

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

19 JANUARY 2017

Present: Councillor J Goold, Chair

Councillors: D Bagshaw
M Brown
S J Carr (substitute)
M Crow
E Cubley
T A Cullen
D Elliott (substitute)
G Harvey
M R Kee
S Kerry
J C Patrick

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B C Carr, R I Jackson, J M Owen and M Radulovic MBE.

38. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

39. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Community Safety Committee which took place on 24 November 2016 were confirmed and signed.

40. **PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER – EASTWOOD TOWN CENTRE**

The Committee noted that the legislation governing Designated Public Place Orders (DPPO) had changed, replacing them with Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO). Existing DPPOs would be transferred to PSPOs without consultation, but there had been requests from partner agencies to make changes to the order around Eastwood Town Centre. The Committee was asked to consider a consultation to extend the area of the existing order and whether the area on the map included all of the main hotspots for antisocial behaviour related to drinking.

It was noted that as a result of consultation the boundaries suggested for the PSPO could change. There was also discussion about whether the police would be able to enforce the PSPO, having seen a reduction in numbers.

The Committee was informed that the police were keen to have the PSPO put in place.

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 appropriate consultation shall be carried out in respect of the making of a Public Spaces Protection Order in Eastwood as detailed in appendix 3 of the report.

41. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER – STAPLEFORD

The Committee considered a consultation for the implementation of a PSPO in Stapleford that would give police extra powers to deal with alcohol related anti-social behaviour. This would bring Stapleford in line with the other town centres in the Borough.

There was a discussion regarding the provision in the legislation for officers of the Council to enforce the PSPO. The Committee was informed that at this time there were no plans for officers of the Council to be employed in this way and that it would be the task of the police exclusively to enforce the Stapleford PSPO.

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 appropriate consultation shall be carried out in respect of the making of a Public Spaces Protection Order in Stapleford as detailed in appendix 3 of the report.

42. BUSINESS PLANS AND FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2017/18 – 2019/20

Members considered the Business Plans for each service, including detailed financial estimates.

It was noted that some elements of housing and community safety had an overlap, particularly when setting policy and budgets for the prevention of domestic violence. It was added that the housing plan went in to more detail relating to domestic violence and housing. The increase in reports of anti-social behaviour was noted. The Committee was informed that this was seasonal and related to noise and bonfires during the summer months. It was asked that the Committee be provided with a geographical breakdown of the figures so that hotspots for anti-social behaviour and associated trends could be identified. It was noted that number of Community Protection Notices had increased because officers were more experienced in using them and the powers given by the legislation were being utilised to their fullest possible extent.

Discussion progressed on to the Broxtowe profile and whether information on life expectancy and other health indicators would still be provided. There was concern at the gap in life expectancy between more and less affluent areas of Broxtowe. It was noted that the Annual Health Profile would be provided by

the local health authority and that a link to this could be provided to all members.

The decline in the number of Community Action Team (CAT) meetings was discussed. It was noted that CAT meetings were best attended in areas of the Borough where there was not a Town or Parish Council. There was also concern that some CAT meetings were not being counted in the figures.

Fly-tipping policy was discussed in relation to the difference between on the spot fines and fines set by the courts. It was noted that when fly-tipping cases were brought before the magistrates the fine tended to be around £250 plus costs. Officers may offer fly-tippers the option of paying a fixed penalty rather than going to court, though this power had not yet been used. The impact of Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council policy relating to the use of tips was discussed. It was noted that the Council had been very successful in prosecuting fly-tippers and people who had been negligent in their duty of care for the disposal of their waste.

The increase in the reports of graffiti was noted by the Committee. It was suggested that a library of tags be compiled in order to aid prosecution.

Discussion progressed on to domestic violence and whether there should be concern about the increased number of instances of abuse, or whether this reflected success because victims had been empowered to come forward. It was noted that the indicator for the number of high risk domestic abuse cases re-referred to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) should be low. The target for re-referrals was set in line with the spike in instances of domestic violence.

The inclusion of the Dementia Action Plan within the Business Plan was noted with approval, as was the fact that the Disabled Facilities Grant had recently been expanded to include small awards for minor adaptations to help those with dementia stay in their own home.

It was noted that the Council no longer provided a pest control service. For residents on benefits a cash back scheme was offered and there had been six claims of £150 each.

It was stated that loneliness did not feature in the Business Plan. Officers agreed to provide information about how many of the initiatives to prevent loneliness had been subsumed into the normal business of the Council. Having received the information, members could then request a report to the Committee.

There was a discussion about enforcing standards in private sector housing. It was noted that the Council strove to work with landlords to improve the housing stock, but that enforcement action could be taken where housing was substandard. It was added that landlords of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) could ultimately be refused a licence. The level of recharge to housing was noted, as was the work in progress to unpack and clarify that amount and whether or not it was appropriate. Members asked for a report

to be considered by the Housing Committee on fees for HMO landlord licensing.

RESOLVED that the attached Business Plan be approved:

RECOMMENDED that the Finance and Resources Committee recommends to Council that the following be approved:

- a) **The detailed revenue budget estimates for 2016/17 (revised) and 2017/18 (base) including any revenue development submissions.**
- b) **The capital programme for 2017/18 to 2019/20.**
- c) **The fees and charges for 2017/18.**

43. PARKING SERVICES UPDATE

The Committee was asked to consider the removal of Blue Badge spaces at car parks at Derby Street Middle, Beeston, Middle Street in Beeston, the Sun Inn in Eastwood and Cliffe Hill Avenue, Stapleford to bring provision in line with national recommendations. A recorded vote on the recommendation was proposed by Councillor S C Carr and seconded by Councillor T A Cullen.

A number of councillors voiced serious concerns over the lack of consultation with disability groups, adding that a reduction in spaces would send out a message to Blue Badge holders that Broxtowe was not friendly towards those with a disability. A debate followed concerning the use of spaces and several councillors suggested that the removal of spaces was proportionate and reasonable as they were often empty. An amendment was proposed by Councillor M Crow and seconded by Councillor M R Kee that rather than remove the spaces outright there should be a public consultation to inform future policy. The amendment negated the necessity for a recorded vote on the original recommendation.

RESOLVED that a consultation take place on the recommendations for Blue Badge space removal given in appendix 4.

44. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED that the Work Programme be approved.

45. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

46. CCTV, OPTIONS AND STAFFING

The Committee was given an update on the running of the Council's closed circuit television cameras (CCTV).

Members considered the usefulness of CCTV and whether the £140,000 cost of running the service was justifiable. There was concern that capital costs of the service, such as camera replacement, were unfunded. It was noted that the cameras made people feel safer and it was added that councillors were often asked for CCTV to be installed in parks.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. the negotiation and decisions outlined in appendix 4 be delegated to the Head of Property Services and Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, subject to achieving the required level of savings outlined in appendix 4.**
- 2. the additional staff member outlined in appendix 3 of the report be approved.**

Chair