

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMISSION

16 MARCH 2023 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr MR Lay - Chairman
Cllr C Ladkin and Cllr P Williams – Vice-Chairman
Cllr JMT Collett, Cllr L Hodgkins, Cllr K Morrell, Cllr A Pendlebury,
Cllr MC Sheppard-Bools and Cllr R Webber-Jones

Also in attendance: Councillor MB Cartwright and Councillor MT Mullaney

Officers in attendance: Rachel Burgess, Edwina Grant, Julie Kenny, Rebecca Owen, Ian Pinfold, Caroline Roffey and Sharon Stacey

319. **Apologies and substitutions**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cope and J Crooks.

320. **Minutes**

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 26 January be approved as a correct record.

321. **Declarations of interest**

No interests were declared.

322. **Children & Young People update**

Members received a presentation from a member of the Youth Forum who updated on recent projects including food banks and warm spaces. The meeting was also informed of other activities undertaken in partnership with schools, outreach work and safeguarding.

Members acknowledged the importance of the work of the Community Safety team and the positive actions that have resulted from its work. It was noted that whilst many of the activities were not statutory, it was important that they continue despite tighter resources.

The report was endorsed.

323. **Voluntary & Community sector partnership update and commissioning outcomes 2021/22**

The Scrutiny Commission received an update on the voluntary & community sector (VCS) partnership. Members felt that the work of the VCS and the partnership with the authority had a great impact. It was again noted that the council's support for the VCS was not a statutory requirement but added value to the sector for the benefit of Hinckley & Bosworth residents.

Members paid tribute to Edwina Grant who would soon be leaving the authority after 15 years and had led the partnership since its inception.

It was suggested that the added value of the VCS be calculated to demonstrate the benefits provided.

The report was endorsed.

324. **Parish & Community Initiative Fund**

Consideration was given to the recommended allocation of the Parish and Community Initiative Fund. It was noted that the application from Cadeby had been withdrawn.

It was requested that the scoring system be clearly communicated to the parish councils and that regular deadline reminders be sent.

Concern was expressed that some funding remained unallocated and following discussion it was requested that it be rolled over to the following year. It was explained that the forthcoming review would consider whether any aspect of the scheme or criteria should be changed.

RESOLVED –

- (i) SLT be RECOMMENDED to approve the funding allocations outlined in the report;
- (ii) The recommendation to review the scheme be endorsed;
- (iii) SLT be RECOMMENDED to allow the eight schemes from the previous year to be funded and completed.

325. **Chair's comments**

It being Councillor Lay's last meeting as chair, having chaired the Scrutiny Commission since it was constituted in 2003, he spoke about the valuable work of the overview & scrutiny function and the importance of having a non-political forum for open dialogue. He thanked the current and former chief executives and other officers for their support. The vice chairs and members thanked Councillor Lay for his hard work, leadership and fairness.

(The Meeting closed at 8.09 pm)

CHAIRMAN