

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**6.00 P.M.**

**24TH FEBRUARY 2016**

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Nigel Goodrich (Chairman), Alan Biddulph, Brett Cooper, Caroline Jackson, David Whitaker and Phillippa Williamson

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillors June Ashworth (Vice-Chairman), Lucy Atkinson and Rob Devey

Also in Attendance:-

Councillors Margaret Pattison and Roger Sherlock  
Penny Foulds – Lancaster University  
Anne Oliver – Age UK

Officers in attendance:-

Mark Cullinan	Chief Executive (part)
Stephen Metcalfe	Principal Democratic Support Officer
Jenny Kay	Civic & Ceremonial Democratic Support Officer

**The Committee noted with sadness the death of Councillors George Askew and Richard Newman-Thompson.**

**Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Committee stood for one minute's silence in their memory.**

**64 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6.05pm to allow a Dementia Friends session to take place.**

**The meeting was reconvened at 7.00pm.**

**65 DEFYING DEMENTIA - FROM THE LAB TO THE CLINIC**

The Chairman welcomed Penny Foulds, Honorary Researcher, Lancaster University, to the meeting.

Members were given a presentation on the ground breaking research that had been undertaken at Lancaster University on a cure for Alzheimer's Disease.

Currently, there was no cure for any of the different types of Dementia of which there were over a hundred but 60-70% of those who had been diagnosed with Dementia suffered from Alzheimer's Disease.

The research had uncovered neurodegenerative diseases were linked to proteins in the brain which stuck together in the brain causing tangles which were proven to cause these diseases. A non toxic drug had been produced by the research team to prevent these tangles forming.

The drug that had been created was now ready to go to phase one of clinical trials. It was noted that this would be a difficult and expensive process.

Members were invited to ask questions relating to the presentation.

***Resolved :-***

That Penny Foulds be thanked for her informative presentation.

**66 DISCUSSIONS WITH COUNCILLOR KAREN LEYTHAM**

It was noted that Councillor Leytham had sent her apologies as she was ill.

**67 CONSIDERATION OF ANY REQUESTS FOR COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCESS)**

It was noted that there had not been any requests for items to be considered in accordance with the Councillor Call for Action process.

**68 CONSIDERATION OF ANY PETITIONS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCESS)**

It was noted that there had not been any requests for items to be considered in the accordance with the Consideration of Petitions process.

**69 LOCALITY WORKING**

It was noted that there was no update on locality working.

**70 WORK PROGRAMME REPORT**

The Committee considered the Work Programme report.

With regard to the Special Meeting that had been scheduled for March 2016 to consider flooding issues, it was reported that the multi-agency de-brief had yet to take place therefore it was felt that March was too early for the Committee to call the Special meeting. Members discussed this suggestion and it was agreed that, in order not to lose momentum, the meeting should take place at the earliest opportunity even if this was just specifically for the Lancaster district.

The Committee went on to discuss the potential Resilience Commission Task Group. It was noted that Lancashire County Council would be happy to work with the City Council. The Chief Executive had asked the Committee for a clear steer as to whether the

Commission would focus on a County Wide Commission including other district councils or a Lancaster led Task Group inviting contributions from others.

It was agreed that the Task Group be Lancaster led and that scoping of the Task Group should take place as soon as possible with the Chairman and Councillor Jackson taking the lead in the scoping.

It was further agreed that, when inviting contributions from others, organisations including Community Foundation for Lancashire and RE Flood be involved.

Members agreed that Councillor Leytham should be invited to attend the April 2016 meeting of the Committee.

With regard to the request for a briefing note on the implications of the 2015/16 Housing and Planning Bill regarding enforcement for private sector landlords, it was agreed that this issue would be raised at the April meeting when the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing and Environmental Health had been invited to attend to discuss her portfolio.

The Committee was given an update on the first meeting of the Late Night Economy in the Lancaster District Informal Task Group which had recently taken place. It was reported that the meeting had been very informative and potential recommendations had already emerged.

***Resolved :-***

That the actions above be agreed.

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Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
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or email [jkay@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:jkay@lancaster.gov.uk)**