

COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 2 JULY 2021

Present:

Councillor Kevin Tait (Chair)

Councillor William Armitage
Councillor Nigel Barker
Councillor Roger Hall
Councillor Pam Windley

Councillor Joseph Birkin
Councillor Lilian Deighton
Councillor Jeff Lilley

Also Present:

S Veerman Overview and Scrutiny Manager
A Bond Governance Officer

CSC/ Apologies for Absence

12/2

1-22 An apology for absence had been received from Councillor M Potts.

CSC/ Declarations of Interest

13/2

1-22 Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and/or other interest, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

There were no Declarations of Interest made.

CSC/ Minutes of Last Meeting

14/2

1-22 RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held on the 14 May 2021 were noted.

CSC/ Remit of the Committee

15/2

1-22 The Committee received an overview of the remit of the Communities Scrutiny Committee from the Overview and Scrutiny Manager. Members were provided with the Terms of Reference for the four Scrutiny Committees within the Council to provide an overview of the Communities Scrutiny Committees specific remit but also how it sat within the wider scrutiny function.

Members were advised that Scrutiny was a mechanism in which Council performance could be monitored. This included monitoring performance, monitoring action plans, being alert to service information and monitoring Cabinet decisions. The Committee also heard that following a Scrutiny Review it could make recommendations to Cabinet for them to consider.

CSC/ Draft Work Programme

16/2

1-22 Committee considered the Draft Work Programme and discussed possible items for inclusion for the year 2021/22.

It was noted that the Head of Economic Development, Regeneration & Housing Delivery and the Housing Options Team Leader had offered to come to Committee and provide a Housing update.

Councillor Armitage joined the meeting.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (1) The draft Work Programme be noted.
- (2) An update on Housing be added to the draft Work Programme.

CSC/ Selection of Scrutiny Review Topic

17/2

1-22 Members had a wide ranging discussion on a variety of possible review topics. These topics included the establishment of an out of hours team within environmental health, similar to the CAN Rangers at Bolsover District Council (BDC); The Housing Management agreement with Rykneld Homes Ltd; and the District Council's provision for individuals with hearing disabilities.

The Overview & Scrutiny Manager provided background information on previous Scrutiny work undertaken on some of the areas raised. She also advised Committee that some of the topics discussed could come to future meetings as a stand-alone item if not chosen as the review topic.

There was a consensus that the case for the establishment of an out of hours team, or CAN Rangers, within Environmental Health would form the Scrutiny review topic.

Committee discussed what they would like to identify from the review. This included comparing the service offered by BDC, speaking to their CAN Rangers, viewing policies and procedures and comparing these with other Councils offering a similar service. Committee would also look at how North East Derbyshire District Council (NEDDC) resolves similar issues as well as any potential costs involved.

The Overview & Scrutiny Manager informed Members that she would investigate relevant officers who could provide an overview of current service provision and request their attendance at Communities Scrutiny Committee to discuss this area with members.

CSC/ Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

18/2

1-22 **AGREED** – That the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions be noted.

CSC/ Additional Urgent Items (if any)

19/2

1-22 There were no additional urgent items at this meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee.

CSC/ Date of Next Meeting

20/2

1-22 The next meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee would take place on Friday 3 September 2021.