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COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Chris Furness - In the Chair

Councillors: Jason Atkin, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Neil Buttle, Clare Gamble, Susan Hobson, David Hughes, Dermot Murphy, Garry Purdy, Mike Ratcliffe, Andrew Statham, Alasdair Sutton and Mark Wakeman.

Paul Wilson (Chief Executive), Tim Braund (Director of Regulatory Services), Steve Capes (Director of Regeneration and Policy), Karen Carpenter (Environmental Health Officer), James McLaughlin (Director of Corporate and Customer Services), Dave Turvey (Events Manager), Tommy Shaw (Business Support Assistant) and Lucy Harrison (Democratic Services Assistant).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors, Steve Wain (substitute Councillor Sue Burfoot), Helen Froggatt (substitute Councillor Jason Atkin), Matthew Buckler (substitute Councillor Clare Gamble), Peter O'Brien and Tony Morley.

289/21 – MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe, Seconded by Councillor Garry Purdy and

RESOLVED

(Unanimously)

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held on 17 November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

290/21 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Note:

“Opinions expressed or statements made by individual persons during the public participation part of a Council or committee meeting are not the opinions or statements of Derbyshire Dales District Council. These comments are made by individuals who have

exercised the provisions of the Council's Constitution to address a specific meeting. The Council therefore accepts no liability for any defamatory remarks that are made during a meeting that are replicated on this document."

The following questions and statements were submitted in writing:

LETTER from Mr Andrew Chadwick, Chair of Abney, Abney Grange, Highlow and Offerton Parish Meeting regarding Item 6; HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

"Dear Members,

We were extremely disheartened to learn that Mr Purdy, leader of DDDC, has chosen to ignore all the Parish Meetings within the Derbyshire Dales when recommending who may apply for funding toward a community Platinum Jubilee celebration.

We would respectfully ask Members to include Parish Meetings as well as the 66 Parish Councils and 5 Town Councils in their considerations

Ours is a Parish of predominantly hill farmers and retirees and we are at a loss as to why our and other Parish Meetings should be excluded?

We ask that you ignore his recommendation and show impartiality across all residents in the Derbyshire Dales

Yours sincerely

Andrew Chadwick

Chair of Abney, Abney Grange, Highlow and Offerton Parish Meeting"

STATEMENT AND QUESTIONS from Mr Peter Dobbs, Resident of Ashbourne, regarding Item 7; AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA, ASHBOURNE – UPDATING REPORT

"I welcome the completion of the apportionment exercise for the likely sources of NOx pollution on Buxton Road, Ashbourne. This would, however, appear to be the extent of progress in the formation of the AQAP for Ashbourne since the C&E Meeting in November.

At that meeting Cllr Purdy offered to write to Councillor Barry Lewis, Councillor Kewal Singh Athwal and Chris Henning at DCC in order to express the urgency of addressing the air quality situation in Ashbourne.

Qn 1.) *Would it be possible to know if replies were received from all three and if there were, could those replies be made public?*

I also note that the June 2021 Annual Status Report on air quality (which refers to 2020 data) has not yet been published and presented to this committee.

Qn 2.) *Could an indication be given as to when this might take place?"*

RESPONSE:

1.) I have not received written responses to my letters but have been kept informed of progress of the proposed short list through County Council members'

2.) The 2021 Air Quality Annual Status Report has been published by the District Council and is available of the Council's website at:

https://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/images/DerbyshireDales_ASR2021revFinalwith_DPHendorcement.pdf

The Council's Constitution does not require the report to be submitted to Committee and any queries about its content should be sent to:

envhealth@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

291/21 – INTERESTS

Councillors Sue Bull, Jason Atkin, Mark Wakeman and Sue Burfoot declared personal interests in Item 6 – Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee as they were members of the Town Councils named in the report.

292/21 – HER MAJESTY THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE

The Chief Executive introduced a report outlining a proposal for the District Council to help local communities celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee through support to local Town / Parish Councils.

In order to mark the Queen's historic 70 year reign, it had been proposed that Platinum Jubilee celebrations should take place throughout the UK and commonwealth as part of a year-long programme of events.

To facilitate this, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities encouraged organisations to work with their local communities to make sure that the momentous occasion would be marked fittingly. A series of national events were therefore to be encouraged and promoted, with local authorities requested to provide appropriate support and advice. The report therefore suggested that, rather than the District Council seeking to adopt a single unifying event of celebration for all communities, Town and Parish Councils would be best placed to determine an appropriate form of celebration in their area.

The report proposed that, to encourage and assist local communities in meeting the costs of local events, the District Council should award of a 'one-off' grant for town councils and parish councils, upon receipt of details of a platinum jubilee celebration in their area.

In light of concerns that events organised by Parish Meetings were not included in the proposals, the Chief Executive added a further recommendation proposing that any underspend in the Council's Local Projects Fund would be used to encourage and support applications from Parish Meetings for Platinum Jubilee Celebration events in their area.

Councillor Garry Purdy moved the recommendations set out in the report subject to the additional recommendation suggested by the Chief Executive. This was seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the Council approves a 'one-off' grant scheme to Town and Parish Councils to support the celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in accordance with the schedule outlined in Appendix 1.
2. That, subject to the approval of recommendation 1, £38,000 required to fund the scheme be included in the proposed Revenue Budget for 2022/23, to be considered at Council on 3 March 2022.
3. That any underspend in the Council's Local Projects Fund budget for 2021/22, be utilised to enhance the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Fund and made available to enable members to encourage and support applications from Parish Meetings within their Wards up to a limit of £250 per Platinum Jubilee Celebration event.

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

293/21 – AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA, ASHBOURNE – UPDATING REPORT

The Director of Regulatory Services introduced a report updating members on the actions taken following the declaration of an Air Quality Management Area in Ashbourne at the meeting of this committee on 7 April 2021.

The report updated Members on the actions taken following the meeting on 7 April 2021. It was confirmed that Officers had contacted Derbyshire County Council's Transport team and had begun the process of progressing an action plan. It was agreed that they would follow the model used for the creation of other AQMA Action Plans in Derbyshire by producing a long list of possible options which would be evaluated to identify those that might be suitable for Ashbourne. It had also been agreed that representatives from Ashbourne Town Council and Ashbourne Town Team would be involved in developing the Action Plan.

Although not available when the agenda was published, the proposed shortlist of actions from Derbyshire County Council had been made available prior to the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe, seconded by Councillor Garry Purdy and

RESOLVED That the actions taken in progressing the AQMA action plan be noted.
(unanimously)

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

294/21 – DERBYSHIRE DALES ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN – LEVELLING UP FUND

The Director of Regeneration and Policy introduced a report which sought approval for the proposed process and parameters for making a bid to Round 2 of the Government's Levelling up fund. These proposals were detailed in the context of the approved Economic Recovery Plan for the Derbyshire Dales.

The report detailed the priorities included in the Economic Recovery Plan adopted by Council in November 2020. Further to this adoption, in April 2021 Council gave approval to prepare a District Council bid to the Levelling Up Fund (LUF) round 2, for a “coherent, strategic package of capital schemes to regenerate Derbyshire Dales market towns”. Further to this, Members noted that to prepare Green Book compliant business cases, work must be undertaken to develop bid-ready schemes with officer time, technical consultancy and other costs expended ‘at risk’. The report explained that with the completion of (most) COVID business grant programmes in autumn 2021, capacity had finally become available to progress this important work.

The report gave more information regarding the timescales involved in the LUF round 2 bidding process. The bid considerations were also detailed, including the requirement to get infrastructure with a visible impact and the three themes in round one (which were expected to be broadly similar in round two): town centre, regeneration, transport, and culture. The report stated that schemes were required to complete spend by March 2025, and that a further requirement was considered likely to spend starting in 2022/23. The report also explained that to have a chance of success, a LUF bid would need MP and County Council support. Evidence of stakeholder support was also considered vital, but the former two were pre-requisites.

As part of this process the Director of Regeneration and Policy had written to Ashbourne, Bakewell, Matlock and Wirksworth town councils on 18 November 2021 to seek to establish realistic interest in the District Councils LUF bid. Proposals were received and acknowledged from Matlock Community Vision and Ashbourne Town Team.

The report detailed the focuses of the two proposals. The Matlock proposals were anchored on the existing ‘western gateway’ Bakewell Road regeneration scheme. Ashbourne's proposals included multiple projects. Although at the time of this report all were less advanced than the Matlock former market hall regeneration scheme, each project had much to commend, and it was proposed that they could potentially be worked up into a sound coherent strategic case. Site visits had taken place to both Ashbourne and Matlock on 1st February 2022. It was concluded that for the time being, the District Council should continue to develop Levelling Up infrastructure projects in both Ashbourne and Matlock. The final decision on which project(s) to submit for LUF round 2 should not be made until further project development has taken place.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the Levelling Up infrastructure projects in Ashbourne and Matlock be developed, working with both Ashbourne Town Team and Matlock Community Vision, subject to Round 2 guidance and timescales being announced.
2. That final decision on which project(s) to submit for Levelling Up Fund round 2 be made when further development has taken place.
3. That if a package does not go forward to Levelling Up Fund round 2 (or does go forward but is not awarded Levelling Up Fund funding by the government), the Council will support putting it to appropriate future Government infrastructure funds.
4. That the receipt of £125,000 capacity funding be noted.
5. That the expenditure and procurement of consultants as exercised by Urgent Decision be noted.
6. The expenditure of up to £300,000 and its funding from Capacity Grant (£125,000) and the Economic Development Reserve (£175,000) be referred to Council for approval (as part of the revenue budget to be considered at Council on 3 March 2022).
7. That the likely involvement of various council departments be noted.
8. That the proposed project governance arrangements be approved.

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

295/21 – D2N2 BUSINESS GROWTH HUB – FUNDING EXTENSION TO JUNE 2023

The Director of Regeneration and Policy introduced a report outlining the plans to extend the Derbyshire Dales Business Advice service to June 2023. The report detailed that in 2016, support had been secured to deliver additional business support services within the district. ERDF funding had been delivered as part of the D2N2 Growth Hub allowing Derbyshire Dales Business Advice into a full time / five day a week advice service. This was funded 50:50 by the District Council and ERDF. The enhanced local service had been delivered by the Council's experienced Derbyshire Dales Business Advisor based within the Council's Economic Development Team.

The report addressed the proposals by the core Growth Hub which were submitted in autumn 2021. Following this, partners had been advised on 21st December 2021 by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities that an extension of ERDF funding had been agreed, this would enable the Growth Hub to provide its current services, including enhanced local provision in those districts partnering in the scheme, until June 2023. The

report noted this extension as beneficial due to the continuing demand for business advice and support within the Derbyshire Dales.

It was detailed in the report that funding provision would be made within the District Council's approved Economic Development Reserve as part of the budget setting process for 2022/23.

It was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Michael Ratcliffe and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the work of the Derbyshire Dales Business Advice service and extension of European Regional Development Fund support for the D2N2 Growth Hub to 30 June 2023 be noted.
2. That an increase of £34,063.50 in the Council's match funding contribution to extend full time, locally delivered business support services from 1st April 2022 for a further 15 months be approved, utilising funding from the Economic Development Reserve, and extending the Derbyshire Dales Business Advisor post accordingly.
3. That, additional spending of £34,063.50 and its funding from the Economic Development Reserve be referred to Council for approval (as part of the Revenue Budget report).

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

296/21 – UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

The Director of Regeneration and Policy introduced a report which sought agreement on the District Council's investment priorities for the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The report detailed the intentions of The UK Shared Prosperity Fund to replace EU funds (from which the Derbyshire Dales had continued to benefit). The intentions of this being to provide £2.6 billion of funding for investment over the three years to March 2025, sitting alongside the Levelling Up Fund. The report explained that in order to access the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), each local authority must develop and agree an investment plan.

The report mentioned the District Council's adoption of an Economic Recovery Plan for 2020-2023 in anticipation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Additionally, the Council's approval of a Rural Economy Position statement, the contents of which set out its priorities for what new funding and funders should focus on for the Derbyshire Dales. The report recommended that the Economic Recovery Plan and the Rural Economy Position Statement, supported by the Economic plan 2019-2033, should form the basis of the Derbyshire Dales Investment Plan for UKSPF, with the intentions for this to be submitted later in 2022.

It was moved by Councillor Garry Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the UK Shared Prosperity Fund pre-launch guidance and indicative timescales be noted.
2. That the Derbyshire Dales Investment Plan priorities be drawn from the approved Economic Recovery Plan 2020-2033, the Rural Economy Position Statement approved in November 2020, supported by the Economic Plan 2019-2033.
3. That engagement takes place with local partners to draft an Investment Plan for future consideration and agreement.

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

297/21 – MATLOCK BATH ILLUMINATIONS REVIEW

The Events Manager introduced a report detailing the outturn of the 2021 event and seeking agreement for the general format of the 2022 event.

The report stated that the 2021 event had operated slightly differently to previous years due to the ongoing pandemic. Detailed in the report was the decision made by this council in February 2020 to reinvest £14,500 into the illuminations. It was noted that this investment had been used in the second phase of upgrading the lights for the event which improved the energy consumption levels. This completed the upgrade of all old lighting at the event, which were replaced by new, more environmentally friendly lights. The reduction in firework nights also had a positive impact on the environment in terms of both noise and debris.

It was noted that in 2021 attendance surpassed expectation, taking into account the pandemic and reduced capacity to 4000 per night. In 2021, attendance was 53,620 up on 2019 which saw 41,155 ticketed visitors to the event. The 2021 opening night saw the second highest opening night attendance since the District Council took over the event 37 years ago. The reported income and expenditure attributed to Matlock Bath Illuminations 2021 event showed a surplus of £80,297, against a budgeted surplus of £42,628. The final Actual Net Income for the 2021 season was £73,831, £31,199 more than budgeted.

It was moved by Councillor Mark Wakeman, seconded by Councillor Andrew Statham and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the achievements of the event in 2021 be noted.
2. That the boat builders be thanked for their continued efforts and continuing after the pandemic.
3. That the fees and charges and any promotional offers be agreed by the Working Group be approved.
4. That the Event Organiser is given delegated authority to make operational decisions in relation to the staging of the 2022 event, in consultation with the Working Group and Director of Community & Environmental Services.
5. That Mr G E M Stevens MBE be invited to compere to 2022 event and Mrs Stevens also be invited as Mr Stevens' support.
6. That £34,155.93 from the 2021 event surplus be carried forward at the year-end to be invested into the 2022 event in order to further improve the sound system and lights.

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

MEETING CLOSED – 8.10 PM

CHAIRMAN