

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY & REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THE EARL BALDWIN SUITE, DUKE HOUSE, CLENSMORE STREET,
KIDDERMINSTER

MONDAY, 13TH JULY 2009 (6:00 PM)

Present:

Councillors: Mrs H E Dyke (Chairman), J Phillips (Vice-Chairman), G H Eeles, D R Godwin, M A W Hazlewood, D J Millis, M Price, K H Prosser, M J Shellie, D R Sheppard, S J Williams and G C Yarranton.

Observers:

Councillors: J-P Campion and M J Hart.

C&R.15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M B Kelly.

C&R.16 Appointment of Substitutes

No substitute Members were appointed.

C&R.17 Declaration of Interests

Councillors M J Shellie and G C Yarranton declared a personal interest in agenda items 5 relating to the Horsefair, Broadwaters and Greenhill Partnership Update and 8 relating to the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership LAA Reward LPSA2 Performance Review 2006 – 2009 as they are members of the Community Housing Board.

Councillor Mrs H E Dyke declared a personal interest in agenda item 8 relating to the Wyre Forest Community Safety partnership LAA Reward PSA2 Performance Review 2006 – 2009 as she is Chair of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership and is also employed by the Kidderminster Retail Initiative and Security Partnership (KRISP).

C&R.18 Minutes

Agreed: The minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C&R.19 Horsefair, Broadwaters and Greenhill Partnership Update

The Chairman welcomed Justin Daniels, Co-Ordinator and Nick Parker, Manager of the Horsefair, Broadwaters and Greenhill Partnership to the meeting.

The Chairman informed Members that she had asked for the presentation to be

Agenda Item No. 4

included on the agenda as the Council had awarded monies to the partnership two years ago to fund a co-ordinator post for the partnership. She perceived that it was useful for the committee to receive an update on the work that the co-ordinator had undertaken.

Justin Daniels informed the Committee that he commenced his job as co-ordinator in July 2008. The main role of the co-ordinator had been to:

- Encourage more residents and community groups to be involved in the partnership work in the area and to support individual projects and interventions
- To provide administrative support to the Board
- To facilitate the partnership and community voice to be heard in issues that impacted on the area
- To promote the partnership locally and in the area
- To be directly responsible for some of the Board's projects.

Members were informed of some of the events that had been arranged including:

- A Community Cohesion Event
- Tidy Days
- Kidderminster Carnival 2009
- Health Communities Event 2009
- Setting up of a Samba Group
- Community Groups and Youth Activities
- Assembly

The future of the post was outlined and it transpired that money had been forthcoming from LAA reward monies and this would enable Justin to support more groups and identify any gaps in service.

The following comments were raised by Members:

- It was hoped that as far as possible group meetings would be arranged when most people could attend.
- In response to a query about targets it was clarified that most were met but crime had been recorded differently and this had impacted slightly on the target.

It was agreed that a copy of Justin's report and presentation would be circulated electronically to Members.

Members congratulated Justin on the work he had undertaken and the Chairman thanked him for his presentation.

Agreed: 1. The report and presentation be noted.

2. The Principal Committee Officer to circulate copies of the presentation and report to Members of the Committee.

C&R.20 Cultural Strategy and Action Plan

A report was considered from the Cultural Services Manager regarding the Cultural Strategy and Action Plan.

The Cultural Services Manager informed Members that the Cultural Strategy for Worcestershire had expired at the end of last year and required to be refreshed. A local action plan had now been completed for Wyre Forest and this had been completed following criticism in a Corporate Performance Assessment (CPA) inspection in 2007 which concluded that although cultural services were good in the district, they required a clear strategic direction with clear aims. It was also considered to be good practice for a Council to have an Action Plan to accompany a Cultural Strategy.

Members noted that it was planned to circulate the Action Plan for Wyre Forest to various partners for consultation before bringing it back to the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee in its final form in September 2009. A number of queries were raised and answered as follows:

- Were play area surveys planned? It was confirmed that an open space audit would take place and it was planned to develop open spaces and the playing field strategy.
- Was information used from the Place Survey? It was clarified that the Place Survey was used to randomly target residents.
- Information from Children and Young Persons Theme Group – it was emphasised that there should be access for children with various disabilities to the play schemes that were organised. It was emphasised how important it was to integrate children with disabilities into the play schemes.
- What dialogue was held with local arts and music societies? It was confirmed that there was regular dialogue with these groups.

A Member asked that Green Pennant parks owned by third parties be considered for inclusion.

On considering the list of consultees a Member proposed that the Youth Forum be added as an additional consultee. Members were asked to contact the Cultural Services Manager if they perceived that there were any other consultees that should be added to the list or any additional comments they would like to make.

Agreed:

1. The list of partners the Action Plan be sent to be as follows:

- **Community Housing Group**
- **PCT**
- **Youth Support**
- **County Sports Partnership**
- **Extended Schools**
- **Wyre Forest Arts Forum**
- **Youth Forum**

This would allow everyone an opportunity to input actions from partners or comment on the content from Wyre Forest District Council.

- 2. Members were asked to contact the Cultural Services Manager directly if they wished to add anyone extra to the list of consultees.**
- 3. The outcome of the consultation responses be brought back to the September meeting of this Scrutiny Committee.**

C&R.21 The List of Buildings of Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest (The Local List) – Consultation Results on the Draft Proposals for Wolverley and Cookley Parish

A report was considered from the Conservation Officer which informed Members of the results of the public consultation on the draft List of Buildings of Local Architectural and/or Historic Interest (The Local List) for the parish of Wolverley and Cookley and sought adoption of the proposed final list.

The Policy and Regeneration Manager presented the report and informed Members that the Council had established Local Lists for Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley and was now rolling out Local Lists for rural areas.

The consultation responses had been circulated electronically to Members. However some Members perceived that they should have received a hard copy. Members were advised that short appendices would be included within the paper agenda and Members were asked that if they had difficulties in reading electronic appendices they should contact the Committee Section for a hard copy but this should be avoided as far as possible as the Council was moving towards the use of electronic papers.

Members noted that five responses had been received. A response had been received from Worcestershire County Council regarding the perceived importance of a school building which had now been included in the conservation character appraisal and a building had been removed from the list following the receipt of an objection. There were two additions for the list:

The Kissing Gate in Wolverley Village and Holly Cottage in Drakelow Lane. With regard to the Kissing Gate the local member sought clarification as to where it was.

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: The List included in Appendix 4 of the report to the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee be adopted amended from the original draft list, as a result of the public consultation.

C&R.22 Wyre Forest Community Safety partnership LAA Reward/LPSA 2 Performance Review 2006-09

A report was considered from the Community Safety and Partnerships officer that outlined the performance of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership (WFCSP) in achieving its crime and fire targets known as the Local Area Agreement (LAA) Local Public Service Agreement second generation (LPSA 2) targets.

Members noted the breakdown of achievements in that four out of seven of the targets had been achieved with a potential reward grant income of £410,395 to the Worcestershire Partnership.

Agreed: The performance of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership in reducing crime and fires in the Wyre Forest District against its challenging LPSA 2 targets be noted.

C&R.23 Feedback from Cabinet

Members considered the action list from Cabinet for 23rd June 2009. Recommendations had been made to Cabinet on the following item:

- Employment and Economic Prospects Review Panel

Members were informed that the recommendations that had been put forward had been agreed.

Agreed: The information be noted.

C&R.24 Work Programme

The Committee reviewed the work programme for the current municipal year with regard to the Sustainable Community Strategy Theme, Corporate Plan Aim, Annual Priorities and the Forward Plan.

Two amendments were made to the work programme:

- 5th November 2009 Update on KTC.3 (an information item)
- Recommendation tracking to be moved to 8th October 2009

Agreed: The Principal Committee Officer to update the Work Programme.

C&R.25 Press Involvement

No items were identified for scrutiny that might require publicity at present.

The meeting ended at 7.10 pm.