



RURAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

4th June 2014

Present:

Councillor P. Baguley, G.E Botterill, J. Douglas, E. Holmes, E. Hutchinson, V. Manderson, T. Moncrieff, J. Moulding, J.T Orson (Chairman), J.B. Rhodes , M.R. Sheldon.

As Observer

Councillor M. Gordon.

Strategic Director (KA), Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods, Central Services Manager,
Head of Regulatory Services, Corporate Property Officer, Corporate Policy Manager,
Town Centre Manager (LB)
Administrative Assistant for Communities and Neighbourhoods.

R1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

R2. MINUTES

The public and exempt minutes from the meeting of the 5th March 2014 were confirmed and authorised to be signed by the Chairman with the following to be noted.

R51. Councillor Gordon has since learnt that she doesn't have a personal and non-pecuniary interest in the Garden Waste Service, as subscription to this is common with a large number of the people in Melton.

R63. Councillor Gordon left the meeting.

R3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Orson and Councillor Rhodes declared a personal interest in relation to any issues concerning the Leicestershire County Council by virtue of them being County Councillors.

Councillor Sheldon, Baguley, Botterill and Holmes declared that they would leave the meeting before the exempt item by virtue of them being members of the Planning Committee.

R4. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from other Committees.

R5. UPDATE ON DECISIONS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted an update on decisions from the previous meeting of the 8th January 2014 and 5th March 2014, which was noted by the committee.

R6. MELTON MOWBRAY EVENTS REVIEW 2014

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report to update Members on the outcomes of the Melton Event Feasibility study, commissioned by Leicestershire Promotions.

The Town Centre Manager brought Members attention to the recommendations at 2.1 and expressed that a more strategic approach would be beneficial, through setting up a group consisting of different event organisers.

It was clarified that this report was not looking for financial support from the council to fund the Event Organiser post, however, if any financial support is needed, a report would be brought back to this committee for approval.

RESOLVED that the proposals contained in the action plan be approved for officers to take forward and explore the opportunity to develop the post of an Events Organiser with partners

R7. DIGITAL HIGH STREET SKILLS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report to update members on the Digital High Street Skills Initiative (DHSS), the train the trainer programme and future DHSS workshops for Melton's high street businesses.

The Town Centre Manager (LB) drew Members attention to the recommendations at 2.1 and outlined that the scheme will offer 3 training modules for business to take part in.

The Town Centre Manager explained that the council would receive £35 for each delegate that signs up to a module, and that as an incentive a large proportion of that money would be given back to delegates who booked in from businesses within Melton borough.

Discussion took place around the amount of discount that would be given back to local Melton businesses, with a view of a 100% subsidy

RESOLVED that:

- 1) The Digital High Street Skills workshop programme be approved
- 2) Full subsidy be given to businesses within Melton Borough for the delivery of the first wave of workshop modules.

R8. **PARTNERSHIP SCHEMES IN CONSERVATION AREAS- MELTON MOWBRAY- EXTENSION TO 2014/15**

The Head of Regulatory Services submitted a report to inform Members that English Heritage has invited a joint bid from Melton Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council to extend the Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas (PSICA) for Melton Mowbray for an additional year.

Members showed support for the recommendations.

RESOLVED that

- 1) The extension of the Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas for Melton Mowbray be approved for a further year, in order to maximise potential funding for repair and restoration works within the town centre conservation areas.
- 2) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Regulatory Services to sanction repair and restoration projects for buildings within the Melton Mowbray conservation area and authorise grant funding in conjunction with those projects.
- 3) the allocation of £15,000 funding from capital receipts be recommended to the Policy, Finance and Administration Committee.

R9. **MELTON WW1 CENTENARY COMMEMORATIVE EVENT**

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods presented a report to seek Melton Borough Councils commitment to providing the local community with a range of activities and exhibitions in commemoration of WW1 as part of the UK's National campaign.

The Town Centre Manager explained that the event will take place on the weekend of the 27th June to the 29th June, linking the commemorative event with two other events happening in Melton Town Centre.

Members attention was brought to para 3.6 outlining the project summary.

Members highlighted the importance of also marking the date of 4th August with a commemorative event.

Members noted that in order to ensure the event was ready and relevant bookings secured the Council would need to provide initial funding. Officers confirmed the Council has submitted a heritage lottery funding bid which if successful would reimburse the funding request.

RESOLVED that

- 2 (i) the delivery of an event of activities and educational workshops to commemorate the 100th anniversary at WW1 be supported.
- 2 (ii) that a request be made to Policy, Finance and Administration Committee to approve a support on £4,000 to be made from the Corporate Priorities Fund which will be reimbursed if the heritage lottery funding is successful.
- 2 (iii) delegated authority be given to the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Chair of this committee and the elected representatives from each group to this committee to finalise the arrangements of the event after consultation with the British Legion and RAFA in regards to content and date.

R10. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods submitted a report to provide Members with an update on the performance, improvements and the progress of Melton Borough Council's Economic Development activities.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods drew Members attention to para 3.5 outlining the Strategic Priorities and para 3.21 regarding the Town Centre Masterplan which is currently at final specification prior to tender.

Particular attention was drawn to the significant number of people claiming job seekers allowance having decreased and a number of people claiming benefits being the best figures in the County.

The Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods told Members that a report will be brought to this committee in September showing a refresh of the economic development strategy.

RESOLVED that the performance, improvements and progress of Melton Borough Councils Economic Development activities be noted.

R11. CATTLE MARKET UPDATE

The Strategic Director (CM) and the Corporate Property Officer submitted a joint report to update Members on the progress relating to the Cattle Market

project and to gain approval for Officers to progress the project to the next stages.

The Corporate Property Officer brought Members attention to the recommendations at 2.1 and para 3.2 outlining the funding streams for a feasibility study to be carried out.

A Member stated that they would like to see the Cattle Market be used on more days to increase the income stream and that this was important to consider.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) the next steps and the work completed to date by the Cattle Market Working Group be noted.
- 2) The progress of the feasibility works for Phase 1 of the Cattle Market development be noted.
- 3) Management and cost consultants be appointed through Framework agreements to maintain momentum of the project.

R12. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that the Public be excluded during the consideration of the following item(s) of business in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information: Exempt Information under Paragraphs 1 and 2.

CATTLE MARKET UPDATE

The Corporate Property Officer outlined phases 1 and 2 of the project.

RESOLVED that the recommendations be approved.

The meeting which started at 6:35pm finished at 8:40pm

Chairman