

At a Meeting of the **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Kilworthy Park, Drake Road, **TAVISTOCK** on **TUESDAY** the **3rd** day of **MARCH 2015** at **2.00 pm**.

Present: Cllr K Ball – Vice-Chairman – in the Chair
Cllr M J R Benson Cllr K A Clish-Green
Cllr D Cloke Cllr C Hall
Cllr M E Morse Cllr D E Moyse
Cllr R J Oxborough

Substitutes: Cllr J Moody Cllr T Pearce

Executive Director (Service Delivery & Community)
Natural Environment & Recreation Manager
Committee & Ombudsman Link Officer

In attendance: Cllr A Leech Cllr R Musgrave

CS 19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Chairman, Cllr R F D Sampson (Substitute Cllr T Pearce) and from Cllr N Morgan (Substitute Cllr J Moody).

CS 20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr R J Oxborough – Minute No CS 23 – Leisure Centre Contract Monitoring – Personal – Son employed at Meadowlands Leisure Pool.

***CS 21 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th January 2015, were confirmed and signed by the Vice-Chairman as a correct record.

***CS 22 TAMAR VALLEY AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB): MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AND RELATED MATTERS**

The Natural Environment & Recreation Manager presented a report (page 6 to the Agenda) seeking the Committee's agreement for the Council to be involved in a comprehensive review of the future delivery options of the AONB activities currently led by the Tamar Valley AONB Partnership to identify preferred delivery options for 2016/2017 onwards.

Funding for the AONB was secured through DEFRA providing a grant covering three quarters of the costs of the service with the remaining quarter being met through the Borough Council and its partner councils South Hams District Council and Cornwall Council. Cornwall Council was the lead and major contributory council and engaged the dedicated AONB staff.

The financial and administrative arrangements for the AONB were set down in a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to which each funding partner was a signatory. The current MoA was due to expire during March 2015. In anticipating this DEFRA had indicated that 2014/2015 funding levels would be maintained for 2015/2016 but would give no indication of future funding levels. It was understood that an announcement on future AONB funding would be made after the General Election in May 2015 which would “allow Councils the necessary time and security to plan for 2016/17 and beyond”.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (i) a renewed Memorandum of Agreement for the Tamar Valley AONB be entered into for the year 2015/2016 on an assumed standstill budget;
- (ii) the Natural Environment & Recreation Manager be authorised to agree, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Community Services Committee, the final wording of the Agreement; and,
- (iii) officers be requested to participate in a structured review of the future options for delivery of the Tamar Valley AONB from 2016/2017 onwards and to report back to the Community Services Committee or its successor Committee on the preferred options.

***CS 23**

LEISURE CENTRE CONTRACT MONITORING

Mr J Smith, the Contact Manager for LiTC and 1Life attended the meeting for this item.

The Natural Environment & Recreation Manager and the Leisure Contracts Officer presented a joint report (page 13 to the Agenda) on the current performance and key issues of the leisure centre management arrangements with Leisure in The Community (LiTC) and 1Life, formally Leisure Connection. The contract was performing very well and within budget both in terms of the management fee and repairs and maintenance.

In respect of Meadowlands, the Committee noted the large increase in positive comments during the period October 2014 to January 2015 and Mr Smith reported that this was the outcome of a new practice at Meadowland of actively seeking engagement with clients and responding to comments received. Some refurbishment had taken place including a complete upgrading of the cafe area and replacement of the current pool side lockers was imminent. The Committee was further advised that during the past week two new primary schools, Mary Tavy and Callington, would be taking up swimming lessons.

In response to a question Mr Smith agreed to discuss with the management of The Wharf the possibility of re-introducing joint swim and film sessions for children during the school holiday periods.

The Committee was very pleased to note that Meadowlands had achieved the highest growth rate for a swim school across all the contracts operated by 1Life during the past year.

In respect of Parklands, usage was increasing across all disciplines and the GP referral scheme was working very well.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted and welcomed.

(The Meeting terminated at 2.45 pm.)