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COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillors Christine Bateson (Chairman), John Bowden (Vice-Chairman), Gurpreet Bhangra, Clive Baskerville, Helen Price, Parish Councillors Malcolm Beer, Margaret Lenton and Pat McDonald

Officers: Shilpa Manek, Russell O'Keefe and David Scott

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, especially Asghar Majeed and Julia Chester from SportsAble.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No Apologies for absence were received.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Bateson declared a personal interest as she is the borough representative at Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue.

Councillor Price declared a personal interest as she is a member of SportsAble.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as a true record subject to the two minor amendments below:

- **Add apologies from Councillor David Cannon; and**
- **Add action in Budget section about reconsidering the overlap of activities between overview and scrutiny panels for the budget process next year.**

SPORTSABLE ANNUAL REPORT

David Scott, Head of Communities, introduced the item and informed the Panel that this was a second annual progress report in the three-year Service Level Agreement (SLA) and the SLA had been attached to the report as had been requested previously by Panel Members.

Asghar Majeed, Chairman of the Trustees of SportsAble, gave an overview of the report highlighting the headlines, the background and the performance report. Asghar Majeed then handed over to Julia Chester, Vice Chairman of the Trustees Board, who spoke about membership, the sports offered, the outreach sessions and how they were run.

Julia Chester informed the Panel of a new, exciting model called 'Sport Prescription'. This was similar to the NHS pioneering idea of Information Prescriptions as a way to improve patient care. A Sport Prescription would cover free weekly sport taster sessions and heavily discounted membership of SportsAble for six months.

Julia Chester informed the Panel that they had taken advice from a GP who was a specialist in Sports Medicine and Musculoskeletal problems as well as a member of SportsAble. The pilot scheme was to work directly with ten local GP surgeries to offer each surgery five 'sport

prescriptions' which they could give to patients they identified as being likely to benefit both physically and emotionally.

SportsAble required RBWM support, endorsement and help in signposting of the scheme. If the pilot scheme was successful, then SportsAble would require a grant to assist them roll out on a wider scale.

Councillor Baskerville asked for more information on the allegations about the way the charity operated, property thefts and data breaches. Julia Chester reassured the Panel that it was mainly social media hype. Julia Chester explained that the trustees were all volunteers and SportsAble was mainly run by volunteers and all the hype on the allegations was regrettable and distracted from the work of SportsAble. The Charity Commission and the ICO were involved and an interim report recognised that SportsAble had dealt with all allegations correctly and were reviewing all its policies and procedures.

Councillor Price asked what the added value was from receiving the grant of £50K. Julia Chester informed the Panel that the grant had been fundamental in running the club house, offering sports opportunities to so many people. It assisted the club to budget more effectively.

Councillor Bhangra referred to the figures in the report, there had been a 6% increase over 2018 in total of 681. Was there a breakdown of how many of those users were from the borough. Julia Chester informed the Panel that there was no breakdown of what areas users came from, but they were mainly from the borough. There were three prospective Paralympic athletes training at SportsAble.

ACTION: SportsAble to present an update report to the Panel in six months. The update report to include base data from 2017 onwards and a breakdown of what area the users come from and what postal ward if possible.

Councillor Price asked about the outreach programme and why Manor Green School were not part of it. Julia Chester explained that they had worked with the school previously but were not working with them now. Councillor Price continued to ask about the sports prescription and highlighted that it was like the GP model. Councillor Price thought it was an excellent idea and fitted well with the RBWM strategic priorities.

Councillor Bhangra asked what SportsAble were doing to encourage people to join certain unusual sports such as New Age Kurling, Boccia and Air weapons. Julia Chester informed the Panel that SportsAble offered a full range of sports, members had the opportunity to try new sports. These varied from year to year and the club would like to offer more. There were free taster sessions available for all members.

Parish Councillor Margaret Lenton said this was all very positive and asked if user weight was measured. Julia Chester informed the Panel that weight was not measured as it was intrusive. The club provided a range of sports and social for members. However, height and weight would be measured as part of the sports prescription.

Councillor Baskerville asked what was meant by Air Weapons and was informed that this was the sport of air rifling. There was a Paralympic trainer in this sport who was also a trustee.

Councillor Bowden clarified what outreach meant, and it was explained either a group coming to SportsAble or SportsAble to go to a specific group or school. The outreach programme covered a wide range of areas. Councillor Bowden advised that there were no schools/groups from Ascot, Datchet, Windsor or Wraybury.

ACTION: SportsAble to work with borough to identify groups that could offer support for the outreach facilities.

Councillor Price asked what would be SportsAble's strategic priorities, three to five years ahead. Julia Chester informed the Panel that they would be to secure the income, consolidate the key objectives and to have the commitment to provide sporting opportunities to disabled people.

Councillor Bowden asked if the Panel could be sent the redacted version of the interim report completed by the charity commission. Julia Chester informed the Panel that the MD, Duncan Sharkey was fully aware of the full detail and was satisfied that all was above board and the impact on the SLA had been addressed.

ACTION: SportsAble to provide Panel Members with a redacted version of the Charity Commission report.

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (INCLUDING POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S GRANT & PROCESSES) UPDATE

David Scott, Head of Communities, distributed a handout to show the partnership working with many organisations. The Community Safety Partnership was comprised of agencies including the Police, health, fire and rescue service, other council delivered services and external stakeholders delivering interventions for residents, businesses and visitors across the borough. The four main themes in the diagram showing all the relevant relationships were Prevention, Protection, Inclusion and Maintaining Public Confidence. Each of the themes then linked to many other organisations. Diagram attached to minutes.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) had confirmed that the Royal Borough's Community Safety Fund allocation for 2020/21 will be maintained at the same level as in 2019/20 – equating to £148,921.

Councillor Price expressed concern about having fewer PCO's and less resource on safety. David Scott informed the Panel that the Police additional nationally funded staff were to be appointed, and the recruitment process had already begun and there were additional posts in the Local Police Area. Currently we were in phase 1 of a three-year plan by when all posts should be filled. David Scott explained that new police staff members would come and work with existing community wardens, whilst training and it would continue to be part of their induction.

Councillor Price asked about what activities were undertaken by the youth service. David Scott informed the Panel that there was an extended programme in the holiday period. Work was done on types of exploitation, risk awareness, youth engagement and understanding risks. Discussions were aimed at young people and their parents to understand signs to look out for.

Councillor Price asked about the Alternate Giving – Kickstart funding. David Scott informed the Panel that the process had been developed and the boroughwide scheme was being developed. Councillor Bateson informed the Panel that there were a lot of vulnerable people out there and the fire authority did a great task of going out to give talks to vulnerable people. They also did workshops with young children teaching them how to put a fire out by working as a team.

Councillor Beer raised concerns about PCSO's being shared between Datchet, Wraysbury and Old Windsor and therefore being very thin on the ground.

ACTION: Further detail required at a future meeting.

ACTION: Invite TVP LPA (Louise Warbrick/Colin Hudson) to a future meeting to provide more detail.

UPDATE ON THE USE OF THAMES VALLEY ATHLETES CENTRE

David Scott gave a presentation on the Thames Valley Athletics Centre.

Councillor Baskerville asked for more information on the shortfall and was informed that the annual costs fell towards the shortfall.

Parish Councillor Malcolm Beer informed the Panel that he was on the TVAC Committee from the beginning. He asked about the parking at the facility as it was always an issue and was advised that parking had not been changed. Parish Councillor Malcolm Beer could see from the report that the daytime usage had got better with many schools using the facility.

The Panel briefly discussed the squash courts on the flood plain and the recent planning application that had been refused.

UPDATE ON THE ARTHUR JACOB NATURE RESERVE

David Scott presented the report on the Arthur Jacob Nature Reserve. Parish Councillor Malcolm Beer was concerned about the flytipping. The borough were involved at Officer level to oversee and manage the site in line with our countryside service.

ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT- DRAFT

The Panel went through the Annual Scrutiny Report template and gave suggestions on each section. The draft report was discussed in detail.

ACTION: Clerk to draft report and send to Panel Members

WORK PROGRAMME

The Panel discussed the future work programme. There were specific items for the next scheduled meeting and then a list of suggested items that would come to the Panel such as annual reports and updates.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

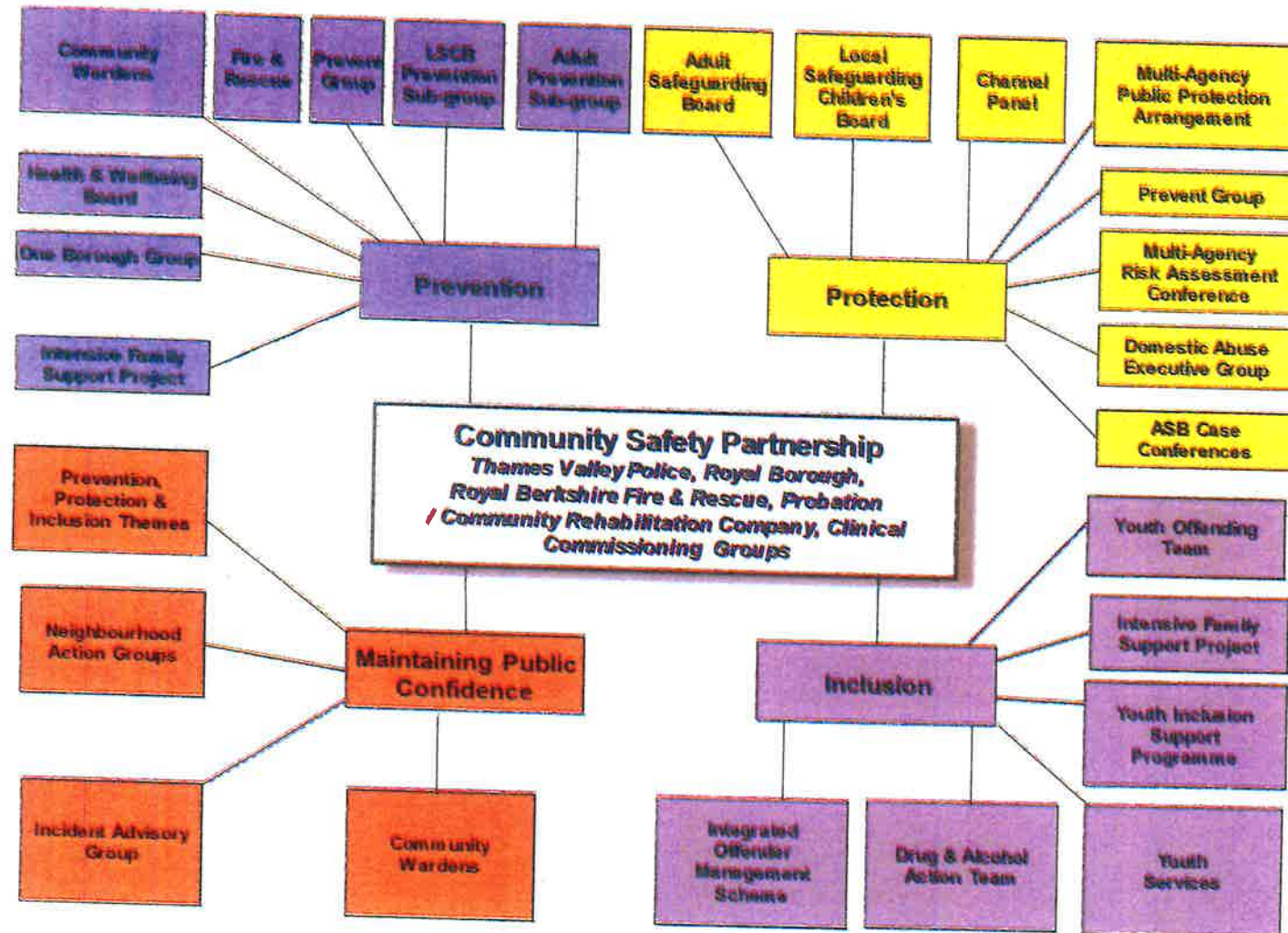
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY; That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting whilst discussion takes place on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1-7 of part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The meeting, which began at 6.30 pm, finished at 8.50 pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....

Community Safety Network



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