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Community & Environment Committee

Minutes of a Community & Environment Committee meeting held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday, 7th December, 2022 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock, DE4 3NN.

PRESENT Councillor Helen Froggatt - In the Chair

Councillors: Chris Furness, Dermot Murphy, Andrew Statham, Alasdair Sutton, Susan Hobson, Martin Burfoot, David Hughes, Steve Wain, Matt Buckler, Neil Buttle, Mike Ratcliffe and Peter O'Brien

Present as substitute – Councillor(s): Jason Atkin

Note:

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APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor(s): Sue Bull, Tony Morley, Garry Purdy and Janet Rose

224/22 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Neil Buttle, Seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held on 01 November 2022 be approved as a correct record.

The Chairman declared the motion **CARRIED**.

225/22 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the procedure for public participation, Mr Peter Dobbs made a statement and asked questions regarding the air quality management action plan (AQMA) for Ashbourne.

226/22 - INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

227/22 - QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE OF PROCEDURE NUMBER 15

No questions were submitted.

228/22 - HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND - ROUND 3

Councillor Andrew Statham entered the meeting at 18:15 prior to debate on this item.

The Director of Housing introduced a report which informed Members of round 3 of the Household Support Fund. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) made a further round of funding available to upper tier authorities. In Derbyshire the County Council confirmed allocation of £92,729 to the District Council. Members were also informed of the plans for the additional funding available to be utilised to further support households facing financial hardship and/or threatened with homelessness.

Approval was therefore sought from Council that as with rounds 1 and 2, the grants would be delivered direct to residents through the Housing Team and Revenues and Benefits service authorised by the Homelessness Leader and Benefits Manager. Derbyshire Dales District Council would not advertise the fund, staff from the Housing Team and Housing Benefit & Council Tax would review existing cases. The District Council would also work with CAB, Age UK and the Council's unique Housing Support Service to target vulnerable households experiencing financial hardship.

It was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, Seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

RESOLVED

1. That approval be given to the delivery of Round 3 of the Household Support Fund as set out in the report.

Voting

13 For

00 Against

01 Abstained

The Chairman declared the motion **CARRIED**.

229/22 - DERBYSHIRE HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPER STRATEGY

The Director of Housing introduced a report which detailed the Derbyshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy, it was noted that the strategy had been developed through close collaboration between the Derbyshire Homelessness Officers Group (DHOG),

Derbyshire County Council, Public Health, NHS, Police, Probation, and a wide range of partner agencies including from the voluntary sector.

The report informed Members of the aim of the report which was to lock in the new partnerships and joined up working formed over the previous two years in order to improve homelessness provision for our residents. The report sought the endorsement of the strategy as set out in the Agenda Item 7, Appendix 1d, which would then require formal adoption by Council at its meeting on 26 January 2023.

It was moved by Councillor Susan Hobson, Seconded by Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the Derbyshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy be endorsed and that Council be recommended to adopt the Strategy.

The Chairman declared the motion **CARRIED**.

230/22 - BIODIVERSITY REPORT UPDATE

The Community Development Manager introduced a report updating and informing Members on the progress of the biodiversity of road verges and public open spaces project and seeking approval for the next phase for 2023/24.

It was moved by Councillor Matthew Buckler, Seconded by Councillor Martin Burfoot and

RESOLVED (unanimously)

1. That the progress of the project in year 2 be noted.
2. That approval be given to the next steps for 2023/24 as outlined in the report.
3. That community groups and organisations be supported to improve the biodiversity in their area and to help them inform & educate their local community on the importance of the work.

The Chairman declared the motion **CARRIED**.

Meeting Closed: 7.03 pm

Chairman