

Executive Councillor Records of Decision and Community Services Scrutiny Committee Minutes

14 January 2010

1:30pm to 5:45pm

PRESENT:

Executive Councillors:

Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Cllr Blair, Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health

Cllr Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

Scrutiny Committee Members:

Councillors Al Bander, Benstead (*Lab. Arts and Recreation Spokesperson*),

Blencowe (*Lab. Housing Spokesperson*), Boyce, Kightley, Liddle (Chair)

McGovern, Walker (*Lab. Community Development and Health Spokesperson*)

Non-voting co-optees: Diane Best and Anna Vine-Lott (*Tenant/Leaseholder Representatives*)

10/CS/01 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 8 October 2009 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

10/CS/02 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Ellis-Miller and Sanders and Tenant Representative Brian Haywood.

10/CS/03 Declarations of Interest

The following personal interests were declared:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Blencowe	10/CS/13	Chair of YMCA Football Club
Blencowe	10/CS/09	On the Board of the Folk Museum
Boyce	10/CS/16	Member of the Folk Dance and Song Society which sponsored the Folk Festival
Boyce	10/CS/13 10/CS/15	Trustee of the Cambridge Sports Hall Trust
McGovern	10/CS/09	Trustee of the Arbury Community Centre
McGovern	10/CS/14	Member of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA)
Smith	10/CS/09	Works for Cambridge University

10/CS/04 Public Questions

Mr Richard Taylor asked the following question:

'I'd like to know why the Council doesn't proactively publish full details of inspection reports (in addition to the simplified star ratings). I'd like to find out what deal the Council has with the website - would they have to pay more to upload detailed documents or are they just not using functionality available to them? Without the detail, those looking at the results don't know if low scores are due to a cracked tile, a failure to follow the latest paperwork fad - or something more substantive.

When the Council required Domino's Pizza on Hills Road to close a few months ago why was the 'Scores on the Doors' website not updated to reflect the inspection(s) which clearly took place in relation to that incident? Why has the Council decided not to make historical information (which could show which establishments are improving) available?

Is there any prospect of Cambridge residents getting the kind of service provided to Norwich residents - where full details of inspections are now published routinely via the "scores on the doors" website?'

The Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy stated that to publish the full details, a major overhaul of the Council's internal database systems would have to take place. It would also be more expensive as it would take more officer and administration time to publish the full details.

Mr Richard Taylor restated that the Council should be proactively publishing the full details so that members of the public could see the full history of any inspections. He asked whether the Council had already paid for the full website subscription and if the only additional cost would therefore be officer time.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health confirmed that any member of the public was free to contact the Council and speak to the relevant officers or to put in a Freedom of Information request to get the full details of an inspection report.

It was agreed that Mr Taylor's second question would be taken prior to agenda item 14: Jesus Green – Update on Improvements.

10/CS/05 **2010/11 Service Plans; Revenue & Capital Budgets 2009/10 (Revised); 2010/11 and 2011/2012 (Forecast)** (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 5*)

Matter for decision: Service Performance Reviews set out the performance against objectives and targets for the first six months of 2009/10. The Service Plans for 2010/11 looked ahead at service proposals, objectives, targets and the budget position for 2010/11 and forecast for 2011/12. This information enabled the Executive Councillor to consider whether service priorities and resources should be refocused, to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met.

Appendix F of the officer's report set out the overall base revenue budget position for the Housing portfolio. The appendix compared the proposed revised budget to the current budget at September 2009 and detailed the proposed budget for 2010/11 and forecast for 2011/12.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

Performance Targets:

a) Agreed the service objectives and proposals for 2010/11 and future years for services contained within the Housing portfolio, as detailed in each service plan, and the performance indicators and targets as set out in Appendix 1 of each plan.

Review of Charges:

b) Approved the proposed charges for Housing services and facilities, as shown in Appendix B to the officer's report.

Revenue Budgets:

c) Approved, with any amendments, the current year funding requests and savings, (shown in Appendix A of the officer's report) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2009/10 (shown in Appendix F of the officer's report) for submission to the Executive.

d) Agreed proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C of the officer's report, which have been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

e) Approved the budget for 2010/11 as shown in Appendix F of the officer's report, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

f) Sought approval from the Executive to carry forward resources from 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix G of the officer's report, to fund rephased capital spending.

g) Approved the revised Capital Plan for 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix J of the officer's report, to be updated for any amendments detailed in (f) above.

Reason for the Decision: Service Plans and draft Budgets are key elements of the Councils budgetary and policy framework.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Principal Accountant introduced the report to Members and confirmed that the Housing Capital Investment Programme would be considered at a special meeting of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 10th February 2010. This would follow the Housing Management Board on 8th February 2010, which had been postponed as a direct result of a significant delay in the release of the Final Housing Revenue Account Subsidy Determination for 2010/11 by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The individual Service Plans were called and Members asked for comments or questions.

Housing General Fund Service Plan

A Member questioned why 'Raising awareness of Islam' and the 'Britishness Survey' (Objectives 4d and 4e) were included in the Community Safety Plan. In response the Head of Strategic Housing Services stated that, whilst these actions were funded in a number of different ways, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and Community Safety actions were captured in this Service Plan.

The Director of Community Services also confirmed that the Safer Communities Team were based in the Housing Team, and under Section 17 of the legislation Local Authorities have a duty to consider Community Safety through *all* of their policies and services.

In response to a question regarding the recent news of the removal of the Section 30 Dispersal Order from Mill Road, the Director of Community Services agreed to raise this issue with the Police and look into the reporting back mechanisms for these decisions. Members suggested that Area Committees could be more effectively used to keep members of the public updated.

At the request of Members, the Housing Options and Homeless Manager gave an update on the Jimmy's Night shelter Assessment Centre. The building phase was currently under way and should be completed by January 2012, with the decamping phase now being tendered for. This should be completed by the end of June 2010.

It was also confirmed that the funding had been approved by the Supporting People commission body and further discussions related to finance were on-going through the Council.

The Housing Options and Homeless Manager also stated that Domestic Violence Services were being looked at through the Service Plan to ensure that venerable groups were able to access the services.

Environmental Health Service Plan

A Member commented on the County Councils removal of funding for air quality monitoring stations and urged partnership working in order to tackle this issue.

In response to a request for further information on the proposed partnership working on alcohol related issues (objective 5b) the Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy gave a brief update on the following schemes:

- Safer Socialising Award Scheme
- Pub Watch
- Drugs and Alcohol Action Team
- CAMBAC

The Executive Councillor for Housing highlighted two upcoming seminars looking at the energy efficiency of private housing stock and urged Members to attend.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/06 Housing General Fund Grants to Voluntary Organisations for 2010/11 (Key Decision – Agenda Item 6)

Matter for decision: Review of the grants awarded by Community Services Scrutiny Committee from the Housing General Fund and make recommendations to grant fund the organisations during 2010/11.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

- Agreed, subject to the budget setting process and formal adoption by Council of the 2010/11 budget, the funding to the voluntary sector organisations as detailed in the officer's report.

Reason for the Decision: The grants make a significant contribution to the Council's Medium Term Objective to: *Maintain a healthy, safe and enjoyable city for all, with thriving and viable neighbourhoods.*

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Housing Options and Homeless Manager introduced the report to Members.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/07 **Working with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and other providers to develop new Affordable Housing** (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 7*)

Matter for decision: Review of how the Council worked with RSLs and other providers to develop new Affordable Housing. Under the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008, RSLs and other providers were able to register with the new Tenant Services Agency as 'Registered Providers' (RPs).

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

- Cancelled the current 'approved list' of Registered Providers (RPs)
- Approved the Charter proposed in the report to guide Registered Providers (RPs) on how to engage should they wish to receive the support of the Council to provide new Affordable Housing in Cambridge City.

Reason for the Decision: The way that the Council works with RSLs to develop new Affordable Housing was last reviewed in 2003 and there had been significant changes in the housing sector since that time to suggest that the 'approved list' approach had become less effective.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Head of Strategic Housing Services introduced the report to Members.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 8 votes to 0 (unanimous).

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/08 **2010/11 Service Plans; Revenue & Capital Budgets 2009/10 (Revised); 2010/11 and 2011/2012 (Forecast) (Key Decision – Agenda Item 8)**

Matter for decision: Service Performance set out the performance against objectives and targets for the first six months of 2009/10. The Service Plans for 2010/11 looked ahead at service proposals, objectives, targets and the budget position for 2010/11 and forecast for 2011/12. This information enabled the Executive Councillor to consider whether service priorities and resources should be refocused, to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met.

Appendix F of the officer's report set out the overall base revenue budget position for the Community Development & Health portfolio. The appendix compared the proposed revised budget to the current budget at September 2009 and detailed the proposed budget for 2010/11 and forecast for 2011/11.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health:

Performance Targets:

a) Agreed the service objectives and proposals for 2010/11 and future years for services contained within the Community Development & Health portfolio, as set out in each service plan, and the performance indicators and targets as set out in Appendix 1 of each plan.

Review of Charges:

c) Approved the proposed charges for Community Development & Health services and facilities, as shown in Appendix B of the officer's report.

Revenue Budgets:

d) Approved, with any amendments, the current year funding requests and savings, (shown in Appendix A of the officer's report) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2009/10 (shown in Appendix F of the officer's report) for submission to the Executive.

e) Agreed proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C of the officer's report, which had been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

f) Agreed proposals for revenue bids funded from existing or external funding, as set out in Appendix D of the officer's report, which were incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

g) Approved the budget for 2010/11 as shown in Appendix F of the officer's report, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

h) Sought approval from the Executive to carry forward resources from 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix G of the officer's report, to fund rephased capital spending.

i) Approved capital bids, as identified in Appendix H of the officer's report, for submission to the Executive for inclusion in the Capital Plan or addition to the Hold List, as indicated.

j) Confirmed that there were no items covered by this portfolio to add to the Council's Hold List, for submission to the Executive, as shown in Appendix I of the officer's report.

k) Noted the consolidation of the King George V Recreation Ground capital scheme reference paragraph 8.2 of the officer's report.

l) Approved the revised Capital Plan for 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix J of the officer's report, to be updated for any amendments detailed in (h), (i), (j) and (k) above.

Reason for the Decision: Service Plans and draft Budgets were a key elements of the Councils budgetary and policy framework.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Principal Accountant introduced the report to Members and confirmed that the fees and charges for the Bereavement Services Memorials Project would be agreed with the Director of Community Services under delegated powers, as set out in the Council's Constitution.

Opposition Members questioned the Executive Councillors decision to achieve savings that were considerably more than the original savings target, and asked for some further information regarding the CHYYPS and the grants budgets.

The Executive Councillor stated that the Council, as a whole and over the next three years, needed to find considerably more savings than those simply highlighted in Service Plans. The opportunity had therefore been taken to restructure the services within the Community Development and Health portfolio, and this had resulted higher savings being achieved. It was emphasised that the restructuring would result in a slightly more targeted, but no less effective, service.

It was confirmed that the savings would equate to:

- 10% of the CHYYPS budget
- 15% of the Economic Grants budget
- 5% of the overall Grants and Community Development budgets

The Executive Councillor confirmed that these decisions had been taken after extensive discussion with officers, and local organisations had been given notice of the proposed changes to the grants budget. Full consultation with the CHYYPS team would obviously take place in due course.

It was hoped that decisions around children and young people and community development could also be devolved down to a local level to give the public more of an input into service provision.

Opposition Members felt that more consultation was needed with users as these cuts represented a major 'reshaping' of services, which would have a big impact on provision.

In response to a request for further information on the implications, the Head of Community Development confirmed that the reductions in the CHYPPS budget would be achieved by stopping some services and or seeking alternative funding for them, an example being the Youth Employment and Training Project; by reshaping some services such as the Scrapstore and the Summerdaze programme and by restructuring the management of the service. 'The Head of Community Development commented that with all local authorities experiencing budget cuts the need for more partnership working was also emphasised. The City and the County Council had jointly commissioned research into 'Children Living in Deprivation and at Risk of Alienation' which would help to identify how resources and services should be targeted in the future.

In response to a request for further information on the cuts to the Green Fingers Scheme, the Head of Street Scene confirmed that some posts had been restructured and initiatives such as utilising the 'Community Payback' scheme would also enable less use of summer agency staff. A service review was also underway which would look at current good practice and result in a clearer criteria and a more targeted service.

The individual Service Plans were called and Members asked for comments or questions.

Bereavement Services Service Plan

In response to a question regarding the meaning of 'memorial safety inspections', the Head of Technical Services confirmed that this was to ensure that headstones were safe and secure. It was noted that the Council were taking a very measured approach to this.

Community Development Service Plan

In response to a question regarding provision for older people, the Head of Community Development gave the example of the 'virtual hub' that had been set up by the Cambridgeshire Celebrates Age initiative. This is a partnership project that provides a very diverse programme of activities for older people during one month each year but which has stimulated many other activities at other times. This project had started with a very modest grant and blossomed into a well-respected countywide service that benefited many.

Environmental Health Service Plan

In response to a question regarding the progress of the Health Promotions post, the Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy confirmed that an appointment had not been made. The position had gone out to advert on two occasions and three suitable applicants had been offered but failed to take up

the post. A meeting with the Primary Care Trust had been planned to discuss the way forward on this issue.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/09 **Financial support to voluntary and not-for-profit organisations 2010/11: Community Development** (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 9*)

Matter for decision: Approval of community development funding for voluntary and not for profit organisations for 2010/11 and recommendations for future funding.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health:

- Agreed the recommendations for Community Development grants to voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in 2010/11 as set out in Appendix 1 of the officer's report, subject to confirmation of the Council's 2010/11 budget in February 2010 and, in some cases, to the provision of further information from applicants.
- Agreed to pilot the implementation of three-year funding agreements from 2010/11.

Reason for the Decision: 2010/11 funding priorities were based on the City Council's Medium Term Objective to maintain a healthy, safe and enjoyable city for all, with thriving and viable neighbourhoods.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Community Development Operations Manager introduced the report to Members.

In response to a question regarding the grant offered to Centre 33 it was stated that this budget was under the most pressure. A lower contribution had been offered as the Council were sufficiently convinced that Centre 33 were still in a financial position to be able to progress the service even with a lower grant.

It was confirmed that the Cambridge Forum for Disabled People had been offered a lower grant as they had not fully utilised last years funding figure – meaning that this years figure was actually an increase on 2009/10.

Members suggested that for next years report an extra column could be added to show the % of grant utilised from the previous year. The Community Development Operations Manager agreed to implement this for next year.

Members asked whether the size of the community had an influence on the funding offered, and the Head of Community Development confirmed that this was just one of many factors considered.

The Community Development Operations Manager then informed Members that the following two additional bids had been received and would be progressed with the Executive Councillor outside of this meeting:

- Romsey Mill: Youth Work
- Cambridge CVS: Library Project

It was agreed that the outcome of these bids be circulated via email to Members.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

**10/CS/10 Allocation of Economic Policy funding to organisations
2010-2011 (Key Decision – Agenda Item 10)**

Matter for decision: Approval of applications from the Economic Policy Grants budget for 2010/2011 and recommendations for future funding.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health:

- Agreed funding to voluntary organisations as set out in appendix A of the officer's report.
- Noted the situation with 209 Radio and the steps being taken as a result.

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the officer's report.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Senior Economic Policy Officer introduced the report to Members.

A Member commented that it was unfortunate that the 'Cambridge Women's Resource Centre' had had their award reduced. They did important work with hard to reach groups and had strengthened their group over the last two years.

The Senior Economic Policy Officer stated that as organisations became more established they were in a better position to continue with a lower level of external funding.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/11 **2010/11 Service Plans; Revenue & Capital Budgets 2009/10 (Revised); 2010/11 and 2011/2012 (Forecast)** (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 11*)

Matter for decision: Service Performance Reviews set out the performance against objectives and targets for the first six months of 2009/10. The Service Plans for 2010/11 looked ahead at service proposals, objectives, targets and the budget position for 2010/11 and forecast for 2011/12. This information enabled the Executive Councillor to consider whether service priorities and resources should be refocused, to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met.

Appendix F of the officer's report set out the overall base revenue budget position for the Arts & Recreation portfolio. The appendix compared the proposed revised budget to the current budget at September 2009 and detailed the proposed budget for 2010/11 and forecast for 2011/12.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

Performance Targets:

a) Agreed the service objectives and proposals for 2010/11 and future years for services contained within the Arts & Recreation portfolio, as set out in each service plan, and the performance indicators and targets as set out in Appendix 1 of each plan.

Review of Charges:

b) Approved the proposed charges for Arts & Recreation services and facilities, as shown in Appendix B of the officer's report.

Revenue Budgets:

c) Approved, with any amendments, the current year funding requests and savings, (shown in Appendix A of the officer's report) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2009/10 (shown in Appendix F of the officer's report) for submission to the Executive.

c) Agreed proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C of the officer's report, which had been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

d) Agreed proposals for revenue bids funded from existing or external funding, as set out in Appendix D of the officer's report, which were incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

e) Approved the budget for 2010/11 as shown in Appendix F of the officer's report, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

f) Sought approval from the Executive to carry forward resources from 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix G of the officer's report, to fund rephased capital spending.

g) Confirmed that there were no items covered by this portfolio to add to the Council's Hold List, for submission to the Executive, as shown in Appendix I of the officer's report.

h) Added the following previously approved items to the Capital Plan:

1: Sheep's Green Canoe Clubhouse Extension

2: Floodlit AstroTurf at Chesterton Community College and Netherhall School

i) Approved the revised Capital Plan for 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix J of the officer's report, to be updated for any amendments detailed in (g) and (h) above.

Reason for the Decision: Service Plans and draft Budgets were key elements of the Council's budgetary and policy framework.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Principal Accountant introduced the report to Members.

The individual Service Plans were called and Members asked for comments or questions.

Active Communities Service Plan

In response to a question regarding the growth agenda and open space provision, the Director of Community Services confirmed that despite the downturn, managing growth and the input of both Active Communities and Arts and Entertainment was high on the Council's agenda. Emphasis was being put on the integration of activities between old and new communities, and targets

were in place to help achieve this. A lot of work had also been done with existing communities and their residents to gain their views.

Arts and Entertainment Service Plan

In response to a question regarding the Corn Exchange, the Interim Head of Arts and Entertainment confirmed that the recommendations from the Corn Exchange Review would need to be turned into a full Action Plan.

The Assistant Head of Arts and Entertainment confirmed that the current economic environment had resulted in some conferences at the venue being cancelled or downsized, and this was the reason it was included in the report as a 'strategic risk factor'. It was however noted that last years income had been the highest received to date. In response to a question regarding the loss of a technical post it was confirmed that a member of staff had left and, due to fewer events, it was decided not to reappoint.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/12 **Cambridge Parks 2010-2014** (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 12*)

Matter for decision: Approval of a strategic approach to the management of green space assets for the period 2010 to 2014.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- Approved the Cambridge Parks - Managing the City's Asset 2010-2014 strategy
- Instructed the Head of Active Communities to liaise with stakeholders to complete detail around targets and outcomes in relation to the action plan by March 2010.

Reason for the Decision: The Strategy highlighted the value and role of those green spaces managed by the Council in contributing to corporate Medium Term Objectives and the guiding principles of the Cultural Framework.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Senior Horticultural Officer introduced the report to Members and, in response to a question, stated that Environment and Planning were conducting a wider assessment of open space within the City and this would also need input from Property Services.

In response to a Members question regarding improving safety, the Senior Horticultural Officer confirmed that they would be looking at 'fear and the perception of fear' in open spaces, and would be working with Ward Councillors and the public on this issue.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 8 votes to 0 (unanimous).

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/13 Financial support to voluntary and not-for-profit organisations 2010/11: Leisure (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 13*)

Matter for decision: Approval of leisure funding for voluntary and not for profit organisations for 2010/11 and recommendations for future funding.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- Agreed the amended recommendations (to include the full £2000 allocation to the Cambridge Cats Basketball Club) for Leisure grants to voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in 2010/11 as set out in Appendix 1 of the officer's report, subject to confirmation of the Council's 2010/11 budget in February 2010 and, in some cases, to the provision of further information from applicants.
- Agreed to pilot the implementation of three-year funding agreements from 2010/11.

Reason for the Decision: 2010/11 funding priorities were based on the City Council's Medium Term Objective to maintain a healthy, safe and enjoyable city for all, with thriving and viable neighbourhoods

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Community Development Operations Manager introduced the report to Members. In response to a question regarding funding for 'Arts and Mind', it was confirmed that a higher amount had not been offered as the group already had funding for staff and other bids in place.

In response to a Members question regarding the Junction, the Community Development Operations Manager stated that a full Service Level Agreement was now in place and progress would be monitored through this.

Councillor Walker gave her support to the full bid being granted for the Cambridge Cats Basketball Club.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Walker and seconded by Councillor McGovern to allocate the group a total of £2000, so that the 'girls turn up and play and women's taster sessions' could be funded.

RESOLVED: On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 7 votes to 0.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the amended recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

Public Question:

Mr Richard Taylor questioned why the consultation on the improvements to Jesus Green had not been taken through the Area Committees. He felt the consultation targeted specific groups such as the skateboarders and users of the play areas, which had resulted in very limited views being obtained. He also asked for an update on the proposed multi use games area (MUGA), high wire play area, temporary play equipment, play equipment for the disabled and the tennis courts.

He questioned the decision to cancel the Tree Strategy meeting because of a single member of staff being unable to attend, and asked why EDF and paths were not included in the Jesus Green update.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation confirmed that the full Jesus Green consultation had been made available to the general public through the Council's website.

The use of temporary play equipment would not be possible over the summer months as the surface was not adequate, play equipment for the disabled would need planning permission and therefore further consultation and the MUGA and the hire wire were not being viewed as a priority at this stage. Tennis courts would be covered in further consultation and, as paths were a County Council function, discussions were ongoing.

The Executive Councillor confirmed that the decision had already been made on EDF and the application had been turned down. It was also noted that, as the Tree Strategy meeting had not been able to take place, no works had been undertaken.

10/CS/14 **Jesus Green – Update on Improvements to Jesus Green (2)**
(Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 14)

Matter for decision: To agree proposals and timescales for future improvements to Jesus Green.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- Agreed the proposals and timescales as set out in the officer's report.
- Instructed officers to proceed with work to undertake improvement work to the Victoria Avenue vehicular entrance.
- Instructed officers to proceed with improvements to the skateboard facilities in line with planning procedures and recent consultation outcomes.
- Instructed officers to proceed with consultation on the type of future tennis provision on Jesus Green.
- Instructed officers to prepare a report for March 2010 that outlined recommendations for future play provision.

Reason for the Decision: Following the unsuccessful Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) 'Parks for People' submission, the Executive Councillor instructed officers to continue consultation with a broad range of to progress proposals and priorities for future improvements to Jesus Green.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Head of Active Communities introduced the report and in response to a Members comment, agreed to include Cambridgeshire Older People's Enterprise (COPE) in future consultations. Members were also asked to forward contact details of other older people's organisations for future consultations.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 8 votes to 0 (unanimous).

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/15 Updated Open Space and Recreation S106 Programme
(Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 15)

Matter for decision: To approve items for inclusion into the Open Space and Recreation S106 programme:

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- Approved the following items for West/Central, East, North, South and Citywide Areas for inclusion into the Open Space and Recreation S106 programme:

WEST CENTRAL AREA

Paddling pool improvements to Lammas Land
BMX bike play facility at Lammas Land
New Shelter at Lammas Land / Park infrastructure improvement
Kiosk Area Improvements at Lammas Land
Improvements to river access at Lammas Land
New benches on Lammas Land

EAST AREA

Coleridge Recreation Ground: skateboarding and BMX provision for children and young people
Play equipment which children hang and swing along on at Coleridge Recreation Ground
Paddling pool improvements at Coleridge Recreation Ground, including Improvements to area around/next to paddling pool and stepping stones replaced with non-slip stepping stones that are positioned closer together
Landscape improvements to Coleridge Recreation Ground
Coldhams Land play area - Improve disabled access & play provision
Velos Walk - redefine play area footprint
BMX and improved play provision for older children at Coldhams Lane
Barnwell Recreation Ground - Improved access, accessibility & landscape improvements
Tree planting along river & landscaping at Stourbridge Common
Channel restoration and pond creation at Stourbridge Common
Norman Cement Pits: investigate access and LNR designation

NORTH AREA

Dedicated Disability/Special Needs Play - Chesterton Area.
Woodhead Drive - Improved disabled access and refurbishment
Cameron Road Play area refurbishments
Improved recreation provision for young people at Nuns Way
Chestnut Grove Play area improvements
More/better seating around pavilion and in play area at Nuns Way
Better lighting at Nuns Way

SOUTH AREA

Contribution to future provision of all weather floodlit pitch at Long Road Sixth Form College - Support project with funding
Contribution to future improvements to indoor sports provision at Long Road Sixth Form College - Support project with funding
Cricket Wicket in Cherry Hinton
Cherry Hinton Village Centre: Improvements installing raised beds, seating, covered area with removable sail canopies.
New Tennis Court at Cherry Hinton
Limekiln Hill enhancements. Work with Netherhall School to establish a chalk grassland wildlife conservation area adjacent to Cherry Hinton Chalk pits.
Nine Wells LNR extension
Additional tree planting / spring bulbs Cherry Hinton
Enhance provision of sport in Cherry Hinton
Lake/Pond restoration area in Cherry Hinton
Manage/enhance existing woodland/pond/watercourses - Cherry Hinton

CITYWIDE Projects approved by all Area Committees.

Kelsey Kerridge Refurbish Climbing Wall & build new bouldering wall
Jesus Green Path Works / to main London Plane Ave
Christ Pieces - creation of winter garden along Pikes Walk
Floodlit all weather pitch at the University Sports Complex at Wilberforce Road/ access for public
Nest boxes scheme / Identify suitable council owned buildings for boxes
Bee Friendly Areas
Demonstration Wildlife Garden / to show people how to plant one.

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the officer's report.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Recreation and Facilities Officer introduced the report and informed Members that details of the 'Improve Your Neighbourhood (IYN)' programme were available to the public through local libraries and community facilities and in the Cambridge Matters magazine. He did however agree to look at further ways to engage with older people.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): Non

10/CS/16 Report on 2010 Folk Festival ticket structure and allocations
(*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 16*)

Matter for decision: Ticketing arrangements for the 2010 Folk Festival.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- Agree changes to ticketing arrangements as discussed at the cross-party members working group meeting of 19 October 2009 that were as follows:
 - i) Merging of the two disability concession categories.
 - ii) Withdrawing the staff guest ticket concession.
 - iii) Limiting Director pass entitlement to the Director of Community Services given their line management responsibility for the event and allowing the Executive Councillor, Chair, Spokes, Mayor and ward councillors access to the festival for those times when they are needed in order to carry out their duties, e.g. to visit the site, talk to officers, constituents or open the event. This would not entitle them to stay for the duration of the festival.
 - iv) Placing 80% of tickets online after residents' tickets were made available.
 - v) Bringing the on sale date forward if possible in 2010 and agreeing to a longer term plan of bringing the on sale date further forward.
 - vi) Considering the site layout and crowd dynamics for the 2010 festival and report back to Community Services committee in Autumn 2010 with findings and recommendations if any additional changes were proposed for future years.
- Agree that resident's discount be retained (the weekend and Friday concession) and that 1700 full festival tickets be made available to Cambridge residents one week before a national on sale date.
- Agreed that the 14/15 year olds category be withdrawn and become part of a 5-15 year old priced ticket.
- Agreed that the entitlement to a concessionary resident ticket (£77 in 2009) to those on income support, job seekers allowance, working tax credit, council tax benefit or housing benefit be merged with the disability ticket – to then be consistent with the categories for Leisure Card A.

- Agreed that the nine weekend type tickets become five:

<p>2009 – Weekend tickets</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full 2. Resident 3. 14/15 4. 14/15 resident 5. 5-13 years 6. 0-4 years 7. Disability 8. Disability & concessionary resident 9. Staff guest <p>Day tickets</p> <p>Thursday (Cambridge Residents) Friday Friday Residents Saturday Sunday</p>	<p>Proposed for 2010 – weekend</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full 2. Resident 3. 5-15 years 4. 0-4 years 5. Disability/concessionary resident ticket <p>Day tickets</p> <p>Thursday (Cambridge Residents) Friday Friday Residents Saturday Sunday</p>
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Reason for the Decision: The ticketing structure of the Festival was complex and confusing to staff and customers. The complexity had led to an increased risk of ticket agents not being able to meet the requirements of the Council. The mitigation to this risk was to substantially simplify ticketing structures

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations:

The Assistant Head of Arts and Entertainment introduced the report to Members.

The Director of Community Services confirmed that the suggested changes would bring the Folk Festival ticketing structure in line with other events that the Council managed.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Benstead to merge the disability ticket with a concessionary residents ticket, that would then be consistent with the categories for the Leisure Card A.

RESOLVED: On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 8 votes to 0 (unanimous)

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the amended recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations.

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

10/CS/17 **Information Item: Appointment of Interim Head of Arts and Entertainment** (*Agenda Item 17*)

Matter for decision: N/A

This information report informed members of the Scrutiny Committee of the justification and process for the appointment of an interim Head of Arts and Entertainment. The approval to appoint an interim Head of Arts and Entertainments was provided by the Chief Executive, under the City Council's constitution, paragraph 33, part 3, relating to discharge of Council functions. The report also provided the justification for the appointment of an interim using recruitment agencies specialising in providing senior interim managers, which required a waiver of the contract procurement rules.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation: N/A

Reason for the Decision: N/A

Any alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: N/A

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None