

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

6.00 P.M.

21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESENT:- Councillors June Ashworth (Chairman), Caroline Jackson (Vice-Chairman), Alan Biddulph, Tracy Brown, John Reynolds and David Whitaker

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillors Brett Cooper, Rob Devey and Phillippa Williamson

Also in attendance:-

Councillor Charlie Edwards – Chairman of the Late Night Economy in the Lancaster District Informal Task Group

Officers in attendance:-

Susan Parsonage	Chief Executive
Suzanne Lodge	Chief Officer (Health and Housing)
Stephen Metcalfe	Principal Democratic Support Officer
Jenny Kay	Civic & Ceremonial & Democratic Support Officer

8 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2016 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

9 WORK PROGRAMME REPORT

The Principal Democratic Support Officer presented the Work Programme Report to the Committee. Members were requested to consider a number of suggestions for the Committee's Work Programme for the forthcoming year.

The Committee discussed the suggestions that had been received from members of the public, Councillors and Management Team.

It was noted that the Leader of the Council had not been able to attend the meeting and had offered to attend the October meeting of the Committee.

Resolved :-

(1) That the issues and actions, set out below, be approved :

	<u>Issue considered</u>	<u>Action agreed by the Committee</u>
1.	Heysham Gateway.	Consider at October 2016 meeting of the Committee. Invite Sea Truck, Chamber and Port of Heysham representatives and all Members of Council. Note : This issue had been included in the Committee's Work Programme the previous year.

2.	Councillors Skills and Information.	Add to Committee's Work Programme.
3.	Fly Grazing.	Add to the Work Programme – look at best practice and request more information.
4.	Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Commissioning.	Scope Task Group – to be considered at December 2016 meeting of the Committee.
5.	Older People's Issues.	Invite Cabinet Member with Responsibility to a future meeting to discuss.
6.	Property Strategy.	Consideration of a Discussion Paper.
7.	Crime and Disorder Meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite new Chief Inspector to the November 2016 meeting. • Invite the relevant Cabinet Member with responsibility. • Consider the work of the Community Safety Partnership. • Invite all Councillors to attend. • See 8. Below – Referral from Council.
8.	Referral from Council – Review of Measures taken to counter Racism, Xenophobia and Hate Crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add to Work Programme for the November 2016 Crime and Disorder Committee meeting. • Request the Police to advise on this matter at the meeting. To be asked to provide any incidents of reported crime, if possible based on postcodes. • Information to be circulated to the Committee in advance of the meeting if possible.
9.	Peer Review Update.	Remain on the Work Programme and schedule for February 2017.
10.	Lancashire County Council's Pre-Scrutiny Process.	The Chairman and Vice-Chairman to view webcast of previous meeting and then to attend a meeting of the County Council's Scrutiny Committee and report back on the process.
11.	Caravans and Mobile Home parking on Morecambe Promenade overnight.	Add to Work Programme - Request update from Lancashire County Council including the issue of cars for sale on Morecambe Promenade. To consider partnership working and possible use of any appropriate byelaws and confiscation of vehicle orders.

12.	Provision of Public toilets.	No action.
13.	Pot Holes in the District.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add to the Committee's Work Programme. • Request details of the Pot Hole Strategy from Lancashire County Council.
14.	Management of the referral scheme for people with alcohol and drug issues.	No action.
15.	Fly Tipping.	Add to Committee's Work Programme. Invite Lancashire County Council to attend a future meeting to discuss, including the introduction of the Permit Scheme at Recycling Centres.
16.	Air Quality Control.	Request a presentation on Air Quality in the district taking into account the impact of the Heysham Gateway.
17.	Evaluation of the standard of our Council Housing.	Being considered by B&PP. Request that Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members be invited to attend the Panel meeting when this issue is considered.
18.	Dog Fouling.	No action.
19.	Provision for homeless and vulnerable people in the district.	No action.

- (2) That the Work Programme, submitted at Appendix A to the report, as amended, be approved.

10 UPDATE ON TASK GROUPS

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Charlie Edwards, Chairman of the Late Night Economy in the Lancaster District Informal Task Group, to the meeting.

Late Night Economy in the Lancaster District Informal Task Group

Councillor Edwards gave the Committee an update on the progress of the Late Night Economy in the Lancaster District Informal Task Group. The Task Group had agreed at its first meeting to hold a series of themed meetings focusing on :

- Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Licencing

- Trade
- Impact on Street Cleansing
- Health and Wellbeing

It was reported that issues that were emerging related to littering from takeaways, the night time economy blending into the day time economy, 4.00am to 6.00am were highlighted as the most problematic period of time, the serving of alcohol to people who were already drunk and problems with youths gathering within the city centre.

The Committee was advised that the City Council and Police were working together to introduce a Public Space Protection Order for Lancaster City Centre, which would give the Police more powers.

The last themed meeting was due to take place the following week with the Licensing Trade at the Apothecary in Lancaster. The Task Group would then have a final meeting to consider the recommendations to submit to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Resilience Commission Informal Task Group

Councillor Caroline Jackson, Chairman of the Resilience Commission Informal Task Group, presented the report of the Informal Task Group to the Committee. It was noted that the Task Group had met twice to consider the role of a Resilience Commission for the district and how it would operate.

It was reported that Storm Desmond had highlighted the need for local urban communities to work together in such situations and of the lack of communication that had occurred.

It was suggested that, within the boundaries of Morecambe Town Council, the Town Council be encouraged to consider and identify where community emergency centres could be located and apply for grant funding to assist with resilience.

Members were advised that a meeting of the Commission had provisionally been arranged to take place on 10th November 2016 at Lancaster Town Hall. It was proposed that all Members of Council be invited to attend the meeting. The meeting had provisionally been arranged due to the timescales for making bids for funding and it was felt that the meeting should be set so that any opportunities were not missed.

The Task Group had highlighted the need for focal points to be identified in local communities in times of disasters. Many rural areas had put plans in place for such events in the future having taken advice from the City Council's Civil Contingencies Officer.

The Committee considered the report of the Task Group and unanimously agreed to the recommendations, as amended at the meeting, and set out below.

Resolved :-

- (1) That Councillors Edwards and Jackson be thanked for their updates on the two Informal Task Groups.
- (2) That the Chairman of the Resilience Commission Informal Task Group meets with the Civil Contingencies Officer to discuss and consider how a meeting of the Commission will be arranged, including invitees and items to be discussed. The Task Group and all other Members of Council be invited to attend the meeting.

- (3) That a meeting of the Commission be called to be held on 10th November 2016, as set out in the Resilience Commission Informal Task Group report.
- (4) That the meeting considers a set of geographical areas, focuses on buildings that could be used when there is an emergency and considers funding of improvements to buildings identified to provide power and other facilities when there is an emergency and considers how to ensure that communications with residents are effective at such times.

11 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.

12 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.

13 LOCALITY WORKING

It was agreed that an update be requested from Lancashire County Council on the future of the 3 Tier Forum and locality working between the County Council, City Council and Town/Parishes.

Resolved :-

That an update be requested from Lancashire County Council on the future of the 3 Tier Forum and locality working between the County Council, City Council and Town/Parishes.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Jenny Kay, Democratic Services - telephone (01524) 582065
or email jkay@lancaster.gov.uk**