

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

held on Thursday, 26th March, 2015 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor G Baxendale (Chairman)
Councillor M Grant (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors W S Davies, H Gaddum, P Hayes and P Whiteley

In attendance

Councillor L Gilbert – Cabinet Member for
Councillor L Smetham – Deputy Cabinet
Dawn Clark – Area Partnerships Manager
Abigail Webb – Community Safety Development Manager

43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor K Hickson

44 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

45 WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

There were no whipping declarations

46 PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak

47 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2015.

RESOLVED

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

48 COMMUNITY HUBS

Consideration was given to a presentation about Community Hubs. It was noted that the Council had a community hubs pledge which stated how the Council would help communities to develop and operate community hubs based on what their needs were. It was explained that although each community, and therefore

community hub, was different there would be a 'base offer' of services, training and support which would help to create a community hubs brand while ensuring communities' individual needs were being met. The presentation also included an update on action that had taken place to date in the following areas:

- Wilmslow
- Knutsford
- Macclesfield
- Congleton
- Crewe
- Nantwich
- Rural.

The presentation concluded with a discussion about the next steps and how community hubs could be further developed. The following points arose:

- The concept of a community hub was fluid and not based on a single model or necessarily building based. A community hub might be based on a loose collection of organisations and buildings providing a range of services or it might be based on services provided in a single central location.
- Rural communities were harder to support than urban ones and it was difficult for people in rural areas to access services without their own transport.
- Members were pleased that more schools were engaging and allowing the use of their facilities by the wider community.
- Most registered social landlords were working with the Council on developing community hubs but there weren't many private landlords contributing. This might be an area where the Council could generate greater input.
- Local Area Partnership (LAP) Managers should consult their local ward members regularly to benefit from members' knowledge about things that were happening in their wards.

RESOLVED

That the presentation be noted and an update be scheduled to be received in six months time.

49 DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW

The Committee received an update on a domestic homicide review which was taking place following a murder case in Cheshire East in June 2014. During the case it transpired that the killer had issues with alcohol and had interactions with several health and care services, and the police prior to the incident. A review panel had been set up to look at the case and reviewed interactions services across health, care and police had with the killer. An action plan was being developed in order to address some of the issues which had been raised by the review.

RESOLVED

That the update be noted and that an update be received in six months

50 FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to the areas of the forward plan which fell within the remit of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That the forward plan be noted.

51 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the work programme. It was agreed that:

- An update on Community Hubs be received in six months time.
- An update on the Domestic Homicides Review action plan be received in six months time.
- An item to consider how to tackle the issues with parking outside schools and on pavements be added to the work programme subject to confirmation that it falls within the Committee's remit.

RESOLVED

That the work programme be amended to reflect the items highlighted above.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 11.50 am

Councillor G Baxendale (Chairman)