

Chairman - Councillor J Hood

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

R J Barron

R A James

A P Edgeller

A N Pearce

A T A Godfrey

R M Sutherland

A D Hobbs

Cabinet Member - Councillor J M Pert - Community Portfolio

Cabinet member - Councillor M J Winnington - Environment Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-

Dr T Redpath	-	Interim Head of Corporate Business and Partnerships
Mrs E Fullagar	-	Chief Accountant
Mrs A Nevin	-	Health and Housing Manager
Mr L Booth	-	Interim Neighbourhood Services Group Manager
Mrs V Cooper	-	Community Safety Lead
Mr R Wolfe	-	Revenues and Benefits Manager
Mr A Bailey	-	Scrutiny Officer

CWB8 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 12 July 2022, as previously published on the Council's website, were submitted and signed.

CWB9 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A G Cooper (Substitute R A James), A M Loughran (Substitute A T A Godfrey), M Phillips and J K Price (Climate Change Portfolio).

CWB10 Members' Item

Councillor A N Pearce had submitted the following item under Paragraph 2.8 of the Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules:-

"The reduction in number of litter bins and the fact that many are full long before they are emptied results in litter blight in the areas where they are situated and increases the work for the many volunteers and Streetscene workers who collect rubbish from the streets. A review of collection

frequencies and the number and size of bins needs to be undertaken as a matter of urgency”

Councillor A N Pearce introduced his Members’ item and displayed a number of images to the Committee in support of the issues raised.

The Cabinet Member (Environment Portfolio) and the Interim Neighbourhood Services Group Manager provided the following response:-

- Clarification that there has been no reduction in the number of litter bins
- There had been a variation in provision due to changing demand
- Provided assurance that bins were emptied at least on a weekly basis
- Should target those that create the litter
- Fast food takeaways empty their litter bins first thing every morning
- Requested details of the locations of the photographs

The Committee then discussed the following aspects of the Members’ Item:-

- Urged the public to take their own rubbish away with them
- Takeaways collected their own rubbish on a regular basis
- This was a national issue
- Stafford was in the main a clean Borough
- Discipline and fines would help to reduce unacceptable litter
- Paid tribute to all of the staff at Streetscene in keeping the Borough clean and tidy
- It was important to report any litter to Streetscene who would arrange for it to be cleaned up
- Education was the key in tackling litter, particularly with school children
- Did not accept that there had not been a reduction in the number of letter bins
- Litter bins did not solve the problems of litter, but they did help

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Members’ Item be noted.

CWB11 Health and Care and Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Considered the report of Councillor J Hood (V1 06/09/22) on matters considered by the Health and Care and Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their previous meetings held on 11 July and 1 August 2022.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the report be noted.

CWB12 Community Wellbeing Partnership Update

The following matter had been considered by Cabinet at its meeting held on 7 July 2022 (Minute No CAB7/22 refers) and was submitted to this Committee for information.

Considered the report of the Interim Head of Corporate Business and Partnerships (V1 6/09/22) that updated members on the work that had been undertaken by the Community Wellbeing Partnership during 2021 - 2022, future opportunities and the responsibilities of the partnership.

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Cabinet Member (Community Portfolio, the Interim Head of Corporate Business and Partnerships and the Community Safety Lead:-

- Re-Solv - Substance Misuse and Mental Health - Quantification of their success
- The Staffordshire Commissioner's plans to provide £5000 to community Groups

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the decision of the Cabinet in relation to the Community Partnerships Update (Minute No CAB7/22 refers), be noted.

CWB13 Quarter 1 Performance Reporting

The Committee considered the performance and financial management details for those areas within the remit of the Committee for the quarter 1 period up to 30 June 2022 (V1 09/09/22).

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Cabinet Member (Community Portfolio), the Cabinet Member (Environment Portfolio), the Interim Head of Corporate Business and Partnerships, the Chief Accountant, the Health and Housing Manager, the Interim Neighbourhood Services Group Manager and the Community Safety Lead:-

- LI7 - % of homeless cases resolved through prevention
- LI11 - Empty Homes brought back into use following Officer interventions
- 2.2.4 - Encourage households to increase recycling and minimise residual waste because this will be good for the environment and reduce collection and disposal costs
- 2.4.3 - Utilise procedures and processes to investigate reported incidents of anti-social behaviour
- 2.5.3 - Provide an effective and efficient service to deliver Disabled facilities Grants
- Staffing Variations
- Increased utilities costs
- Environment Portfolio - Pest Control income (£7,000)

- Environment Portfolio - Reduced Crematorium income (£55,000)
- Environment Portfolio - Reduced Cemeteries income (£15,000)
- Environment Portfolio - Reduced Dog Warden costs £2,000
- Environment Portfolio - CCTV Expenditure
- Leisure and Culture Portfolio - Alleynes Sports Centre Expenditure
- Leisure and Culture Portfolio - Stafford Castle Income
- Community Capital Portfolio - Disabled Facilities Grants
- Environment Capital Portfolio - Waste Containers Replacement
- Leisure Capital Portfolio - Victoria Park Pedestrian Bridge
- Stone Leisure

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the performance management data relating to areas of activity within this Committee's remit be noted.

CWB14 Work Programme - Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration (V1 6/09/22), which presented the Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the forthcoming meeting in March 2023.

The Scrutiny Officer outlined the changes to the Work Programme that had occurred since the production of the Agenda.

The Committee sought clarification as to which Scrutiny Committee should receive an update report on Recycling Activities within the Borough.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Work Programme be noted, subject to the amendments reported at the meeting.

CHAIR