



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## **COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL**

**22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 at 2.00 pm**

### **Present:**

Councillor Silvester (in the Chair)  
Councillors Aisthorpe, Batson, Goodwin, Parkinson (substitute for Pettigrew), Sandford, K Swinburn and Woodward.

### **Officers in attendance:**

- Helen Isaacs (Assistant Chief Executive)
- Carolina Borgstrom (Assistant Director Environment)
- Spencer Hunt (Assistant Director of Safer and Partnerships)
- Zoe Campbell (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)
- Paul Caswell (Head of Youth and Safe)
- Simon Jones (Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets)

### **Also in attendance:**

- Councillor Ron Shepherd (Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities)
- Councillor Stewart Swinburn (Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport)
- Councillor Stan Shreeve (Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets)

### **SPC.1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

It was noted that at the Annual General Meeting of the Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2021, Councillor Silvester had been appointed the Chair and Councillor Woodward the Deputy Chair of the Communities Scrutiny Panel for the ensuing Municipal Year.

### **SPC.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence for this meeting were received from Councillor Pettigrew.

### **SPC.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in respect of any item on the agenda for this meeting.

### **SPC.4 MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Panel held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

### **SPC.5 QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public for this meeting.

### **SPC.6 FORWARD PLAN**

The panel received the current forward plan and identified any items for examination by this panel via the pre-decision call-in procedure.

RESOLVED – That the forward plan be noted.

### **SPC.7 TRACKING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCRUTINY**

The panel received a report from the Assistant Chief Executive tracking the recommendations of the Communities Scrutiny Panel.

RESOLVED – That the tracking report be noted.

### **SPC.8 REVIEW OF MOTORCYCLE NUISANCE IN PARKS AND OPEN SPACES ACROSS NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE**

The panel received a report referred by the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport regarding a review of motorcycle nuisance prevention borough wide following receipt of a petition requesting the installation of an anti-theft motorcycle gate in People's Park, Grimsby . There were several actions included in the report which the panel were asked to note.

Members queried how long the pilot would be in the wards referred to in the report. Councillor Swinburn confirmed that the agreement was for the signage pilot project to last until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This would give enough time to evaluate the project effectively, taking into account any legal appeals regarding seizure of motorcycles under this new and never used before legislation. This was a new national pilot project for the police and the local authority.

The timescales for the project to be rolled out across the whole borough were queried by members because it stated in the report that it would be a borough wide operation in the future. Mr Caswell explained that the evaluation would need to consider resilience and capacity of the police to

deliver on this pledge across the borough, but also the financial implications on the partnership. Once the project had been evaluated then officers would look at the possibility of this being borough wide or just in areas of high demand.

A concern was raised by members about the resources it would take to deliver the pilot as they felt the police resources were limited. Mr Caswell reassured members that there were dedicated patrols authorised by Chief Inspector Paul French, that would be working in areas with high levels of anti-social behaviour and would not be taken away for the normal service. He confirmed that there was joint working to look at capacity with resources only employed in the areas required and this would be monitored weekly.

Members queried why the East Marsh ward was not covered in the pilot scheme. Mr Caswell confirmed that the data showed that the area was not prevalent for motorcycle nuisance compared with other areas at present. However, the police powers could be used in another ward if needed.

Members highlighted that there was a need for communication on social media about the implications of motorcycle nuisance and, if caught, what the outcome would be, so there was a deterrent. Mr Caswell explained to the panel that there was a communication plan for the pilot project, which included press releases and a social media campaign.

The Chair requested that the panel received a progress update at the meeting in November 2021 and that a report was brought to the July 2022 meeting once the full evaluation was completed.

RESOLVED –

1. That the actions from the report be noted.
2. That an update on progress be received at the meeting of this panel in November 2021 with a full evaluation report of the signage project submitted to this panel in July 2022.

## **SPC.9 COVID-19: EMERGENCY DECISIONS**

The panel received a report from the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer providing an update on emergency decisions taken within the emergency governance framework in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Jones reassured the panel that the emergency decision framework would be monitored and remained in place if required at a future date.

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification.

RESOLVED – That the emergency decisions be noted.

## **SPC.10 PROVISIONAL OUTTURN REPORT**

The panel received a report a report from the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets providing key information and analysis of the Council's position and performance against its Finance and Commissioning Plan at the end of the 2020/21 financial year.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted

## **SPC.11 ENERGY CARBON ROAD MAP**

The panel received a briefing note from the Assistant Director Environment updating the panel on the Council's response to climate emergency declaration and the Council's ambition to reduce its carbon emission to net zero by 2050, potentially reducing the timeline for this to 2040, and the six priorities to achieve this. The panel heard how the Council could also enable and inspire our wider place for the area to become net zero by 2050, through our carbon road map.

Members queried what work would be carried out to encourage cycling across the borough. Ms Borgstrom referred to the local transport plan which included a cycle highway to encourage more people to cycle. She confirmed that when the final report went to Cabinet it would have actions and would go hand in hand with grant applications for highways that included cycling and set out the aspirations for the future.

Councillor Swinburn updated the panel on the new electric vehicle charging points and other new schemes that officers were looking into. Members queried the timescales to see more charging points across the borough. Councillor Swinburn confirmed the scheme was in progress and the opportunities for funding were being explored at present.

Members felt that the council should review how it operated in terms of lighting and heating by setting a good example and promoting the energy saving ideas to the residents of North East Lincolnshire.

The panel welcomed the next steps in the carbon road map to ensure the council's priorities were supported to meet the deadline of 2050.

RESOLVED – That the briefing paper be noted.

**SPC.12 COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22**

The panel received a report from the Statutory Scrutiny Officer (Assistant Chief Executive) outlining the forward work programme of the Communities Scrutiny Panel for 2021/22.

Officers suggested that some of the items still to be considered could be joined together under one heading instead of being separate, which the panel welcomed.

RESOLVED – That this panel’s work programme be agreed.

**SPC.13 QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

There were no questions for the portfolio holder at this meeting.

**SPC.14 CALLING IN OF DECISIONS**

There were no formal requests from members of this panel to call in decisions of recent Cabinet and portfolio holder meetings.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.03 p.m.