

Minutes of a meeting of the Keighley Area Committee held on 26 March 2015 in the Council Chamber, Keighley Town Hall, Keighley

Commenced 1800
Concluded 1930

PRESENT – Councillors

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	INDEPENDENTS
Brown	Farley	Atkinson
Mallinson	Khadim Hussain	
B M Smith	M Slater	
	Pullen	

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor R Berry, Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Children's Services

Councillor Hussain in the Chair

65. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In the interests of clarity Councillor Mallinson disclosed an interest in Minute 70, Keighley Business Awards, as a Member of Keighley Town Centre Association which was part of the organising committee for the awards.

ACTION: *Assistant City Solicitor*

66. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 February 2015 be signed as a correct record.

67. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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



68. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

69. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE NON-CLASSIFIED ROADS AND SURFACE DRESSING ALLOCATION FOR KEIGHLEY CONSTITUENCY 2015/16.

The report of the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture, (**Document “AP”**) provided information on the Capital Highway Maintenance funding element of the Local Transport Plan for 2014/15 and made recommendations on the allocation for Non-Classified Road Resurfacing Schemes and Surface Dressing sites in the Keighley constituency for 2015/16.

Document “AP” revealed that the capital highway maintenance funding element of the Local Transport Plan for Bradford in 2014/15 was £2,870,000. Additional allocations had also been provided by the Department for Transport to aid road condition and repair of defects and it was confirmed that the additional funding had resulted in a figure of £230,000 to each Area Committee. The capital highway maintenance funding element of the LTP for 2015/16 was £4.5m. The report referred to an anticipated budget for the Keighley constituency and, in response to questions, it was confirmed that the figure for non-classified roads had now been agreed at £280,000.

Members reported problems which had been experienced with the quality of surface dressing in the area and, in response, it was explained that there had been some issues with the supervision of contractors. It was believed that the issue had now been resolved.

Resolved –

That the proposed programme of works for 2015/16 as shown in Appendices 2 and 3 of Document “AP” be approved.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Environment and Waste Management
ACTION: Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture

70. KEIGHLEY BUSINESS AWARDS 2015

The Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture, presented a report, (**Document “AQ”**) which outlined preparatory work which was being undertaken for the Keighley Business Awards 2015.

It was explained that the awards, now in their third year, were managed by a cross-sector partnership enjoying increasingly positive links with the wider business community. The report suggested that the event provided a welcome boost to the local economy and was an opportunity to appreciate the wealth of excellent companies, large and small, providing jobs and prosperity in the area. That sentiment was echoed by Members.

In response to questions it was confirmed that small independent traders were included in the awards.

Resolved –

- (1) That the officers involved in the Keighley Business Awards, and the participating businesses, be congratulated for their efforts in producing a fantastic event to celebrate business in the area.
- (2) That the Keighley Business Awards and the opportunities created by those awards continue to be supported.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Regeneration and Economy**ACTION: Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture**
71. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING – NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA APPLICATION Craven

The report of the Assistant Director, Planning, Transportation and Highways, (Document “AR”) provided details of the Neighbourhood Area Application which had been submitted by Addingham Parish Council.

Resolved –

- (1) That the proposal for a Neighbourhood Area submitted by Addingham Parish Council be supported.
- (2) That it be agreed that the area identified in the Neighbourhood Area Application contained in Document “AR is suitable for the basis of a Neighbourhood Area.
- (3) That it be agreed that the proposed boundary area identified in Neighbourhood Area Application contained in Document “AR is appropriate for the basis of a Neighbourhood Area.
- (4) That the proposal of designating a Neighbourhood Area in Addingham, for the purpose of producing a Neighbourhood Plan, and the proposed boundary areas outlined in Document “AR” be supported.
- (5) That the resolutions be referred to the Executive for consideration at a future meeting.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Regeneration and Economy**ACTION: Assistant Director, Planning, Transportation and Highways**
72. ARRANGEMENTS BY THE COUNCIL AND ITS PARTNERS TO TACKLE CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

The Strategic Director of Children’s Services submitted Document “AS” which highlighted issues relevant to the Area Committee which arose from the resolution passed unanimously by Council on 21 October 2014 regarding child sexual exploitation (CSE) and Document “AM” accepted by the Council Executive on 13 January 2015, regarding the same issue. The report considered by the Council and Executive was appended to Document “AS”. Bradford Safeguarding Board had agreed a nine point Strategic Response to CSE and this was also appended. The plan would be revised, to reflect more

recent developments, in May 2015. A definition of CSE from government guidance was also provided.

A Member of West Yorkshire Police addressed the meeting and outlined actions taken on a number of prominent cases in the district. The resource provided by the police to tackle CSE was discussed and the good working relationship developed between the police and the Council's Children's Specialist Services was reported. It was confirmed that referrals to the multi-agency co-located service known as The Hub were working well and that The Hub would be moving to Henry Mitchell House in Bradford City Centre shortly.

The Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Children's Services stressed the necessity for the debate which was being held with all Area Committees as the issue of CSE affected all areas. The role of each Member as corporate parent to over 900 Looked after Children was highlighted and it was stressed that those children who were, by definition, vulnerable must be protected. He referred to online training which was being provided to elected Members and additional funding which had been made available to ensure that anyone living with the trauma of CSE could be supported.

The trends being seen in CSE nationally were discussed and Members were urged, as the people with their fingers on the pulse regarding night time economy in their areas, to be vigilant, pick up information in their areas and to undertake the training on offer to them.

Members paid tribute to the Keighley community following a media article which it was believed could have had the potential to divide the community but had in fact got people talking about the issues. It was understood that schools were undertaking extensive work to highlight and advise pupils on CSE issues.

It was suggested that the Member training being provided could include a case study to allow Members to understand the procedure to follow if they had concerns about CSE. In response it was confirmed that the training did not currently provide a case study but did include the background to the legislation available; provided a definition of CSE and included a great deal of useful information. Work was ongoing with the Member Development Officer to ensure that the training was relevant and the comments made would be taken into account.

Members acknowledged that the report provided a great deal of information on actions to deal with the consequences of CSE but questioned what could be done to address the causes. The importance of Social Relationship Education in schools to ensure that young people valued their own identity and had the confidence and knowledge to address any issues of CSE that they may encounter was discussed. It was believed that a lot of work was being provided by schools in the district and the work undertaken by University Academy Keighley in staging performances of a play to highlight CSE was commended.

Previous research undertaken some years ago in Leeds to track down organised criminal rings involved in CSE was discussed and it was acknowledged that the research had not been consistent and that intelligence was being built up again. There were organisations which had been working on intelligence for some years and included partners in The Hub and other smaller community initiatives. It was known that the successes in CSE cases were providing confidence to young people that they would be listened to and their concerns understood. Skilled individuals working more creatively in communities than the Police or Council officers were able to do were providing a valuable service. The Bradford Safeguarding Children Board had allocated funding provided by the Council Executive to the Hand in Hand project which was using peer mentors to discuss issues with young people. The use of mentors who may be younger than the police or local authority officers

or who had been in similar situations and turned their lives around was proving beneficial to young people. It was confirmed that the excellent project was being provided in Keighley.

A Member raised the issue of employment checks and was concerned that these may not be sufficient to alert employers to people who were suspected but had not been convicted of offences through lack of evidence. It was questioned whether more robust management vetting systems could, with the permission of the police, be put in place. It was confirmed that actions were being undertaken with the police to endeavour to strengthen information checks.

It was questioned if there was some centralised information source which Members could utilise to identify all of the organisations in the district which were working to address CSE. A recent event held involving 35 representatives from 15 organisations was discussed and plans to hold a community awareness raising event in July 2015 were reported.

Resolved –

- (1) **That Document “AS” be noted.**
- (2) **That Members consider what they as local ward Members can contribute to keeping children in their locality safe from child sexual exploitation.**
- (3) **That the Strategic Director be requested to provide a six monthly progress report providing details of action plans, investigations conducted and all organisations involved in arrangements to tackle child sexual exploitation.**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Children’s Services

ACTION: Strategic Director, Children’s Services

73. KEIGHLEY AREA WARD PLANS 2014-15 UPDATE

The Keighley Area Co-ordinator presented a report, (**Document “AT”**) which outlined the work of the Keighley Area Co-ordinator’s office in the period April 2014 to March 2015 to support ward priorities within the Keighley Area Ward Plans 2014-15.

The work of the Keighley Area Co-ordinator and Ward Officers in the delivery of the actions to support ward priorities and in coordinating the work of other organisations in the area was acknowledged. In the interests of economy and to reduce the volume of paper utilised it was agreed to consider alternative formats or presentation of future reports.

Resolved –

That the work of the Keighley Area Co-ordinator’s office in the period April 2014 to March 2015 to support ward priorities within the Keighley Area Ward Plans 2014-15 be noted.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Corporate

ACTION: Keighley Area Co-ordinator

74. **KEIGHLEY AREA WARD PLANS 2015-16**

The Keighley Area Co-ordinator submitted **Document “AU”** which presented six new Ward Plans for consideration by the Area Committee with a view to their adoption in 2015/16.

A Ward Councillor for the Craven Ward raised concerns that he had not been consulted on the plan for his area. There were a number of issues he wished to raise and discuss before the plan was approved and adopted and it was agreed to defer consideration of that plan until he had the opportunity to be consulted.

A Ward Councillor for the Ilkley Ward suggested that the plan for the Ilkley area should be amended to reflect the increasing younger population in the area as a result of the construction of additional family residences. It was felt that the subsequent pressure on schools in the area should also be acknowledged.

Resolved –

- (1) **That, with the exception of the Craven Ward Plan, the new Ward Plans contained in Document “AU” be approved and adopted.**
- (2) **That amendments to the Craven Ward Plan, as discussed at the meeting and in consultation with the Ward Councillor who had requested those amendments, be presented for approval and adoption at the earliest opportunity.**
- (3) **That the Keighley Area Co-ordinator be requested to submit six monthly progress reports outlining the progress made in addressing the priorities contained in the Ward Plans for 2015/16.**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Corporate

ACTION: Keighley Area Co-ordinator

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