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Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford East Area Committee held on Thursday 21 November 2013 at City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 1800
Concluded 1925

PRESENT – Councillors

LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT	RESPECT
Billheimer	Griffiths	F Khan
I A Khan	Middleton	
Khaliq	G Reid	
H U Khan	Sunderland	

Observers:

Employment, Skills and Culture Portfolio Holder: Councillor Hinchcliffe

Apologies: Councillors Karmani, S Khan and Shafiq

Councillor I A Khan in the Chair

36. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The following disclosures of interest were received in the interests of clarity:

- (1) Councillor Khaliq as his son worked in the Youth Service in relation to Minute 39 and he was a director of the Bradford Apprenticeship Training Agency (ATA) in relation to Minute 42.
- (2) Councillor Hinchcliffe as she was Chair of the Bradford Apprenticeship Training Agency (ATA) in relation to Minute 42.
- (3) Councillor F Khan as he was Chair of Governors of Carlton Bolling College in relation to Minute 42.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*



37. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

38. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions submitted by the public.

39. A REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE YOUTH SERVICE

All

The report of the Strategic Director, Children's Services (**Document "U"**) informed the Committee of the range of work undertaken by the Youth Service and its performance over the last six months.

Members made the following comments:

- Was there one youth worker for each ward?
- More youth workers should be put in more deprived areas.
- I have some concerns after looking at the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports.
- It might be useful to show non-statutory provision provided and other work done in the wards which doesn't go through the youth service and which reaches a lot of young persons.
- A further report could be brought to the Committee which shows what type of non-council youth work was taking place.
- Co-operation could be obtained from other services.
- In paragraph 2.2 of Document "U" mention was made that In June 2012 Statutory guidance was issued by the Department for Education which placed a duty on local authorities to secure services and activities for young people aged 13 to 19 to improve their well-being. Was there any more money provided to support this statutory duty?
- What was the Council duty bound to do?
- It was a difficult time at the moment with a lack of resources and pressure on services.
- The Council should encourage young people to do voluntary work.

The Service Co-ordinator responded to members comments and made the following points:

- He confirmed there was one youth worker per ward and one who worked over all six wards.
- There was a lot of provision in Eccleshill as it was a deprived ward.
- It was not possible to provide 100% accurate information about all youth provision in Bradford East but we can do our best.
- No extra finance was provision to carry out the statutory duty to secure opportunity of access and early help to young persons.
- The Council had a duty to provide quality youth provision by working in a voluntary capacity with young persons and part of what was done was to encourage young persons to do voluntary work.

Resolved –

- (1) That the report be noted and that information be provided to the Area Committee in 6 months time on specific statutory youth work taking place in Bradford East and a list of known voluntary sector providers of youth work and youth activities be produced.
- (2) That the Bradford East Area Committee expresses thanks to the Youth Service staff for their continued hard work and in particular that done leading up to and during the EDL demonstration in Bradford.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Children's Services

ACTION: Strategic Director, Children's Services

40. PARKS AND GREEN SPACES BUDGET OVERVIEW

All

The report of the Parks and Green Spaces Service (**Document "V"**) outlined that the Council's Executive had identified the Parks & Green Spaces Service to report to Area Committees through the devolution agenda.

This report detailed the overall Parks & Green Spaces budget, setting in context the area budgets devolved to Area Committees

Members made the following comments:

- Can you explain the budget a bit better in terms of the net/gross spend and the impact of income targets?
- So much income was generated but so little was spent.
- A lot of work had to be done to get back the £400,000 as income.
- In Idle and Thackley ward there are section 106 agreement monies available to pay for maintenance of some public open spaces.
- We should keep ownership of maintenance budgets for any land transfer to the Council as there should be a substantial amount of money available.
- It was recognised that staff are working under difficult circumstances at present due to the level of cuts taking place.
- It was difficult to deliver a good Parks and Green Spaces Service at the moment and the current service was a credit to all its staff as the service team delivers to a high level.

The Bereavement and Amenity Manager from the Parks and Green Spaces Service responded to Members Comments and made the following points:

- £685,000 was spent in the constituency, similar to the level in all other areas, whilst £404,000 was targeted as income to give a £281,000 net budget.
- The Bradford East income target was challenging as budgets are automatically increased year on year and do not necessarily reflect the level of activity.
- One example would be that for winter maintenance.
- Bradford West had the lowest level of income generation.
- Section 106 monies are credited to each area for each relevant sites and form part of the income targets.
- A financial performance update would be brought to the Committee although this

initially may be more apt as a Service wide report given the inter-reliance of the 16 activity areas.

- The Service would endorse the issue of budgets associated with land transfer maintenance.

Resolved –

That the report be noted and that there be an annual report to the Committee.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: *Environment and Waste Management*
ACTION: *Strategic Director, Environment and Sport*

41. LOCAL HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE – DEVOLUTION UPDATE AND FUNCTION OVERVIEW

All

The report of the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture (**Document “W”**) detailed how the service currently managed the Local Highway Maintenance (LHM) function and how it allocated resources.

It also updated the Committee with regard to current operations being undertaken on the network and the indicative costs of works undertaken in the current financial year.

Members made the following comments:

- CAT 3 and CAT 4 references were meaningless so don't use them.
- The Committee could monitor categories Three and Four.
- What are the key areas of concern from officers?
- Sometimes difficult decisions have to be made.
- Keep up the good work.

The Principal Engineer, Traffic and Highways responded to members comments and made the following points:

- In respect of CAT 3 and CAT 4 the associated repair times were detailed in an earlier report.
- Key areas of concern from officers was possibly reporting worse streets in each ward in future.

Resolved –

- (1) That the current operational methods adopted for Local Highway Maintenance be noted.**
- (2) That the indicative costs to date for the 2013/14 financial year be noted.**
- (3) That the current list of CAT3/4 works as shown in Appendix 5 to Document “W” be noted.**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: *Environment and Waste Management*
ACTION: *Regeneration and Culture*

42. GET BRADFORD WORKING IN THE BRADFORD EAST AREA

All

The report of the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture (**Document “X”**) informed the Committee that *Get Bradford Working (GBW)*, an Employment Investment Programme for the District for 2012/13 was approved at Executive Committee on 22nd June 2012. *GBW* was creating new jobs and apprenticeships, and was providing work experience placements, and qualifications and would use in excess of £9 million of Council resources alongside £1.5 million government funding, plus partner and private business contributions.

The programme would provide at least 400 new jobs, 500 new apprenticeships, 300 work experience placements, 600 qualifications, 525 sustained job outcomes and 5 new centres of excellence providing 1500 school places linked to business.

The report gives an update of the programme and the achievements realised to date, with particular reference to how providers and partners from Bradford East have been, and can continue to be engaged with GBW.

The Employment, Skills and Culture Portfolio Holder made the following points:

- The Council was learning a lot with this programme.
- Often we talk to individual articulate people who can't find a job and it was good to do this.
- It was still early days for the Bradford Apprenticeship Training Agency (ATA).
- Schools need to express an interest and to identify opportunities and go for them.
- The apprenticeship hub should convince people that apprenticeships were a good option.

Members made the following comments:

- I accept that it was still early days for the Bradford Apprenticeship Training Agency.
- The big difference was that apprentices were taken on inside and outside Bradford East.
- To get to some places offering apprenticeships people had to catch two buses and this could limit their life chances.
- The Council should look at the issue of transport in general and bus routes in particular.
- How do you convince young persons and their parents that apprentices were a good option?
- Westfield had issued a press release that they would be on site on 25 November 2013 and this was very positive.

The Training and Employment Services Manager responded to members comments and made the following points:

- It was still too early to draw any conclusions this year about this scheme.
- It was important to establish adequate transport links south of the district.

The Education, Employment and Training Manager confirmed that specific information about the scheme would be developed for parents.

Resolved –

- (1) That the continued success of Get Bradford Working in providing opportunities for employment and skills for those living within Bradford East be welcomed and the report be noted.
- (2) That the forthcoming marketing activity undertaken by the ATA and the Hub specifically targets young people and schools from areas where young people may face the most significant barriers to work, including Bradford East.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: *Regeneration and Culture*

ACTION: *Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture*

43. STREET CLEANSING – DEVOLUTION

All

The report of the Area Co-ordinator (**Document “Y”**) provided further information with regards to the devolution of Street Cleansing services and included specific information relating to:

- New working arrangements for road and pavement sweeping
- Financial information by Ward
- Requests for service information by Ward
- Fly tipping reports by ward

Resolved –

That the update on Street Cleansing Services be noted.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: *Environment and Waste Management*

ACTION: *Bradford East Area Co-ordinator*

44. COUNCIL WARDEN SERVICE DEVOLUTION TO AREA COMMITTEE

All

The report of the Bradford East Area Co-ordinator (**Document “Z”**) provided an update to the report presented in July 2013 regarding the devolution of the Council Warden Service.

Resolved –

That the proposed devolution of Council Warden decision-making to the Area Committee as outlined in Document “Z” be noted and welcomed.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: *Corporate*

ACTION: *Bradford East Area Co-ordinator*

45. BRADFORD EAST WARD PLANS

All

The report of the Bradford East Area Co-ordinator (**Document “AA”**) invited members to consider progress made on the delivery of actions identified within Bradford East Ward Plans for the period 1 April 2013 to 30 September 2013 in response to priorities identified through the Ward Assessment process.

Resolved –

- (1) **That the work undertaken to deliver on the priorities for the period 1 April 2013 to 30 September 2013 for the six Ward Plans be noted and acknowledged.**

- (2) **That the Bradford East Area Co-ordinator reports back to this Committee on the progress in addressing the priorities contained in the Ward Plans 2013 – 2014 again for the full year in April / May 2014.**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Corporate
ACTION: Bradford East Area Co-ordinator

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee.

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THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER