

23rd November 2023

Minutes of the proceedings of the Strategy and Policy Committee held this day in the Kitty Dancy Room, Sandhurst Community Centre Complex, Sandhurst commencing at 7.30pm and finishing at 8.15pm.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr N Allen
Councillors: D Birch, Mrs S Davenport, Mrs H Hill, Mrs M Mossom, R Mossom, P Panesar.

IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Officer (Angela Carey)
Cllr P Bettison (Non-member of the Committee – identified at the beginning of the meeting)
Cllr P Thompson (Non-member of the Committee – identified at the beginning of the meeting)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda item 1)

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor:
Mrs J Bettison (Indisposed)

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda item 2)

Cllr Mrs M Mossom and Cllr R Mossom declared an interest in agenda item 15 as they are members of the Sandhurst and District Allotment Association.

MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE (Agenda item 3)

It was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs H Hill and the following was

RESOLVED 3095

that the Minutes of the Strategy and Policy meeting held on 28th September 2023 (pages 1466-1470) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman. (Unanimous)

HEALTH AND SAFETY (Agenda item 4)

A near miss was reported. A member of the public fell into the balancing pond whilst walking backwards down the slope and banged his head. He was helped out by the grounds staff that happened to be in the area at the time. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and the following was

RESOLVED 3096

that the incident was an unfortunate accident and that there was no requirement for further rails or safety measures to be installed.

ACTION: EO

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (Agenda item 5)

The Committee received an update from Cllr D Birch on the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. The working group have met and a further meeting has taken place with the planning consultants that have been engaged. The first items to be considered are the application for the designation of the



neighbourhood area and the application for the grant. The planning consultants are liaising with the working group about the grant application. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
3097**

that the letter of application for the designation of neighbourhood area is sent to Bracknell Forest Council for their consideration. (Unanimous)

ACTION: EO

URGENT MATTERS PROCEDURE (Agenda item 6)

The Committee received a recent decision that was resolved using the Urgent Matters Procedure.

ELECTRIC BARRIER POLICY (Agenda item 7)

The Committee were asked to review and consider the amended policy. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr D Birch and seconded by Cllr N Allen and the following was

**RESOLVED
3098**

that the amended policy is approved and adopted and a copy is sent to the chairman of all clubs to inform their members of the amended policy. (Unanimous)

ACTION: EO

MEDIA SUPPORT (Agenda item 8)

The Committee received the proposal from the LGA to renew the media support contract. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
3099**

that the contract is not renewed. (Unanimous)

it was also proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
3100**

that STC produce their own press releases and liaise with BFC comms department to obtain a contact for freelance work if assistance and advice about the release is required. The existing press and publicity policy will be amended to reflect the changes and presented to this committee for approval. (Unanimous)

ACTION: EO

STC ACTION PLAN (Agenda item 9)

The Committee were asked to consider the renewal of the STC Action Plan as the current one is now out of date. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
3101**

that the Sandhurst Action Plan will be updated to reflect the suggestions received by the Chairmen and will then be presented back to the S&P Committee for approval. (Unanimous)

ACTION: EO/CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES



SANG (Agenda item 10)

The Committee received the report from BFC highlighting the recent improvements to the SANG area Ancient Woodland and Seebys Copse and were asked to provide feedback on the improvements. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
3102**

that STC are happy with the improvements and would like to thank BFC for the work.

ACTION: EO

PRESS AND PUBLICITY (Agenda item 11)

A request was made to issue a correction statement concerning the recent press release on the Bracknell News and BBC News online. The article is concerning the use of Bottom Meadow by Bracknell Town FC.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING (Agenda item 12)

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 25th January 2024.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (Agenda item 13)

It was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
3103**

that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press would be excluded for discussion regarding the engagement, terms of service and conduct of employees where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

Cllr P Bettison and Cllr P Thompson left the meeting.

PAY AWARD (Agenda item 14)

The Committee were informed that the current pay negotiations have been completed and that an increase of £1925 for all salaries up to SCP 44 and those above SCP 45 will receive an increase of 3.88% has been agreed by the unions and the Government. The Personnel Sub Committee recommends that the annual pay increases detailed above are approved. The increase will be back dated from April 2023. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr N Allen and seconded by Cllr D Birch and the following was

**RESOLVED
3104**

that the annual pay increases detailed above are recommended to the Town Council for approval.

ACTION: EO



GRANT APPLICATIONS (Agenda item 15)

Cllr Mrs M Mossom and Cllr R Mossom did not participate in the discussion or vote on the agenda item.

The Committee were asked to consider a grant request received from the Sandhurst and District Allotment Association to assist with costs for repairs to the roof of their container. Further to discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Davenport and seconded by Cllr N Allen and the following was

**RESOLVED
3105**

that an amount of £300.00 is awarded. (Unanimous)

ACTION: EO

**SIGNED AND DATED BY
CHAIRMAN**

