

**Minutes of the Community Wellbeing and Housing Committee
13 June 2023**

Present:

Councillor S.M. Doran (Chair)

Councillors:

M. Arnold

M. Buck

K.M. Grant

C. Bateson

S.A. Dunn

O. Rybinski

L. Brennan

A. Gale

Substitutions: Councillors K. Rutherford (In place of E. Baldock)

Apologies: Councillors M.M. Attewell

In Attendance: Councillors M. Beecher

25/23 Minutes

The start of the meeting was delayed until 19:15 due to an induction session for the committee members overrunning.

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

26/23 Disclosures of Interest

There were none.

27/23 Questions from members of the Public

There were none.

28/23 Ward Issues

There were none.

29/23 Community Garden Project - West Wing

The Committee considered a report on a proposed community garden project. The Group Head Commissioning and Transformation explained that community gardens provided opportunities for individuals to grow their own food, socialise, and provided mental health and wellbeing benefits. If the committee agreed, West Wing Knowle Green residents would be consulted over interest in a community garden, and would be offered to provide input on an appropriate location. Willmott Dixon would contribute towards the community garden as part of their social value contribution in their role as contractor for the leisure centre scheme.

The Committee noted that both flowers and vegetables were proposed for the garden and there would be no poisonous plants. The project would also present community learning opportunities, and if successful, proposals for other sites would be considered. The Committee confirmed that the proposed contribution from Willmott Dixon would cover the cost of the project.

It was proposed by Councillor Doran, and seconded by Councillor Rybinski that the recommendation be amended to state “to approve the community garden project in principal and consultation with West Wing Knowle Green residents, and if the residents wish to proceed on a particular site, agree that site between Group Heads in consultation with the Chair of Community Wellbeing and Housing.”

The Committee **resolved** to approve the community garden project in principal and consultation with West Wing Knowle Green residents, and if the residents wish to proceed on a particular site, agree that site between Group Heads in consultation with the Chair of Community Wellbeing and Housing.

30/23 Delayed decision relating to Annual Grant Awards 2023/24

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Lead of Leisure and Community Development on delayed decisions for community grants.

The Committee considered community grant applications at their meeting in January 2023. Since agreement, two further applications had been identified as submitted during the funding window, but were missed as they were not submitted correctly. The two applications related to a salary costs for an individual, and the grants panel recommended that both applications be rejected as they felt the grant funding budget should not be used to provide salary costs of charitable organisations. The panel also suggested that for clarification in future that factor should be incorporated in future funding criteria.

The Committee **resolved** to:

- 1) Approve the cross-party grant panel recommendations in relation to the funding bids from Stanwell Events and Stanwell Foodbank.
- 2) Review the Council's annual grant funding criteria and to stipulate that the basis for their Grant Funding Panel's recommendation should be incorporated into the funding criteria in future.

31/23 Food and Price Review of Greeno Community Centre Alterations

This item was considered with item 11, "Procurement of Meals on Wheels & Community Meals Provision," and the recommendations were combined with that item.

32/23 Forward Plan

The Committee **resolved** to note the forward plan for future committee business.

33/23 Exclusion of Press and Public

It was proposed by Councillor Bateson, seconded by Councillor Arnold and **resolved** to exclude the public and press in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

34/23 Procurement of Meals on Wheels and Community Meals Provision

The Committee considered a report on the procurement of Meals on Wheels and community meals provision.

The Committee **resolved** to approve the recommendations as set out in the report.

35/23 Urgent Item- Local Authority Housing Fund Round two

The Committee received a verbal update from the Deputy Chief Executive on round two of funding from the Local Authority Housing Fund.

The Committee **resolved** to note the update on the Local Authority Housing Fund.