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## **COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of a Meeting held on Thursday 9 July 2015 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock at 6.00 pm.**

### **PRESENT**

Councillor Joanne Wild - In the Chair

Councillors Jennifer Bower, Richard Bright, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Albert Catt, Ann Elliott, Susan Hobson, Vicky Massey, Tony Morley, Joyce Pawley, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose, OBE, Andrew Statham, Colin Swindell and Philippa Tilbrook.

Dorcas Bunton (Chief Executive), Sandra Lamb (Head of Corporate Services), Sarah Gee (Senior Solicitor), Ashley Watts (Head of Community Development), Karen Cooper (Community Safety Officer), Dave Turvey (Active Communities Officer) and Jackie Cullen (Committee Assistant).

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jason Atkin. There were no substitute Members.

### **53/15 – ASHBOURNE LEISURE CENTRE: ASHBOURNE SKATE PARK**

Members considered a report that highlighted the circumstances surrounding the current closure of Ashbourne Skate Park and informed members of the requirement for consultation.

Ashbourne Skate Park opened May 2004, and whilst many positive aspects to having a skate park were apparent, the facility had also had a negative impact on the area, mainly through antisocial behaviour issues including vandalism to the facility and Ashbourne Leisure Centre. Appendix 1 to the report showed photographic examples of vandalism and damage caused by users of the skate park. There had also been incidents of Leisure Centre employees being subject to threatening behaviour and verbal abuse when walking to and from the building and cleaning the area. Appendix 2 to the report listed several incidents which had occurred prior to the fire which resulted in closure of the skate park.

Since opening the Skate Park, the District Council had paid in excess of £22,500 in repairs and maintenance (not including repair and maintenance to the building).

In accordance with the District Council's Consultation and Engagement Strategy, it was proposed that consultation take place regarding the following options, which were set out in the report:

- Continue the use of the Skate Park (between £6,000 and £7,000 repair + building repairs of £3,293)
- Relocation of the Skate Park (Approximately £35,000 + groundworks)
- Closure of the Skate Park

Members were advised that approval of the recommendation would result in the Skate Park remaining closed throughout the summer months.

It was also noted that option 1 would only last two years as the current skate park's basic infrastructure only had a life of 13 years and this is due to end then.

Other options were discussed in brief at the meeting, and it was proposed that the public consultation should provide information regarding proposed measures to reduce vandalism, including upgrading the CCTV equipment and increased police patrols.

It was moved by Councillor Sue Bull, seconded by Councillor Jennifer Bower and

**RESOLVED** That the Head of Community Development be authorised to commence a period of public consultation on the future of the skate park based on the 3 options outlined in the report and inviting suggestions on other potentially viable options, to be brought back to the Committee for consideration at a future meeting.  
(unanimously)

#### **54/15 – THE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014**

Members considered a report which outlined the new Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act and sought approval of the delegation of powers for the new Act.

Community Safety had been governed by many acts and amendments, with the most recent one being The Anti-Social Behaviour, Policing and Crime Act 2014. There had been 19 different tools and powers which could be used around the area of Community Safety, of which a limited number had been used within the District. This new act had streamlined the process to 6 tools and powers, as tabled in the report. The changes were set out in detail in appendix 1 to the report.

It was moved by Councillor Lewis Rose, OBE, seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

**RESOLVED** 1. That the new legislation be adopted by Derbyshire Dales District Council.  
(unanimously) 2. That delegated authority to the relevant Officers be approved, as detailed in the report.

#### **55/15 – COMMUNITY TRIGGER – ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014**

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced a range of new tools and powers in relation to anti-social behaviour (ASB). The majority of the legislation came into force in October 2014, with the rest following in March 2015.

The Act included a new right for victims of ASB to request a review of the response to their complaints of ASB, where they felt the problem had not been effectively addressed by agencies. This would be known as the Community Trigger, and would be subject to specific criteria, or a threshold, as defined in the report. If a case met the Community Trigger threshold, an ASB Case Review would take place, as set out in the report.

If victims (or their advocates) were not satisfied with the outcome of the Community Trigger, they could lodge an appeal with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire. More information was available on the link [www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/Public-Information/CommunityTrigger](http://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/Public-Information/CommunityTrigger)

It was moved by Councillor Richard Bright, seconded by Councillor Vicky Massey and

**RESOLVED** That the new legislation be noted.  
(unanimously)

**MEETING CLOSED 6.57PM**

**CHAIRMAN**