

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY (COMMUNITY REGENERATION, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH AND WELL BEING) COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Scrutiny (Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being) Committee in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall Burton upon Trent on Monday 2nd August 2021.

Present:

Councillors C Wileman (Chairman), Mrs P L Ackroyd, E W R Barker, L Beech, Mrs B Brady, A Clarke, R G W Grosvenor, S A Hussain, Mrs J A Killoran, Ms A J Legg, S McGarry, M Shrive, L Walker and P Walker.

Officers Present:

The Communities and Open Spaces Manager, the Programmes and Transformation Team Leader and the Principal Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs V J Gould and P Hudson and County Councillor P E B Atkins.

135/21 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations at the commencement of the meeting.

136/21 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

137/21 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2021 be approved as a correct record.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion Councillor	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Mrs P L Ackroyd		S McGarry
E W R Barker		L Walker
L Beech		C Wileman
Mrs B Brady		
A Clarke		
R G W Grosvenor		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J A Killoran		
Ms A J Legg		
M Shrive		
P Walker		

138/21 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Resolved:

That Councillor Mrs J A Killoran be appointed vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

Those voting for the motion Councillor	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Mrs P L Ackroyd	R G W Grosvenor	P Walker
E W R Barker		
L Beech		
Mrs B Brady		
A Clarke		
S A Hussain		
Mrs J A Killoran		
Ms A J Legg		
S McGarry		
M Shrive		
L Walker		
C Wileman		

139/21 **UPDATE FROM HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

As the County Council representative had been unable to attend the meeting, an update note had been circulated at the meeting (a copy of which is appended to these minutes).

Councillors expressed concern on the subject of GP access. Issues raised included Gordon Street Surgery (temporary Closure/Staffing issues); GP capacity, difficulties in obtaining an appointment/cancellation of appointments; lack of provision of additional services (such as blood tests; ear wax removal etc); pressures on patient lists in areas where additional housing developments were being built; patients being redirected to a surgery in a different area which it was difficult to attend via public transport.

The Committee agreed that the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) should be invited to a future meeting to give members of the Committee the opportunity to ask questions about the concerns they had raised. The Chairman advised that although a request had been sent to the CCG to attend a meeting, they had stated that they were unable to attend face to face meetings. It was agreed that if that was the case and representatives of the Clinical Commissioning Group were unable to attend face to face meetings, then they should be invited to an informal meeting of the committee which would take place virtually. The outcome of such a meeting could then be fed back to the next formal meeting of the Committee.

NOTED.

140/21 **UPDATE ON SCRUTINY REVIEWS**

Councillors received an update on the scrutiny reviews currently being carried out.

NOTED.

141/21 **PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

Councillors received for information a list of public Executive Decision Records.

Councillor A Clarke requested further information in respect of Executive Decision Records 326/21 and 327/21, which was agreed to be provided outside of the meeting.

NOTED.

142/21 **QUESTIONS**

No questions had been received prior to the meeting.

143/21 **DATES OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would take place on 22nd September 2021.

NOTED.

Chairman

Scrutiny (Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being) Committee Monday 2nd August 2021

Health Scrutiny Update from County Councillor Philip Atkins

We received various reports from the NHS on the recovery and restoration of services as well as Covid 19 and vaccination.

We discussed GP access with more people wanting to see a GP after the pandemic with mixed reports from across the county.

It is difficult to access your doctor in some places and I commented you can use the NHS app, pharmacies or call 111.

I also commented on the number of homes being built with no s106 contribution by developers towards healthcare or doctor surgeries.

The committee highlighted the need to promote the NHS APP, (not the NHS Covid 19 app) check record keeping and guidance and to look at population size and to ensure there was not unwarranted variation across practices. There would also be engagement around patient participation, reception training and call handling, and work with local pharmacies relating to GP referral service which is referred to in the attached.

It was decided that further information be circulated to members in relation to the following:

- CCG provide a briefing note to advise members of the process to engage and be involved with the s106 process relating to healthcare.
- CCG provide feedback from Healthwatch work with residents and general practices on 'what patients prefer - perceptions, challenges and barriers'.
- Chair to meet with officers to consider dashboards and data

The Committee also endorsed the commencement of an options appraisal for the future provision of replacement care for people with learning disabilities in Staffordshire, including engagement with service users, carers, and stakeholders. The results of which are to be presented to SCC Cabinet in the third quarter of 2021.

We have since had another Health Scrutiny meeting at Castle House, Newcastle under Lyme about "The Stink" of Walleys Quarry.

The Committee considered background papers, the current position, health implications and mitigation measures from representatives of Staffordshire Resilience Forum, Public Health England, Environment Agency and other Partners and were concerned at what they heard and decided to take the matter further with various other people and bodies.

The future work programme will be looking at health in its widest context, not just the NHS activities.

The Borough has much to offer in that regard as the planning, leisure and housing authority as well as public health matters such as that raised in Newcastle