

Amenities, Leisure and Community Services
Wednesday 9th November
The Trinity Centre
7pm

Present:

Cllrs Wood (Chairman), Griffin, Hatton, Mosson and Yip.

In Attendance:

Olive O'Sullivan – Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Jessica Johnson -Community Engagement Officer.

There was one member of public present.

One question had been submitted for public question time.

Jay Chan asked: All residents, including teenagers face mental health issues which severely affect their wellbeing and the wellbeing of people around them. Mental health affects all residents, young, old, men and women, while young men face most challenges on mental wellbeing among them

In a poll, I surveyed fellow students asking on a scale of 1-10, are there enough mental health support services in the royal town that you can access? The mean score was 4.6 indicating that they felt more was needed. I propose that a document could be produced to highlight services that are available to young people that could be placed in the school. How will this committee and the Health and Wellbeing Partnership address the issue of mental health?

The Community Engagement officer replied that through the Health and Wellbeing Partnership, she has been working with NHS Mental Health Trust providers. Discussions have centred around provision at specific locations that could be provided in GP practices as well as working to identify whether there is an opportunity for their mental health practitioners to bring services into community venues. However, this is dependent on NHS mental health priorities and resources.

Officers are also liaising with the Partnership and Development Lead at Mental Health Services Forward Thinking Birmingham to discuss possible pilots and pop-up versions of their services, specifically for young people aged 16-25 within Sutton Coldfield. This includes crisis cafés for those in need of urgent help ran by the charity MIND and 'Pause' pop ups which offer drop-in appointments and support specifically for those experiencing eating disorders.

She added that the Town Council is a member of Youth Vision, a network of youth service providers within Sutton Coldfield. Through this, the Town Council can influence discussions around gaps in services to provision.

Whilst not a statutory provider of services, officers can look at how best to signpost young people to relevant mental health support services.

27 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Scott, Cummins and K Ward.

Resolved accept the apologies.

28 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hatton declared a non-pecuniary interest in a grant application from Boldmere Futures Partnership CIC.

29 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities, Leisure and Community Services Committee held on 22nd September 2022 be signed as a true record of the meeting.

30 Matters Arising

None.

31 Questions from Members

Cllr Mosson asked, "Sadly, we are all aware of the devastation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic with many people losing their lives and relatives losing loved ones. We also know that Sutton Coldfield residents came together as a community to support one and another during difficult times. Whether that be working on the front-line, volunteering at the vaccination centre, donating to a local food bank or simply checking on a neighbour.

To commemorate the lives lost and the sacrifices many people made, would the Town Council consider creating a Covid- 19 memorial?"

The CEO replied that the Town Council could give consideration to a Covid-19 memorial. This may be most appropriate in Vesey Gardens, as a memorial garden. Similar to the proposed memorial to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as plans are drawn up to restore Vesey Gardens, features could be designed to commemorate those who lost their lives and supported the effort during the pandemic.

Cllr Mosson replied that this was a good idea. Residents faced challenges during the pandemic, and all have stories to share. She added that she understood Birmingham City Council were creating a Covid-19 memorial garden in Rectory Park as part of a wider city plan.

Cllr Griffin suggested that Walmley Residents Association has begun discussions regarding a Covid-19 memorial in Walmley. A memorial in Vesey Gardens would cover the town as a whole.

The CEO replied that different groups and wards may feel a particular memorial is more appropriate to them, for example some may want to plant a tree.

32 Minutes of the Dementia Friendly Communities Steering Group

The Chairman asked about the status of the application to become a Dementia Friendly Community.

The Community Engagement Officer replied that a draft application had been made. Positive feedback was received regarding activities available for those living with dementia. To improve, it was suggested that more practical action could be taken. The steering group are running more dementia friends training sessions and looking at how best to support attendees to carry out their planned actions.

The Chairman noted a section in the minutes regarding training that could be delivered to councillors.

The Community Engagement Officer replied that the group were delivering dementia friends sessions to more groups, organisations and faith groups. A session could also be delivered to councillors by a member of the steering group.

Resolved to note the minutes from the Royal Sutton Coldfield Dementia Friendly Communities Steering Group Meeting held in September 2022.

33 Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership

Resolved to note the minutes from the Health and Wellbeing Partnership held on 29th September 2022.

34 Health and Wellbeing Terms of Reference

The CEO reported as the Health and Wellbeing Partnership's work develops, the Terms of Reference have been updated to reflect this. The Health and Wellbeing Partnership reports to the Amenities, Leisure and Community Services Committee and therefore Committee were requested to approve the updated Terms of Reference.

The Chairman asked whether the Terms of Reference could be simplified. For example, rather than listing the different demographic groups, e.g. young, people, older people, could they all be grouped as residents.

The CEO replied that the Terms of Reference differentiate between demographics to highlight the specific needs of people at different stages of their lives, e.g. the need for specific actions/activity around the prevention of Falls and Frailty is a priority given the high older person population in Sutton Coldfield.

Resolved to approve the Health and Wellbeing Terms of Reference.

35 Health and Wellbeing Roadmap 2022-2026

Committee received an updated version of the Health and Wellbeing Roadmap following discussions at the Health and Wellbeing Partnership.

The Chairman commented that it may be helpful to have a workshop and discussion on the work around Health and Wellbeing to make sure it is fully understood

In response to a question about simplifying the reports and minutes, the CEO replied that the report needed to be comprehensive to make sure that the specific needs of Sutton Coldfield, were included in the plans and priorities of the various statutory bodies.

Resolved to recommend to Full Council the approval of the Health and Wellbeing Roadmap.

36 Community Grants

Committee considered the recommendations of the Community Grant Panel as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Organisation	Project	Amount	Recommendation of Grant Panel
Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum	Printed Gatepost	£865	Approval from the Devolved Grant Budget
Boldmere Futures CIC	Christmas Festival	£9,605	Approval from the Devolved Grant Budget
East and West Sutton Coldfield Scout District	Scout Jamboree	£9,600	Approval from the Devolved Grant Budget
Sutton Coldfield Traditional Jazz Club	Rent	£3,600	Approval from the Devolved Grant Budget
Friends of the Green	Noticeboard	£1,952.19	Approval from the Devolved Grant Budget
Up Creative CIC	Warm Space	£10,000	Declined due to disproportionate staffing and project costs

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £865 to Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum from the Community Grant budget.

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £9,605 to Boldmere Futures CIC from the Community Grant budget.

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £9,600 to East and West Sutton Coldfield Scout District from the Community Grant budget.

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £3,600 to Sutton Coldfield Traditional Jazz Club from the Community Grant budget.

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £1,952.19 to Friends of the Green from the Community Grant budget.

Resolved to decline the Community Grant application from Up Creative CIC.

37 Warm Spaces

The Chairman commented that he endorsed the report and felt that the Town Council should support the initiative.

Cllr Hatton asked whether the budget for Warm Spaces could be increased to £20,000.

Cllr Mosson replied that it may be best to begin with £10,000 and then assess the need moving forward.

The CEO added that funds could be increased if more is needed to support groups to run Warm Spaces. The Town Council can also work with other funders to assess if more support is needed.

Resolved to approve that officers work with statutory agencies and VCSE and faith organisations to support the setup of Warm Spaces across the town.

Resolved to approve up to £10,000 be used to support the running of Warm Spaces across the town.

Resolved to approve that officers be delegated to approve funds to organisations and report back to committee.

38 Defibrillators

The CEO commented that officers are notified when equipment in the defibrillator needs to be replaced and therefore are aware when they are used.

The Chairman replied that it was good to hear that they are valuable to residents.

Cllr Mosson stated they she supported installation of the two proposed defibrillators adding that the more available the better.

Cllr Yip asked whether residents were aware of the defibrillator locations.

The Community Engagement Officer replied that the Town Council's website hosts a defibrillator map that can be shared and promoted. The map details the information of defibrillators funded by the Town Council as well as those funded and installed by others. She encouraged anyone aware of defibrillator not on the map, to send through the information so it can be updated.

The CEO added that a list can also be included in an upcoming newsletter.

Resolved to approve instillation of a new defibrillator at Holy Cross Primary School.

Resolved to approve instillation of a new defibrillator at St Francis RC Church.

39 Strategic Plan Progress Report

Resolved to note the progress of Amenities, Leisure and Community Services Committee projects against the priorities on the Strategic Plan.

40 Committee Budget 23/24

Committee reviewed the 2023/24 budget and discussed:

- That the annual expenditure for Floral Displays is expected to be £90,000 (£10,000 over budget). The remainder will be taken from the earmarked reserves.
- An addition of £186,000 to be moved to the earmarked reserves from the general reserves for allotments. This alongside the annual budget will equate to available funds of £500,000 over four years.
- The Sport Engagement budget line to be amalgamated with Community Grants.
- The Social Inclusion budget line to be rebranded as Health and Wellbeing.
- The budget lines and earmarked reserves from Social Inclusion, Community Planning and Community Planning Projects to be moved and amalgamated to Health and Wellbeing.
- An addition of £10,000 to the earmarked reserves from the general reserve to support the Vaccination Centre.

Resolved to note the 2022/23 spend against budget and commitments to date.

Resolved to recommend the future budget requirements of the Amenities, Leisure and Community Services Committee to the Strategy and Resources Committee with the adjustments as outlined above.

41 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 17th January, 7pm, Trinity Centre.

The meeting ended at 19:48 pm.

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Signed

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Date