. Swimming was still a growing area and they provided water safety campaigns.

The Community Development Manager informed Members that it was not proposed to undertake a widespread general public consultation exercise. This was due to the major change in leisure provision currently taking place with the construction of the new Rushcliffe Arena which would impact on responses. Furthermore the new strategy would build on the previous strategy in the form

of a refresh and as such extensive public consultation was not deemed appropriate. Consultation was planned to be undertaken in two main 'blocks' during October 2016 and January 2017. The October 2016 'consultation block' aimed to build up a greater understanding of supply and demand, and identify any key issues., whereas the January 2017 'block' would involve gathering views on the draft Strategy. The organisations that were proposed to be consulted included Town and Parish Councils, schools, leisure centre based clubs, NHS Rushcliffe Clinical Commissioning Group, Nottinghamshire local authorities and other sporting stakeholders.

In respect of the consultation being conducted through "Survey Monkey", the Group felt that a stall or display should be provided at the Leisure Centres to enable customers that were not IT literate to take part in the survey.

**Action** **The Community Development Manager to arrange for stall or display that should be provided at the Leisure Centres to enable customers that were not IT literate to take part in the survey**

Members welcomed the consultation through the Town and Parish Forum and acknowledged that this would include community groups in West Bridgford. They suggested that the YouNG group could also be used to spread the word. In respect of consultation across the border with Derbyshire and Leicestershire the Community Development Manager explained that the Council was a member of the Nottinghamshire Leisure Group, but that consultation with neighbouring Boroughs such as Charnwood Borough Council could also be incorporated.
The Group supported the decision not to undertake a full public consultation and felt that this should be highlighted in a proactive manner in Rushcliffe Reports.

**Action** **The Community Development Manager to provide an article in Rushcliffe Reports explaining the Council's proposed consultation to support the strategy development**

Members felt that the Emmanuel School should be included in the list of consultees.

**Action** **The Community Development Manager to include the Emmanuel School in the list of consultees**

It is AGREED that the Group;

a) had considered the demand for leisure provision within Rushcliffe and that the key issues of accessibility and age should be included in the refreshed strategy; and

b) approve the consultation plan as detailed in Appendix 2, subject to the inclusion of displays at the Leisure Centres and addition of the Emmanuel School.

The Chairman thanked Mr Palfrey and Mr Godfrey for their presentation and answering Members questions.

9. **Proposed Introduction of a Public Space Protection Order**

The Environment and Licensing Manager gave a presentation to the Group on the proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to control the activities of street drinking and rough sleeping in key areas of West Bridgford and Edwalton. The PSPO would replace the existing Designated Public Protection Order (DPPO) covering central West Bridgford and was in response to the evidence and community concerns of inappropriate behaviour in wider public places. He explained that under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, there was provision for local authorities to introduce measures to address anti-social behaviour in public places that was detrimental to the local community's quality of life. The PSPO replaced three existing powers of Dog Control Order, Gating Order and Designated Public Place Order (alcohol ban).

A local authority could make a PSPO in respect of any public space within its administrative boundary, even if it did not own the land. It could include any place that the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission. The new orders were more flexible and could be applied to a much broader range of issues. They gave local authorities the ability to design and implement their own prohibitions or requirements, subject to certain conditions being met. The Council must be satisfied on reasonable grounds that activities carried out in a public space would have, or were likely to have; a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, were persistent or continuing in nature, were unreasonable and justified the restrictions imposed.

The Environment and Licensing Manager explained that a PSPO either prohibited or restricted specific activities, or both, within an identified area. The prohibitions or requirements must be reasonable and prevent or reduce the detrimental effect or risk of occurrence. The Order could restrict activities including street drinking, rough sleeping, lighting of fires, urinating, public littering or any type of behaviour that could cause a nuisance. Failure to abide by the Order would result in a fixed penalty of £100, which if unpaid could lead to prosecution. A PSPO could last for up to three years, with no restrictions on the amount of times it could be renewed, subject to the need remaining and appropriate consultation.

The Environment and Licensing Manager outlined the current situation and issues in West Bridgford. The existing DPPO, that covered parts of the Trent Bridge and Lady Bay Wards, had been in place since 2010. The restrictions only related to alcohol and could only be enforced by a Police Constable. Between June 2015 and May 2016, the Council and Police had collected a substantial evidence base totalling 84 reports of Anti-Social Behaviour involving street drinking and associated activities. The proposed new PSPO would extend the existing DPPO area within West Bridgford and control the consumption of alcohol and the prohibition of rough sleeping.

The Council had carried out an extensive consultation from 1 July 2016 to 12 August 2016 with interested parties including; the Chief of Police, the PCC, Landowners, local Borough Councillors, Community Representatives and Organisations, as well as local residents. In addition it was publicised via the Council's website, twitter and Facebook and through the local media. A total of 30 responses were received, with support from the Police, Nottinghamshire

County Council (NCC), Local Residents, Ward Members and the PCC. Notably there was a request for an extension to the proposed area to incorporate NCC parks and Gamston Parish Play area. However, there were a small number of respondents that were concerned about rough sleeping and how the Council would continue to support the homeless.

In response to these concerns, the Council had held discussions with The Friary and would continue to provide a grant of £5,000 to support the homeless. The Council was currently working with partners on a new homelessness prevention strategy and would adopt a proportionate enforcement response to deal with anti-social behaviour and crime.

The Environment and Licensing Manager concluded his presentation by outlining the next steps in the process. Once the 'restricted areas' had been finalised and the Legal Order had been drafted, an Equalities Impact Assessment would be carried out. A report would then be submitted to Council and if approved, the Order would be publicised, and suitable signage would be erected prior to being enforced by the end of 2016.

In response to questions, Members were informed that although there were isolated incidents in other parts of the Borough, rough sleeping and alcohol were an issue mainly in West Bridgford due to the size and location of the area. The Group expressed concern that anti-social behaviour could be displaced to the Green Line if it was not included in the PSPO. The Environment and Licensing Manager confirmed that currently there was no evidence of any issues in the area and although there had been no request from local groups, it should be included as a preventative measure.

**Action** **The Environment and Licensing Manager to include "The Green Line" in the restricted area for the West Bridgford PSPO**

The Environment and Licensing Manager confirmed that following the introduction of the Order, activities including weekend parities, camping and alcohol consumption would become prohibited in open areas like Sharphill Woods. Local Authority Officers would have the power to enforce the order and would work in partnership with the Police. It was hoped that quick enforcement of the new regulations would discourage antisocial behaviour and the public would be more inclined to report any incidents. In respect of signage, it was recognised that this could present some challenges as some open spaces had many entrances. If successful, consideration would be given to introducing PSPOs in other towns and villages in the Borough, where there were incidents of anti-social behaviour

Members expressed concern in relation to the effect that the PSPO would have on rough sleeping and whether enforcement was the right approach. They requested that if the Order was introduced, officers provide feedback on the situation to the Group.

**Action** **The Environment and Licensing Manager to provide the Group with feedback on rough sleeping following the introduction of the PSPO**

It was AGREED that Members support the proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection Order.

10. **Borough Art Collection Disposal**

The Executive Manager – Communities reminded Members that in April 2013 Cabinet had agreed that the opportunity to sell or loan the Borough Art Collection should be taken where appropriate, after seeking expert advice and approval from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Community Protection and the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Resources. In February 2015 the collection was valued by Mellor's and Kirk Fine Art Auctioneers and approval was given to sell many items subject to a reserve price being met. The sale took place in November 2015 and raised £23,290 gross, with net proceeds of £14,910.35 after costs. However the "Procession of the May Queen" by Herbert Wilson Foster, valued at £25,000 - £50,000, failed to sell and expert advice indicated it was unlikely to do so in the near future.

In December 2015 Council supported a motion that 'The Council recognises as part of its civic leadership the role of the Arts in the lifestyle of its residents and requests that imaginative proposals are brought forward for investing all the proceeds of the public auction and private sales of its artworks in new programmes and projects for the Arts for consideration by Cabinet and to include such investment in its future Budgets'.

The Group considered the report that outlined the outcome of the sale and details of the remaining pieces within the collection. The Executive Manager – Communities explained that the income raised was capital and as such, could not be used to support any revenue projects. All the pieces except for the clock in the Mayor's Parlour and four paintings had been sold and the sale proceeds included the five pieces of art that had been sold to Nottingham City Council. Members' proposals for investing the proceeds of the sale included a competition to create a sculpture outside the new Arena building, a display area for local artists' work within the reception at the Arena, supporting existing arts in the Borough and funding for an "Arts Week" in West Bridgford involving local business.

The Group discussed the option of using the proceeds to fund start-up costs for the creation of an Arts Week" in West Bridgford, which would support economic development and become self-funding in future years. The project would mirror similar events in other towns and could involve local businesses and shops providing art and music on their premises and an art exhibition at Lutterell Hall. Members supported the initiative, however it was felt that this was a revenue project and potentially could be funded through the Growth Board. The provision of a display area in the reception at the new Arena for local artists to exhibit and sell work was also considered a revenue project.

The Group supported the idea of a feature sculpture or piece of art outside the entrance to the new Arena which would be owned by the community. They felt that the project could potentially be in the form of a competition involving young people led by a local artist.

**Action** **The Executive Manager – Communities to investigate the possibility of a feature sculpture/piece of art at the Arena**

In respect of the “Procession of the May Queen” the Group questioned the setting of the painting and whether it was, as believed, in Bradmore. The Executive Manager – Communities explained that previous research suggested the location was more likely to be Stoke and that attempts had been made to sell it in that area.

**Action** **The Executive Manager – Communities to provide the Group with confirmation of where the “May Queen” painting was set**

In response to questions on the current condition, the Executive Manager – Communities confirmed that there was damage to the frame and that the painting required cleaning, although previous expert advice had recommended against this. He agreed to investigate the cost of having the frame repaired and the painting cleaned, and seek advice on whether it was worth doing.

**Action** **The Executive Manager – Communities to investigate the cost of having the frame repaired and the painting cleaned, and seek advice on whether it was worth doing**

The Group felt that the “May Queen” should remain in Rushcliffe as it had been painted by a renowned local artist, however they recognised that due to its size, finding a suitable location could prove difficult. The painting was currently in storage and officers had already explored many options, including selling and loaning the painting out to various venues including Stanford Hall. The Group requested that officers further investigate the possibility of displaying the “May Queen” painting at Stanford Hall.

**Action** **The Executive Manager – Communities further investigate the possibility of displaying the “May Queen” painting at Stanford Hall**

It was AGREED that the Group recommends to Cabinet;

a) that the proceeds of the sale of the Borough Art Collection should be invested in a feature sculpture/piece of art at the Arena; and

b) that officers further investigate the possibility of displaying the “Procession of the May Queen” painting by Herbert Wilson Foster at Stanford Hall

11. **Community Development Group Annual Report 2015/16**

The Chairman presented the Annual Report that provided a review of the work undertaken by the Community Development Group in 2015/16. Members were informed that reports from all four scrutiny groups would be presented to Council on 22 September 2016.

It was AGREED that the report be approved and forwarded to Council for its consideration.

12. **Work Programme**

The Group considered the report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services that set out details of the proposed work programme for the municipal year 2016/17.

In respect of the suggestions raised in relation to the Borough Art Collection**,** Members agreed that feedback should be provided through Members' Matters and that further scrutiny by the Group was not required.

**Action** **The Executive Manager – Communities to provide feedback on the suggestions in relation to the Borough Art Collection via Members' Matters**

The Group AGREED the Work Programme as set out below:

| Date of Meeting | Item |
|---|---|
| 22 November 2016 | • Leisure Strategy Development<br>• Revised Homelessness Strategy<br>• Rural Broadband Update<br>• Work Programme |
| | |
| 21 February 2017 | • Leisure Strategy Development<br>• Economic Development Update<br>• Work Programme |

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

**Action Sheet**
**Community Development Group - Tuesday 23 August 2016**

| Minute Number | | Actions | Officer Responsible |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | Notes of the Previous Meeting | None | |
| 8 | Leisure Facilities Strategy | a) include the key issues of accessibility and age in the refreshed strategy<br>b) arrange for stall or display that should be provided at the Leisure Centres to enable customers that were not IT literate to take part in the survey<br>c) provide an article in Rushcliffe Reports explaining the Council's proposed consultation to support the strategy development<br>d) include the Emmanuel school in the list of consultees | Community Development Manager |
| 9 | Proposed Introduction of a Public Space Protection Order | a) include "The Green Line" in the restricted area for the West Bridgford PSPO<br>b) provide the Group with feedback on rough sleeping following the introduction of the PSPO | Environment and Licensing Manager |
| 10 | Borough Art Collection Disposal | a) investigate the possibility of a feature sculpture/piece of art at the Arena<br>b) provide confirmation of where the "May Queen" painting was set<br>c) investigate the cost of having the frame repaired and the painting cleaned, and seek advice on whether it was worth doing<br>d) further investigate the possibility of displaying the "May Queen" painting at Stanford Hall | Executive Manager – Communities |
| 11 | Community Development Group Annual Report 2015/16 | None | |
| 12 | Work Programme | Provide feedback on the suggestions in relation to the Borough Art Collection via Members' Matters | Executive Manager – Communities |