
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SERVICE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY
COMMITTEE,
HELD ON MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 7.30 PM
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, THORPE ROAD, WEELEY**

Present:	Councillors Griffiths (Chairman), V E Guglielmi (Vice-Chairman), Fowler, Hones, Miles, Pemberton and Skeels Jnr
Also Present:	Councillors Baker, Honeywood (Housing Portfolio Holder), McWilliams (Leisure and Partnerships Portfolio Holder), Stephenson and Turner (Commercialisation, Seafronts and Parking Portfolio Holder)
In Attendance:	Mark Westall (Head of Customer and Commercial Services), Ian Taylor (Head of Public Realm), Tim R Clarke (Head of Housing), David Black (Housing Manager) and Katie Sullivan (Committee Services Officer)

35. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

An apology was received from Councillor Yallop.

36. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting of the Committee, held on 23 November 2016, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor V E Guglielmi declared an interest in respect of the update on the review of Spendells and Honeycroft sheltered housing schemes insofar as she was a local Ward Member for Honeycroft.

Councillor Baker, sitting in the public gallery, declared an interest in respect of the update on the review of Spendells and Honeycroft sheltered housing schemes insofar as he was a local Ward Member for Honeycroft.

Councillor Miles declared an interest in respect of the update on the review of Spendells and Honeycroft sheltered housing schemes insofar as she was a local Ward Member for Spendells.

38. UPDATE ON REVIEW OF SPENDELLS & HONEYCROFT SHELTERED HOUSING SCHEMES

Councillor V E Guglielmi had earlier declared an interest in respect of the update on the review of Spendells and Honeycroft sheltered housing schemes insofar as she was a local Ward Member for Honeycroft.

Councillor Baker, had earlier declared an interest in respect of the update on the review of Spendells and Honeycroft sheltered housing schemes insofar as he was a local Ward Member for Honeycroft.

Councillor Miles had earlier declared an interest in respect of the update on the review of Spendells and Honeycroft sheltered housing schemes insofar as she was a local Ward Member for Spendells.

The Housing Portfolio Holder (Councillor Honeywood) introduced this item to the Committee.

The Council's Head of Housing (Tim R Clarke) was in attendance and gave an update to the Committee on the review of Spendells & Honeycroft sheltered housing schemes.

Members were informed that the review had been continuing at a steady pace and there were now some issues to consider that were much broader than the Spendells and Honeycroft schemes.

Mr Clarke informed the Committee that he had met with an architect to look in particular at future options for Honeycroft and that the grounds had presented an opportunity for further development, potentially of bungalows.

Members were informed that Essex University had funding to undertake local government research and that contact had been made with them to discuss how they could help with the project and how Tendring District Council could cater for the future needs of older persons.

Mr Clarke informed the Committee that Essex County Council had indicated their intention to withdraw Housing Related Support Funding from the end of the financial year and that this would leave Tendring District Council with a £100,000 deficit in the HRA. Mr Clarke confirmed that possible recovery options had been looked at, however, the options were only really to increase rents but that some of the increase may attract Housing Benefit.

Members were informed that changes to the way supported housing was funded were proposed from 2019. Rents, including service charges, would be capped at Local Housing Allowance rates and that further charges would be covered by a separate funding pot.

Members raised questions which were responded to by Officers.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that Officers be requested to be innovative whilst looking at the possible future mix of accommodation in the Sheltered Housing stock.

39. UPDATE ON THE CURRENT SITUATION REGARDING WATER QUALITY AT WALTON LIFESTYLES

The Committee received a written update from the Council's Head of Sport and Leisure (Mike Carran) which provided an overview of the sequence of events and background information in regards to the positive test of Legionella Bacteria at Walton-on-the-Naze Lifestyles.

The Leisure and Partnerships Portfolio Holder (Councillor McWilliams) informed the Committee that Mr Carran would attend a future meeting to discuss the position in more depth and to update Members on the programme of works that were being undertaken at all other appropriate Council facilities.

Councillor McWilliams confirmed that the Walton-on-the-Naze Lifestyles had reopened on Friday 24 February 2017 following on from completed modifications and negative test results for Legionella Bacteria.

Members were informed that there had been an error in the written update and that in the fourth paragraph down the date should have read 'Friday 2 December' rather than 'Friday 2 November'.

Members raised questions and various concerns which included the Council's process controls for water testing.

A service user of the Council's Leisure Centres who was in attendance and had been invited by the Chairman to sit at the table with the Committee for this item, discussed his concerns especially in relation to the temperature in the changing rooms.

The Chairman requested that the Council's Head of Sport and Leisure (Mike Carran) attend the next meeting of the Committee on 3 April 2017 with Councillor McWilliams to give a formal update and to enable all questions and concerns to be addressed.

The Chairman confirmed that he would draft the brief for this item and it would be likely to be broadened to include all of the Council's leisure facilities and that he would circulate questions to Members and Officers prior to the next meeting. It was requested that the report should include details of any additional costs incurred by the Council as a result of the Legionella case and whether costs were likely to be recouped from the contractor.

40. CAR PARKS AND EFFECTS OF FREE PARKING

The Commercialisation, Seafronts and Parking Portfolio Holder (Councillor Turner) and the Council's Head of Public Realm (Ian Taylor) were in attendance and gave an update to the Committee on Car Parks and the effects of free parking.

Members were informed that the car park strategy for Tendring (which had been agreed in 2013) had set out priorities for the District with the main one being an objective of Tendring being "car friendly" and that as part of that the Council would ensure that where charges existed they were reasonable, that enforcement by means of penalty charging was proportionate and designed to encourage and not deter visitors together with the provision of a free parking permit for Council Tax paying Households in order to encourage local travel and to support local businesses.

Mr Taylor informed the Committee that the free permit scheme had cost the Council money but that recent changes had almost made the scheme self-sufficient. The free permits were popular and statistics supported this.

Following discussion and questions raised by Members, the Chairman thanked Councillor Turner, Mr Taylor and his team for their excellent work, which had resulted in a great outcome for the District.

41. UPDATE ON RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NORTH EAST ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP

The Commercialisation, Seafronts and Parking Portfolio Holder (Councillor Turner) and the Council's Head of Public Realm (Ian Taylor) gave an update to the Committee on

the Council's relationship with the North East Essex Parking Partnership and especially the offer made by Essex County Council to extend the current term of the Joint Committee Agreement by four years.

The Committee had before it a briefing note prepared by the Head of Public Realm and which was set out under the following main headings:-

- (1) Background;
- (2) Current Position;
- (3) Alternative Options;
- (4) Proposal and Delegated Power;
- (5) Financial Implications and Risk; and
- (6) Risk Management Implications.

The Committee also had before it a draft letter to Councillor Robert Mitchell, Chair of the North Essex Parking Partnership which stated that Tendring District Council (TDC) had considered the matter, understood the advantages of continuing with the current agreement for a further four years and was in agreement with the proposal subject to the following provisions:-

- (a) TDC will not budget for any money to cover losses arising from the partnership;
- (b) No Camera enforcement cars will operate within the Tendring District; and
- (c) That the partnership agrees to further develop the arrangement with Civil Enforcement Officers employed by TDC to assist with meeting local requirements for on street parking enforcement.

Members raised questions on various issues which included the possible option of coming out of the agreement.

Following discussion, the Committee **RESOLVED** that:

- the relevant Heads of Service research the legalities with regards to the Portfolio Holder for Commercialisation, Seafronts and Parking inviting the Chair of the North East Parking Partnership to attend an appropriate meeting of the Service Development and Delivery Committee.

The Committee further **RESOLVED** that **CABINET**:

- be requested to acknowledge the excellent job that the Parking Services team and their Portfolio Holder have done with regards to the building of relationships with the North East Parking Partnership.
- be requested to ensure that the North East Parking Partnership Terms of Reference are scrutinised by the relevant committee before the next contract is signed by TDC (likely 2021).

The Meeting was declared closed at 9.30 pm

Chairman