
**MINUTES OF THE SERVICE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 16 DECEMBER 2013 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WEELEY**

Present: Councillors Page (Chairman), R Callender (Vice-Chairman), Aldis, Platt, Simons and Wood

In Attendance: Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) (Paul Price), Democratic Services Manager (Colin Sweeney) and Democratic Services Officer (Michael Pingram)

32. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Colbourne (with Councillor Platt substituting) and Councillor Talbot.

33. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting of the Committee, held on 11 November 2013, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

34. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

THE CHAIRMAN ALTERED THE REMAINING BUSINESS AS SET OUT BELOW.

35. POST EVENT DEBRIEF FOR THE 2013 CLACTON AIR SHOW

The Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) was invited to present to the Committee a post event debrief report for the Clacton Air Show 2013.

He began by explaining that an Economic Impact Assessment had estimated that the Air Show contributed a net value of approximately £5.8 million to the Tendring economy which had exceeded the 2012 total of £4.3 million. The cost of the event, he said, totalled £4,140 which despite an improved programme was over £16,000 less than the cost of the 2012 event.

The Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) then explained that a lot of hard work had been put into making the event a success, that the outsourced catering company, Bespoke Catering, had been a huge success and that planning was already underway for next year's event.

Furthermore, he reported that he and his team were always striving to make improvements and suggested that additional income could be generated from car parking and the sale of low-cost merchandise.

In summary he felt that the event had been a huge success and had been provided at an even cost to the Council which he hoped would be the case in the future.

In response to questions raised by Members, the Committee was informed that (1) Southend would be hosting an Air Show next year (2) that an Apache aircraft could not be used due to its inability to fly over water and that (3) the Clacton Air Show had been entered into a national final for Best Tourism Event 2013.

The Committee expressed its appreciation for the hard work and determination of staff who helped make the event as successful as it was.

36. HOUSING, BENEFITS AND REVENUES AND SPORTS FACILITIES UPDATE

The Chairman invited the Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) to provide the Committee with an overview of the portfolio for Housing, Benefits and Revenues and Sports Facilities.

He began by explaining that the portfolio was wide ranging and covered a number of different areas including Housing, Facilities, Tourism, Careline and Leisure. He said that the Council was responsible for collecting Council rent each year, which totalled £13 million and said any surplus was used to fund future development and improve service for tenants. He also informed the Committee that the Housing Service turnover was £26 million per annum, that his department had 300 members of staff and that it was responsible for £125 million of income per annum. He further explained that the Council had ten Sheltered Housing Schemes and 84 CCTV cameras with plans for expansion of these to local businesses.

The Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) then explained a recent report that had stated that the Tendring District had the highest number of empty homes in England. He explained that the figures were out-of-date and context with 197 empty homes having been brought back into use over the past year and said that the Council had an officer specifically dedicated to dealing with empty homes.

Furthermore, he explained that the theatre was performing well with pantomime income figures already close to initial targets and that the Careline Service had undergone numerous changes since the recruitment of the Council's Commercial Manager. He added that, recently, Careline had started a lifting service to those who had fallen rather than calling an ambulance.

When asked what he felt were risks for the future, the Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) answered that there were numerous potential risks, including welfare reform, future flooding and escalating costs to the Air Show.

The Committee thanked the Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) and asked that its gratitude be passed on to all staff involved.

37. TERMS OF REFERENCE AND ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

With reference to Minute No.27 of the meeting of the Committee held on 11 November 2013 there was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services), which set out to review, refresh and reaffirm the roles and responsibilities of the Committee and its terms of reference following a request to do so by the Committee.

Following discussion by the Committee, it was **AGREED** that the report be noted.

38. OUTCOMES OF MEETINGS HELD WITH THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND THE CHAIRMEN OF THE COUNCIL'S AUDIT AND OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Corporate Services) which provided Members with the outcomes on matters of commonality discussed at a meeting held with the then Leader of the Council and the Chairmen of the Council's Audit and Overview and Scrutiny Committees, held on 11 October 2013.

Following discussion by the Committee it was **AGREED** that the report be noted.

39. POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR EXAMINATION BY A MEMBER WORKING PARTY

Councillor Callender informed the Committee that he had met with the tourism team and the Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) recently and was told that he would be kept informed of any developments, which he hoped to report back to the next meeting of the Committee.

Councillor Aldis informed the Committee that she had spoken with officers regarding private sector local housing needs, with particular focus on universal credit, which was an idea the Landlords' Association and letting agents could get involved with. She also spoke of the idea of a foyer, saying that, due to an increase in 16-25 year olds seeking shelter in recent years, this was something to consider. It was then agreed that Councillor Aldis and the Council's Corporate Director (Life Opportunities) would meet to arrange the formation of a sub-committee to consider and report back to the Committee, matters in relation to e.g. selective licensing.

Councillor Wood informed the Committee of the out-of-hours service provided by the Council and said the range of work being done was incredible. After the Town Hall was closed, the Council, he said, was effectively relocated to Careline and advised that the Committee consider receiving a presentation from the Council's Control Centre Service Development Manager to provide an insight into the work of Careline.

Councillor Simons explained to the Committee that in relation to how planning could facilitate business growth he would be attending a meeting with the Planning and Corporate Services Portfolio Holder and hoped to have a report before the next Service Development and Delivery Committee.

Councillor Platt, although not a Member of the Committee, agreed to take on a topic for examination and said he would liaise with the Council's Democratic Services Manager to decide which item that would be.

40. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

There were none.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.01 p.m.

Chairman