

Minutes of a meeting of the Keighley Area Committee held on Thursday, 2 February 2023 at 6.00 pm in Council Chamber - Keighley Town Hall

Commenced 6.00 pm
Concluded 7.00 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	GREEN
Hussain Lintern Firth	Brown Ali Clarke Herd Loy	Whitaker

Councillor Brown in the Chair

26. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In the interests of clarity and in relation to Minute 30 (Keighley Locality Plan 2022-2025 - Support from Keighley Town Council) the following Members disclosed their connections to Keighley Town Council:

- Councillor Brown – Employed by a charity supported by Keighley Town Council.
- Councillor Clarke – Section 151 Officer for Keighley Town Council
- Councillor Herd – Member, Keighley Town Council

In addition, all Members who lived in the parish area of Keighley Town Council disclosed that interest.

In the interests of clarity and in relation to Minute 31, (Keighley Locality Plan 2022-2025 Progress Update) the following disclosures of interest were received:

Councillor Firth – Good Start, Great Schools – co-founder of Keighley Imagination Library.

Councillor Lintern – Decent Homes - employed by a housing association.

All Members remained in the meeting during consideration and voting on those items.

Action: Director of Legal and Governance

27. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2022 be signed as a correct record.

28. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

29. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

30. KEIGHLEY LOCALITY PLAN 2022-25 - SUPPORT FROM KEIGHLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Members were advised that when the locality plan had been produced the Town Clerk had made contact with the Area Co-ordinator's Office with suggestions on how the Town Council could support its delivery and requested an opportunity to talk to Members about those suggestions.

The report of the Strategic Director, Place, (**Document "K"**) included suggestions made by the Town Council on the possible support Keighley Town Council could provide on the delivery of the Keighley Locality Plan 2022-2025

The Town Mayor and Deputy Town Clerk were in attendance and highlighted a number of actions, set out in Document "K", and examples of work to achieve those objectives.

It was explained that the initial idea to support the plan had arisen at the Town Council's Policy and Governance Committee where members had been keen to consider how they could support the plan. Appended to Document "K" was an overview of thirteen aims identified by the town council to contribute towards the Locality Plan. Those propositions detailed future actions; activities already undertaken and aspirations.

Members welcomed the suggestions included in the report whilst requesting clarification on a number of points.

There was concern about the possible duplication of work across the Keighley constituency.

The suggestion to create Ward Forums was not welcomed as it was felt that there were now more effective ways, through social media and methods such as market stalls and street surgeries, to communicate with residents. The Deputy Town Clerk agreed with those comments and reported that the proposal had been scrapped.

It was explained that CCTV Cameras was already included in the plan and, as the police had oversight of those cameras, Members were not clear how joint working would assist.

In response it was explained that the Town Council's suggestion was to provide mobile cameras which would be managed by officers from the Council and the police. It had been hoped to develop a method for residents to raise their concerns and for those mobile cameras to be deployed where needed. It was confirmed that the CCTV cameras were monitored by the police.

Members questioned reference to cameras to target 'hot spots' for Anti-social behaviour; criminal activity and fly tipping and the suggested sum of £6,000 offered by the town council for cameras in the Keighley East Ward. It was confirmed that the two comments referred to the same scheme and that more than £6,000 had been allocated across the town.

The suggested potential for the Town Council's Community Awards event to be expanded to include the district Council and other parish councils in the area was questioned with a view that the Keighley event should be continued to retain the Keighley identity being voiced by the Chair.

A Member who had nominated an entrant for an award asked why she was not told they had been shortlisted or invited to attend and it was explained that the venue where the Keighley event, Civic Centre, had been held had limited capacity. If subsequent events were held at Victoria Hall, there would be the capacity to invite more people. It was suggested that should the Keighley event be combined a representative from the Committee and Area Co-ordinator's office should be included on the short listing panel.

The proposals suggested for young people were questioned and Members were advised of proposals to set up a youth council. Discussions had been held with the Council's Community Development Officer and it was hoped to set up a pilot scheme soon. It was suggested that alternatives to the traditional school, college, university route be developed and the town council representatives confirmed that whilst they did not have the specific expertise they could fund alternative initiatives. The development of a volunteer base was discussed and it was confirmed that the town council did provide work placements for young people.

The suggested provision of a Speed Action Plan with the aim to create Speed Watch Groups across the area was discussed. A Member reported that a lot of that work was already carried out and queried how the town council's proposals would be enforced. It was explained that a questionnaire was currently in force for residents to provide their views and concerns regarding street specific speeding. That information had been sent to Members for their information and Members agreed that it had been is very useful. The information received was passed to the police and the Council's Principal Engineer. Whilst welcoming that information concern was expressed that, as the highways budget was set by the Council, residents may be suggesting to the town council schemes which were not appropriate or accepted by all residents.

It was confirmed that the town council contributed to the police initiate Operation

Steerside and the Town Council had sought advice from the Council's Road Safety Team on how to involve schools

A Member, referring to Keighley Town Council being the 21st largest in the country, questioned what barriers to partnership working were in place and how better links with all councils across the constituency could be fostered.

The involvement of other parish councils in the constituency was discussed and it was suggested that, as the town council had done, any parish council would be welcome to offer their support to the locality planning process. An example of how well the district, town and parish councils had worked successfully together for the benefit of all residents was cited as the work conducted throughout the Covid pandemic.

The Chair, whilst agreeing in principle with the offer of support expressed concern that the Council's ward areas and the town council boundaries were not aligned. He also referred to the potential for direct referrals to the Principal Engineer resulting in actions without the Committee's involvement or approval. The issue of double taxation with residents paying their Council tax and town or parish precepts was also raised.

In response to questions it was explained that the Locality Plan presented was not the final version and more work was to be conducted. Members requested that a final version of the plan be presented to a future meeting. It was noted that the suggestion to do that was included in the recommendations included in Document "K".

The town council representatives were thanked for their attendance and proposals to support the plan. It was agreed that all comments made at the meeting would be considered and a progress report would be requested for consideration at the July meeting. Members requested that they be informed by email of any pertinent issues arising before that meeting date.

Resolved –

- 1. That the Keighley Area Co-ordinator and his staff team be requested to work with Keighley Town Council, and all Local Councils in the Keighley Area, to help address the priorities of the Keighley Locality Plan 2022-25.**
- 2. That the Keighley Area Co-ordinator be requested to provide a progress report on the support from Keighley Town Council on the delivery of the Keighley Locality Plan 2022-2025 in July 2023.**

***OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Corporate
ACTION: Strategic Director, Place***

31. KEIGHLEY LOCALITY PLAN 2022-25 - PROGRESS UPDATE

The Strategic Director, Place, presented a report (**Document "L"**) which revealed that the Council, working with partner agencies, was undertaking work to strengthen its approach to Locality Working. A key part of that approach was the

development of Locality Plans.

Members were reminded that the Keighley Locality Plan 2022-25 was approved by the Area Committee in June 2022. Document “L” provided an update on the progress achieved towards addressing the locality and ward priorities set out in that plan. It was explained that comments made at the meeting or later would be considered in a revised document and that the updated plan would be presented in June 2023.

A Member questioned if additional funding was available for the priorities in the plan and was advised that existing resources and partnerships would be utilised as additional funding was not available. Assurances were provided that where opportunities were presented to source additional funding they would be utilised.

The locality wide priority to ensure that new house building included affordable homes that were accessible to young people was queried and whilst acknowledging that this was not within the powers of the local authority it was identified as an aspiration of the plan and the work with partners.

A Member referred to difficulties in gaining access to GP appointments. It was recognised that whilst that was a national problem and not within the committee’s remit, there were measures which could be undertaken to make the local population more active and healthy and to consider the health of residents in a holistic manner. The benefits of remaining active and accessing the local countryside were discussed.

The development of a national scheme, Our Future Health, was discussed and it was questioned if that would feed into the priorities and something which residents would be encouraged to join. It was explained that work was undertaken with health partners in a community partnership a key theme of which was to reduce inequalities.

Resolved –

- 1. That the progress made towards addressing the locality-wide and ward-based priorities set out in the Keighley Locality Plan 2022-25, as detailed at Appendix A to Document “L” be noted.**
- 2. That the Keighley Area Co-ordinator be requested to present a revised Locality Plan 2022-25 for approval at the first meeting of the Area Committee in the new Municipal year.**

***OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: Corporate
ACTION: Strategic Director, Place***

Chair

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

THIS AGENDA AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER