

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 Wednesday 22nd September 2021.

Present:

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

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 Councillor S McGarry.

144/21 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations at the commencement of the meeting.

145/21 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business for consideration at the meeting.

146/21 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the public minutes of the meeting held on 2nd August 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
C Wileman		P Hudson
Mrs P L Ackroyd		Mrs V J Gould
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		
M Shrive		
L Walker		
P Walker		

147/21 **UPDATE FROM HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Councillors received an update from County Councillor P E B Atkins. He advised that at the last meeting of the County Council Health and Care Overview Scrutiny Committee, there had been a presentation from the NHS on Covid-19 vaccinations; discussions on the Together We're Better consultation on "Difficult Decisions" on the 5 specific areas of consultation (Assisted conception; Hearing aids; Male and Female Sterilisation; Reconstructive surgery; excess skin removal following weight loss); discussions on Consultation on urgent and emergency care and discussions on access to GPs and a presentation on mortality rates. He urged members of the committee to respond to the 2 consultations, details of which had been previously circulated.

An opportunity for questions followed.

County Councillor P E B Atkins agreed to feedback comments made by the committee to the County Council Health and Care Overview Scrutiny Committee

A copy of a letter received from Stretton Parish Council raising concerns about the withdrawal of their local GP Service, in addition to the response from the Chairman of the Staffordshire Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee County Councillor Jeremy Pert had been circulated at the meeting.

Councillor A Clarke requested that an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting whereby consideration be given to the formation of 2 sub-groups, with one to review the Impact on Health of GP Access (to coordinate between Parish Councils/County Council and the MP/GPs and CCG – with a suggestion of reporting on GP Access on a 6 monthly reporting cycle) and the other group to review the Impact of Covid-19 on Health in East Staffordshire by demographics.

NOTED.

148/21 **IN BLOOM FEDERATION UPDATE**

Councillors received an update from the Project Officer (Paul Steed) on the In Bloom Federation and projects throughout the borough. Councillors noted that the In Bloom Federation included Burton in Bloom (organised by the Open Spaces Team), Uttoxeter in Bloom (organised by Uttoxeter Town Council) and Winshill In Bloom (organised by Winshill Parish Council). Meetings took place 3 or 4 times a year to improve areas and share best practice throughout the borough. Officers also offered support to community groups, which filtered down to community gardening projects (such as working with local schools). Councillors were asked to contact the Communities and Open Spaces Manager or the Project Officer if they were aware of an area they represented that wished to become involved with the In Bloom Federation. Next year a project called "Bee friendly Borough", would be carried out, to encourage people to plant more wildflowers and it was intended to giveaway small packets of seeds to encourage the public to plant wildflowers in their gardens, through the Greenhouse Centre in Stapenhill and the Go Garden Centre in Uttoxeter. The Council would be happy to support projects, but enthusiastic community leaders would still be needed to ensure the sustainability of any projects within an area.

Councillors placed on record their thanks for the hard work carried out by the Open Spaces team throughout the borough.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED.

149/21 **CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT 2021/22 QUARTER 1**

The report of the Head of Service on the progress at the end of the first quarter of the 2021/22 financial year towards achieving the “Community Regeneration” and “Environment and Health and Well Being” priorities set out in the Council’s Corporate Plan was considered. The following appendices had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting:

- Appendix 1: Contains comprehensive data on all Corporate Indicators;
- Appendix 2: Contains comprehensive data for Quarter 1 2021/22 from the benchmarking exercise coordinated by East Staffordshire Borough Council.

Councillors noted that out of the total of 129 targets, 30 contributed to the “Community Regeneration” Corporate Priority. Of these 30 targets: 14 were green; 1 was amber; 0 were red; 0 had been deferred and 15 were not yet due to be reported. Of the 15 “live” targets for the “Community Regeneration” Corporate priority 93.3% were green, 6.67% were red. Councillors noted that out of the total 129 targets, 22 contributed to the “Environment and Health and Well Being” Corporate Priority and of these targets 17 were green status, 1 had been deferred and 4 were not yet due to be reported. Of the 17 “live” targets for the “Environment and Health and Well Being” Corporate Priority 100% were green status.

A question was received from Councillor A Clarke on the subject of target CR21 and a response was agreed to be circulated under separate cover outside of the meeting.

NOTED.

150/21 **UPDATE ON SCRUTINY REVIEWS**

Councillors received an update on the scrutiny reviews currently being carried out. With regards to the review of waste and recycling, Councillors agreed that consideration should be given as to how to ensure that members of both this Committee and members of the Audit (Value for Money Council Services) Committee would have sight of both of the reviews and associated recommendations.

NOTED.

151/21 **PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

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

A question was received from Councillor P Walker on the subject of EDR no 337/21 and a response was agreed to be circulated under separate cover outside of the meeting.

NOTED.

152/21 **QUESTIONS**

One question had been received prior to the meeting from Councillor R G W Grosvenor. The question and response is appended to these minutes.

153/21 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would take place on 27th October 2021.

NOTED.

154/21 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Chairman



**Scrutiny (Community Regeneration, Environment and Health and Well Being)
Committee - 22nd September 2021**

Question received from Councillor R G W Grosvenor

I believe that Councillor Peters recently chaired the new parish council forum could he please comment on his views about the attendance. For example was he pleased or disappointed with the numbers there, what was he expecting and what plans he has in place to get more people to attend

Response by Councillor B G Peters, Deputy Leader (Community and Regulatory Services)

The initial Parish Council Forum took place on 12th August 2021 with some 12 Parish Councils in attendance, although 15 councils had initially indicated they would be attending. There were also 2 Councils who sent their apologies. Given there are some 38 Parish Councils in the Borough, this represents just under 1/3 in attendance. This may have been due to the meeting taking place over the summer holiday period, so it remains to be seen how many Parishes are represented at the next meeting, a date has not yet been set. Officers will be sending out invites well in advance of the next meeting.

It may be the case that attendees to each meeting will vary moving forward depending on the agenda items being discussed in each meeting. The intention is to make these as relevant to as many Parish Council's as possible in order to encourage attendance. It was an open invitation to all Parish Council chairs or their representative, attendance was voluntary and a decision left with them to attend or not.

The number of attendees was encouraging, it clearly demonstrated interest on their part to listen to views and opinions of other Parish Councils, identify common themes that ESBC or other third parties could assist with and open a 2 way conversation as and when appropriate. The notes of the meeting will be distributed to all Parish Chairs, those unable to attend the first meeting may then be encouraged to attend should they find points of interest to their Parish Council.