



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK: Glenna Frost, The Town Hall, Clarence Road
Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 1LD
Telephone: 01243 867744
E-mail - bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

I hereby give you Notice that a Meeting of the Community Engagement and Environment Committee of the Bognor Regis Town Council will be held at The Town Hall, Clarence Road, Bognor Regis at 6.30pm on MONDAY 25th MARCH 2019

All Members of the Committee are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the Business to be transacted, as set out hereunder. An opportunity will be afforded to Members of the Public to put Questions or make Statements to the Committee during an adjournment shortly after the meeting has commenced. (NOTE: Members of the public will be asked to provide their names and addresses and are encouraged to submit questions/statements in advance, in writing. Priority will be given to written submissions. Questions/statements should be restricted to the functions of this Committee.)

Refreshments will be available and any donations to the Mayor's Charity will be gratefully received.

DATED this 19th MARCH 2019

TOWN CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

THE AGENDA and BUSINESS to be TRANSACTED is:

1. **Chairman's Announcement and Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest:**

Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and/or Ordinary Interests that they may have in relation to items on this agenda and are reminded that they should re-declare their Interest before consideration of the item or as soon as the Interest becomes apparent and if not previously included on their Register of Interests to notify the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

Members and Officers should make their declaration by stating:

 - a) the item they have the Interest in
 - b) whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary or Ordinary Interest
 - c) the nature of the Interest
 - d) if it is an Ordinary Interest whether they intend to leave the room for the discussion and vote
 - e) if it is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, and therefore must leave the room for the discussion and vote, whether they will be exercising their right to speak on this matter under Public Question Time

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st January 2019
4. To receive a presentation from the West Sussex County Council's Community Partnership and Communities Team Officer on the Spacehive Crowdfunding initiative and how it works
5. ADJOURNMENT for Public Question Time and Statements extended to a maximum of 60 minutes in accordance with Standing Orders (S.O. 31.8)
6. **Clerk's report from** previous minutes
7. Consideration of the notes from the Public Question and Statements time of the Meeting held on the 21st January 2019 - Min. 85 refers
8. Consideration of West Sussex County Councils Spacehive Crowdfunding initiative and how Members would like to support this
9. To Ratify the £25.00 voucher for the Mayor's Citizen Award for Young People
10. Report on Councillor Surgeries and Open Forums including update on drop-in surgery held 21st February 2019
11. Youth Services Provision Review and to receive the notes of the Youth Worker Steering Group Meeting held on 5th March 2019 and report on the IPEH Task and Finish Group Meeting held on 15th March 2019
12. To note and determine any applications received for the Flexible Community Fund
13. Update on meeting of the Community Space Audit Task and Finish Group (Min 86.1 refers) and to receive the notes of the meeting held on 26th February 2019
14. Update on the proposal from a member of public to produce a homeless street sheet for the Bognor Regis area - Min. 87 refers
15. Further consideration of the proposal to tackle beach litter including production of posters funded from the Marine North Ward 2018/19 Ward Allocation - Min. 93 refers
16. To receive an update on Beach Access Topic Team and to receive the notes of the meeting held on 21st March 2019
17. Ward Allocation Environmental Projects Budget including update on any expenditure and remaining budget for 2018/19 and to note an overspend of £131.00 from Marine Ward
18. Bognor Regis In Bloom Working Group - Consideration of the Resolutions Recommendations and Reports in the Notes of the Meeting held on 12th March 2019
19. Consideration of the referral from the Planning and Licensing Committee at their meeting on the 29th January 2019 - Min. 189 refers, on the viability of reforming the Old Town Working Group and to note the comments from the BID Company in relation to this
20. Report on meeting held 18th March 2019 regarding the current situation relating to rough sleepers in the Town Centre
21. Consideration of Locality Membership Renewal for 2019/20
22. Reports:
 - a. To note Financial Reports, previously circulated
 - b. Any further reports
23. Correspondence

THERE IS A LIFT AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN HALL FOR ACCESS TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBER IF REQUIRED



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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 21st JANUARY 2019

PRESENT: Cllr. S. Goodheart (Vice-Chairman): Cllrs: J. Cosgrove,
Mrs. S. Daniells, P Dillon (until Min. 95) and
Mrs. J. Warr

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. S. Hodgson (Projects Officer)
3 Councillors in the public gallery: Cllrs: J. Brooks,
M. Stanley and P. Woodall
7 members of the public

The Meeting opened at 6.33pm

82. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Goodheart took the Chair. Members AGREED that Cllr. Mrs. Warr would act as Vice-Chairman for the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed those present and read the Council's opening statement. Apologies had been received from Cllr. Smith who was working. In line with the report given at the November Town Council Meeting, Cllr. Enticott was also absent.

83. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Members and Officers were reminded to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and/or Ordinary Interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda

- a) the item they have an Interest in
- b) whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary or Ordinary Interest
- c) the nature of the Interest
- d) if it is an Ordinary Interest whether they intend to leave the room for the discussion and vote
- e) if it is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, and therefore must leave the room for the discussion and vote, whether they will be exercising their right to speak on this matter under Public Question Time

They then need to re-declare their Interest and the nature of the Interest at the commencement of the item or when the Interest becomes apparent. They should request that it be recorded in the Minutes that they will leave the meeting and will neither take part in discussion, nor vote on the item.

In accordance with good practice, individual forms were available to those Councillors present in order that they could personally record their Interests - both Disclosable Pecuniary and Ordinary. These forms should be returned to the Committee Clerk at the end of the meeting to enable all declarations of Interest to be accurately recorded in the Minutes. Members were reminded that it is their responsibility to notify the Monitoring Officer of all Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Ordinary Interests notifiable under the Council's Code of Conduct, not already recorded on their Register of Interests Form, within 28 days.

The Chairman reminded Members to declare their Interests as any arise or again at the relative point in the meeting if they have already.

There were no declarations of Interest

84. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 12th NOVEMBER 2018

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th November 2018 were approved by the Committee as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

85. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND STATEMENTS EXTENDED TO A MAXIMUM OF 60 MINUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDERS (S.O. 31.8)

The Projects Officer read out the following statement:

During this time members of the public will be allowed to direct questions to the Committee or comment on any appropriate topic. Please note, during this session Councillors will not be able to make any decisions on any of the topics discussed and no Minutes will be documented. However, brief notes will be taken and any item that the Committee would like to debate or requires a decision will be made an agenda item for the following Community Engagement and Environment Meeting.

The Chairman adjourned the Meeting at 6.40pm

The following items were raised:

A member of the public spoke about an issue regarding planning applications with particular reference to an application for Victoria Drive. It was felt that the Planning Notices had not been properly displayed and that residents in the area were unaware of the application in time to lodge an objection. It was also felt the cycle of the Town Council's Planning and Licensing Committee Meetings also present the same problem.

Members asked for this issue to be referred to the Planning and Licensing Committee for further consideration.

A member of the public spoke in reference to the Town Council's questionnaire regarding the Linear Park and asked if a separate online

questionnaire could be sent to neighbouring parishes for a wider opinion. It was also asked what weight, if any, the questionnaire will hold.

The Committee was asked if there was anything in place for parishes to work together.

A Councillor in the public gallery spoke on Agenda item 15 and whilst the demolition notice for the property of 2-4 Waterloo Square had been served, he hoped Councillors would support putting that right by ensuring the architecture of any new property was in keeping with the original building.

A member of the public spoke on Agenda item 6 and his proposal to produce a street sheet for the Bognor Regis area. A Councillor in the public gallery also commented that WSCC had taken a huge amount of support and resources out of homeless services, and therefore anything that the Town Council could do would be useful and important.

The Chairman reconvened the Meeting at 7.23pm

86. CLERK'S REPORT FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

86.1 Min. 68 - 12th November 2018 - Audit of Community Spaces as referred from Council Meeting held 3rd September 2018

Unfortunately, no Members had attended the Task and Finish Group Meeting arranged for the 12th December at which the information gathered from the meeting on the 15th November was to be collated, with Members also to determine how it should be used. As a result of this it had not been possible to report the findings to Full Council in January. Members asked for another meeting to be arranged.

86.2 Min. 72 - 12th November 2018 - Further Consideration of Proposal by Cllr. Enticott regarding the Government's announcement to withdraw housing support countrywide

Previously, Members had agreed to hold an Extraordinary Meeting and therefore this had been provisionally booked for Tuesday 27th November 2018. Members were informed that as this was an Extraordinary Meeting and in the absence of the Chairman, as per Standing Orders, it would require 3 other Committee Members to sign the Agenda. Unfortunately, there had been no response from any Committee Members, which meant the Agenda could not be published and subsequently the meeting could not go ahead. The deadline to respond to WSCC had therefore been missed and no further action could now be taken.

86.3 Min. 74.1 - 12th November 2018 - For the Council to support a permanent ice rink with the inclusion of a multi-purpose community hall

Members referred this item to Full Council and at the meeting of 7th January 2019, Members referred it to the Events, Promotions and Leisure Committee for further consideration.

86.4 Min. 80 - 12th November 2018 - Reports

Members had previously agreed that Officers would attend the meeting on the Southern Water Bathing Enhancement Programme which was held on 21st November 2018 and it was noted that copies of the presentation and the Minutes would be available from the office.

87. CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL FROM A MEMBER OF PUBLIC TO PRODUCE A HOMELESS STREET SHEET FOR THE BOGNOR REGIS AREA

The Projects Officer's report was noted.

After discussion, Members AGREED to produce a Street Sheet leaflet for the Bognor Regis Area that would include information for all vulnerable groups.

Members further AGREED to support some Officer time to help with the co-ordination and production of the leaflet. It was also suggested that the member of the public who proposed the idea be encouraged to apply for funding from the Town Council's Flexible Community Fund.

88. REPORT ON COUNCILLOR SURGERIES AND OPEN FORUMS INCLUDING UPDATE ON DROP-IN SURGERY 11th DECEMBER 2018

The Projects Officer's report was noted.

A spreadsheet giving a breakdown of discussion topics from the Surgeries for 2018 was circulated. All Members agreed that the Drop-in Surgeries had been a success and a worthwhile exercise to continue. A final Drop-in Surgery for this Administration will be held in February. It was also suggested that during this Surgery the opportunity be taken to ask members of the public for their feedback on what direction they would like to see the new Administration take going forward, which Members AGREED. The Projects Officer will make arrangements for an event to be held in February and respectfully reminded Councillors that the Surgery would not be a platform for canvassing for the forthcoming elections in May.

89. BOGNOR REGIS IN BLOOM WORKING GROUP - CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS IN THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th JANUARY 2019

The Committee RESOLVED to ACCEPT the Resolutions, Recommendations and Reports in the Notes of the Meeting held on 9th January 2019.

The Chairman asked if a permanent piece of land could be found solely for the use of the Guides or Brownies. The In Bloom Working Group will be asked to consider this proposal at their next meeting.

90. YOUTH SERVICES PROVISION REVIEW INCLUDING REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER ON A MEETING HELD BY SUSSEX CLUBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ON 11th DECEMBER 2018 AND A TERM REPORT ON CREATE FROM THE YOUTH WORKER

The Projects Officer's report and the Youth Worker's term report were noted.

Cllr. Cosgrove asked for it to be noted that he was very disappointed that the Youth Worker had not responded to his requests to get in touch with him or acknowledge his offer of help.

91. TO NOTE AND DETERMINE ANY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE FLEXIBLE COMMUNITY FUND

Following discussion Members AGREED to APPROVE the application from the Bognor Regis Bike Community C.I.C. for £660.00.

92. CONSIDERATION OF THE NOTES FROM THE PUBLIC QUESTION AND STATEMENTS TIME OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 12th NOVEMBER 2018 - MIN. 67 REFERS

There were no further items on the list, that were not already an Agenda item, that Members wished to discuss further.

93. FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSAL TO TACKLE BEACH LITTER - MIN. 75 REFERS

The Projects Officer's report was noted.

Following discussion, it was AGREED that Members would approach the Councillor for Marine North Ward to see if he would be willing to allow the un-utilised Ward Allocation budget to be allocated to this project. As there are now insufficient funds for a re-design, costing for the production of posters based on the original design will be investigated and reported back to the next meeting.

94. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BEACH ACCESS TOPIC TEAM - MIN. 76 REFERS

The Projects Officer's report was noted, and Members were advised that the next meeting of the Beach Access Topic Team had been scheduled for the 30th January 2019 by which time it was hoped a response from ADC regarding exposing one of the ramps will have been received.

Cllr. Dillon left the Meeting

95. WARD ALLOCATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS BUDGET INCLUDING UPDATE ON ANY EXPENDITURE AND REMAINING BUDGET FOR 2018/19 AND THE VICTORIA ROAD CAR PARK PROJECT

Members AGREED to RATIFY the sum of £375.00 to be donated to Radio Respect from the Marine Ward 2018/19 Ward Allocation budget.

The Projects Officer gave an update on the Victoria Road Car Park project and reminded Members that it would be pertinent to try and complete this project before the new Administration is appointed in May.

Members were shown an example of a design to be displayed in the area. It was AGREED to remove the wording "Shoppers Car Park" and produce the sign following approval from West Sussex County Council. Members further AGREED the associated costs of £262.00 for the sign and estimated installation costs of £50.00.

96. CONSIDERATION OF THE MOTION PROPOSED BY CLLR. COSGROVE, REFERRED FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th JANUARY 2019 REGARDING ADC OWNED PROPERTIES. ALSO, CE&E MIN. 79 REFERS

The Projects Officer's report was noted including the response received from ADC to the Town Council's initial letter in which they requested that any specific questions that Members may have in relation to ADC owned assets are provided to them in writing to enable a response to be provided.

Cllr. Cosgrove spoke on his proposal and following a lengthy debate Members AGREED to RECOMMEND to Council that Arun District Council be asked to initiate an independent inquiry into this matter.

97. CONSIDERATION OF THE MOTION PROPOSED BY CLLR. COSGROVE, REFERRED FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th JANUARY 2019 REGARDING THE PHOENIX CENTRE

The Projects Officer's report was noted.

Cllr. Cosgrove spoke on his Motion as referred from the Council Meeting as follows:

This Council calls on West Sussex Education Authority, and the Regis School to work together to enable the Phoenix Centre to be accessed as originally conceived and publicly funded by all local young people and not just a limited number as at present and pledges this Council's help in achieving this goal

Following debate, Cllr. Cosgrove moved to amend his final Motion as follows:

That this Council wish to explore the possibility of working with WSCC and the Regis School to enable the Phoenix Centre to be accessed, as originally conceived and publicly funded, by all local young people and not just a limited number as at present and pledges the Council's help in achieving this goal

After further discussion Members AGREED that the amended Motion, as seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Warr, be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee with the RECOMMENDATION to implement a policy reflecting the proposal. Members also asked the Projects Officer to collate as much information as possible regarding the current use of the Phoenix Centre to assist with the formation of the policy.

98. Members RESOLVED to vary the order of business and take Agenda items 19 and 20 at this point.

99. REPORTS:

a. To note financial reports, previously circulated

The reports were noted.

b. Any further reports

There were no further reports.

100. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted receipt of the correspondence list, previously circulated.

101. TO RESOLVE TO MOVE TO CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS (S.O. 31.1)

The Committee RESOLVED that due to the requirement to keep the recipient of the award confidential at this time, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

102. TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAYOR'S GOOD CITIZEN AWARD

Members RESOLVED to AGREE the nomination for the Mayor's Good Citizen Award.

103. TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAYOR'S CITIZEN AWARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Members RESOLVED to AGREE the nomination for the Mayor's Citizen Award for Young People.

Meeting closed at 8.48pm

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 4 - TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM THE WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITIES TEAM OFFICER ON THE SPACEHIVE CROWDFUNDING INITIATIVE AND HOW IT WORKS

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

A presentation will be given by the West Sussex County Council's Community Partnership and Communities Team Officer to give Members an overview of Spacehive and how it works.

Members will be given the opportunity to discuss its merits and disadvantages under a separate Agenda item later in the meeting and are therefore respectfully requested only to raise questions with the Officer about Spacehive and not to question its value, as these comments should be addressed at a higher level.

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 7 - CONSIDERATION OF THE NOTES FROM THE PUBLIC QUESTION AND STATEMENTS TIME OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21st JANUARY 2019 - MIN. 85 REFERS

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

The notes from the Public Question and Statements time of the Meeting held 21st January 2019 are appended to this report as Appendix 1.

Members are asked if there are any items, that are not already Agenda items, that they may wish to consider at a future meeting.

Notes from Public Questions and Statements Time 21st January 2019

(7 Members of Public at meeting + 3 Councillors)

The following items were raised with Members:

A member of the public spoke about an issue regarding planning applications with particular reference to an application for Victoria Drive. It was felt that the Planning Notices had not been properly displayed and that residents in the area were unaware of the application in time to lodge an objection. It was also felt the cycle of the Town Council's Planning and Licensing Committee meetings also present the same problem.

Members asked for this issue to be referred to the Planning and Licensing Committee for further consideration.

A member of the public spoke in reference to the Town Council's questionnaire regarding the Linear Park and asked if a separate online questionnaire could be sent to neighbouring Parishes for a more wider opinion. It was also asked what weight, if any, the questionnaire will hold.

The Committee was asked if there was anything in place for parishes to work together.

A Councillor in the public gallery spoke on Agenda item 15 (ADC owned properties) and whilst the demolition notice for the property of 2-4 Waterloo Square had been served, he hoped Councillors would support putting that right by ensuring the architecture of any new property is in keeping with the original building.

A member of the public spoke on Agenda item 6 (homeless street sheet) and his proposal to produce a street sheet for the Bognor Regis area. A Councillor in the public gallery also commented that as WSCC had taken a huge amount of support and resources out of homeless services, anything that the Town Council can do would be useful and important.

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 8 - CONSIDERATION OF WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S SPACEHIVE CROWDFUNDING INITIATIVE AND HOW MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THIS

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

At a previous meeting, discussion had taken place about Spacehive with comments made about its complexity and value.

Therefore, following on from the presentation that will be given at the start of this meeting, Members are asked to consider the Spacehive initiative and agree whether any comment should be submitted to WSCC.

DECISION

Do Members wish to write to WSCC with any comments regarding the Spacehive Crowdfunding Initiative?

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM - 9 TO RATIFY THE £25.00 VOUCHER FOR THE MAYOR'S
CITIZEN AWARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& RATIFICATION

As agreed by this Committee last year (Min. 93 of the meeting held 22nd January 2018 refers), a monetary award by way of a voucher is to be given to the recipient of the Mayor's Citizen Award for Young People. Furthermore, the value of this award, determined by the Policy and Resources Committee (Min. 162 of the meeting held 5th February 2018) should be £25.

DECISION

Members are asked to RATIFY the amount of £25.00 for a voucher for the Mayor's Citizen Award for Young People.

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 10 - REPORT ON COUNCILLOR SURGERIES AND OPEN FORUMS INCLUDING UPDATE ON DROP-IN SURGERY HELD 21st FEBRUARY 2019

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

A Councillor Drop-In Surgery was held on the 21st February 2019 in the London Road Precinct. Members had asked that during this Surgery the opportunity be taken to ask members of the public for their feedback on what direction they would like to see the new Administration take going forward.

The following headings were displayed, and members of the public were asked to place stickers by the categories they would like to see supported: -

Street Scene Environment - Floral Displays	2 Stickers
Environmental Issues - Plastics, Dog Fouling, Graffiti	3 Stickers
Events for Adults and Children, and Supporting other Event Providers	3 Stickers
Encouraging European Links Through Twinning Exchanges	2 Stickers
Social Issues - Social Isolation, Mental Health, Youth and Community	10 Stickers
Protecting the Towns Heritage and Buildings	3 Stickers
Better Communication with the Public	2 Stickers

There was also a separate board for individual comments: -

Spend money more wisely - flowers a waste of money
Do something about rough sleepers (*multiple comments*)
Public Toilets
Rough Sleepers - intimidating and bad for the Town - should be a priority
Anti-Social Behaviour - there is a lack of Council action
No enforcement leads to vigilante action
Empower Parish Councils - delegate down
More funfairs on the seafront
Potholes

Comments about the rough sleepers and homelessness were the highest by far, with most people feeling frustrated that nothing is being done to address the situation.

Based on the responses, Members are asked to consider if they wish to make any recommendations to the new Administration.

DECISION

Do Members wish to make any recommendation to the new Administration on the direction it should consider taking based on the comments from the Drop-In Surgery?

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 11 - YOUTH SERVICES PROVISION REVIEW AND TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE YOUTH WORKER STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 6th MARCH 2019 AND REPORT ON THE IPEH TASK AND FINISH GROUP MEETING HELD ON 15th MARCH 2019

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

Members are asked to receive the Notes of the Youth Worker Steering Group Meeting on the 6th March 2019 attached as Appendix 1. Members are also asked to note that the incorrect date for this meeting had been included on the Agenda as circulated.

Members are further asked to receive the Notes of the IPEH Task and Finish Group Meeting on the 15th March 2019 Appendix 2.

Bognor Regis Town Council (BRTC)
Youth Worker Steering Group
6th March 2019
Hotham Park Lodge

Present:

Chris Cook (Sussex Clubs for Young People)
Jo Cooke (West Sussex County Council)
Julie Hoggart (Arun District Council)
Keely Hardy (BRTC - Youth Worker)
Sheila Hodgson (Projects Officer - BRTC)

Notes of the Meeting 22nd January 2019

Noted and AGREED

Update from SCYP

SCYP are moving forward with the Horsham Matters Youth Provision. Whilst this is a huge undertaking it will assist with core costs and also assists SCYP to qualify for the Match Trading scheme via the School for Social Entrepreneurs.

Funding applications have been submitted to D'olyly Carte Charitable Trust and the Blue Spark Foundation and a £50k application is in the process of being written for submission to the Paul Hamblin Foundation.

SCYP have received the backing of the Labour Party in its efforts to take control of the Phoenix Centre but there are no further updates or responses from WSCC. SCYP are now seeking community support for this project and would now like to invite the Bognor Regis Town Council's Community Engagement and Environment Committee to write to WSCC and urge them to consider their proposal to take on the centre.

Update from Youth Worker

CREATE have a new Artist to assist them with the Public Health England Art project and this will be the focus of activity during the Easter holiday. The planned production is still going ahead on 13th April at the Regis Theatre. CREATE have introduced weekly subs of 50p to help with the provision of refreshments.

There is a feeling among some of the members that they are looking for CREATE to be more of a universal drop-in meeting place and somewhere safe to meet with their friends. The Youth Worker is therefore adjusting the business plan so there will be activities for those who wish to participate but an area for those who don't. Having said that all of the young people have shown an interest in getting involved with the Pride Event in August. CREATE are also taking 10 young people on summer camp in July.

A Management Meeting was held on the 27th February 2019, when it was agreed to appoint a new management team and the necessary procedures for this are being undertaken.

Recommendation to Community Engagement and Environment Committee Action Points

For the Community Engagement and Environment Committee to write a letter of support to WSCC to urge them to positively consider the proposal from SCYP to take on the day to day management of the Phoenix Centre.

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 24th April 2019, 2.00pm.

Meeting of the IPEH Task and Finish Youth Work Group
Friday 15th March 10.00 am - 12.00 noon
The Council Chamber, Bognor Regis Town Hall,
Clarence Road, Bognor Regis, PO21 1LD

Attendees: Lisa Vandriel, Jo Cooke, Julie Hoggatt, Sara Hook, Kerry Boltwood, Nikki Stenner, Keely Hardy, Sheila Hodgson

The Task & Finish Group was set up following the IPEH meeting on the 25th January 2019, where it was identified that there is a gap in youth provision within the wider Bognor Regis area. It was agreed for the group to explore opportunities to deliver some detached work in North Bersted.

Discussion Points:

What's needed and in what form
Where & when
Whose involved/who should be
Volunteers
Funding

Following discussion, it was agreed to look at delivering drop-in sessions for young people at the Learning Centre, Bersted Green. The sessions to run fortnightly on a Thursday evening between 5.00pm and 7.00pm for young people aged 11+. (Action Point - AP)

Keely will take the initial lead in running the sessions with additional support of volunteers. (AP).

It was agreed that the following people and organisations should also be contacted (AP's)

- Yet2learn C.I.C.
- Kez Bridger Bognorphenia
- Carol Fullick BognorCAN
- Dexter Kunaka WSCC Careers advisor for NEETS and Young People
- North Bersted Neighbouring Community Group Residents Association
- Bersted Parish Council
- Michelle Stone – Rewire Inspire

There is some initial funding available for the project:

- £250.00 Bersted Parish Council
- £400.00 West Sussex County Council
- £500.00 Arun District Council
- From April 2019 a further £350.00 from Bersted Parish Council

Other possible funding streams: (AP)

- Rotary Club
- Lions Club

It is hoped to be able to hold the first session on Thursday 9th May, depending on availability of the centre. The group will liaise and update via email (AP) and look to meet again after Easter.

Action Points:

Lisa to liaise with VAAC to negotiate use of the Learning Centre
Sara to advertise for volunteers aged 18+
Nikki to contact Dexter Kunaka (NEETS)
Julie to contact James Young (Chairman Residents Association)
Keely to contact Kez Bridger and Carol Fullick
Keeley to approach Lions and Rotary Clubs re funding
Sheila to circulate brief notes and contact details
Jo to circulate contact details for Rewire Inspire
Sheila contact Bersted Parish Council

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
 25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 12 - TO NOTE AND DETERMINE ANY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE FLEXIBLE COMMUNITY FUND

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER FOR INFORMATION & DECISION

Flexible Community Fund Current Balance for 2018/19 £3,990.00

Members are invited to consider the following applications for the Flexible Community Fund:

Grandads Front Room

To assist with costs for producing a homeless street sheet for Bognor Regis £800.00

Capital Project Trust (Mental Health Wellbeing)

To assist with signage and raising awareness of new premises £1,000.00

The 39 Club (Youth Club)

To part-fund a youth worker supplied by Sussex Clubs for Young People for 40 weeks at a cost of £80 a week. £2,000.00

Total amount applied for £3,800.00

If Members approve the above applications a balance of £190.00 for the 2018/19 allowance will remain. Members are therefore asked to consider if they would like to donate the remaining balance to any of the above applicants.

DECISIONS

Do Members AGREE to approve the application from Grandads Front Room for £800.00?

Do Members AGREE to approve the application from Capital Project Trust for £1,000.00?

Do Members AGREE to approve the application from The 39 Club for £2,000.00?

Do Members wish to donate the remaining balance of £190.00 to any, or all, of the applicants above, noting that if unspent the sum will be returned to General Reserves as the end of the current financial year?

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 13 - UPDATE ON MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SPACE AUDIT TASK AND FINISH GROUP (MIN. 86.1 REFERS) AND TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26th FEBRUARY 2019

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

Members are asked to receive the notes of the Community Space Audit Task and Finish Group Meeting on the 26th February 2019 attached as Appendix 1.

Members are asked to consider the Recommendations from the Task and Finish Group outlined in the report as follows:

- That the collated information be published on the Town Council website and made available to the public as a downloadable PDF;
- For hard copies to be available on collection from the office and any written request to be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope;
- To invite Neighbouring Parish Councils to share the information on their websites;
- For the information to be checked and updated bi-annually but any new venues to be added immediately;
- That a nominal budget, to a maximum of £30.00, be identified to cover any printing costs.

Members are asked to advise if they wish to Recommend to Full Council the above points.

Members are also asked to formally disband the Community Space Audit Task and Finish Group.

DECISIONS

Do Members AGREE to RECOMMEND the following:

- That the collated information be published on the Town Council website and made available to the public as a downloadable PDF;
- For hard copies to be available on collection from the office and any written request to be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope;
- To invite Neighbouring Parish Councils to share the information on their websites;
- For the information to be checked and updated bi-annually but any new venues to be added immediately;
- That a nominal budget, to a maximum of £30.00, be identified to cover any printing costs;
- To formally disband the Community Space Audit Task and Finish Group.

NOTES OF THE
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
COMMUNITY SPACE AUDIT TASK AND FINISH GROUP
26th FEBRUARY 2019
BOGNOR REGIS TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. S. Goodheart (Chairman),
Cllrs: J. Cosgrove and Mrs. J. Warr

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. S. Hodgson (Projects Officer)

The Meeting opened at 3.10pm

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

2. TO APPROVE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING 15th NOVEMBER 2018

Members approved the Notes of the Meeting held on the 15th November 2018.

3. TO COLLATE THE INFORMATION GATHERED AND DETERMINE HOW IT SHOULD BE USED

A list of venues available to the public for hire within Bognor Regis and the neighbouring parishes was circulated to Members. Information included: capacity, disabled access, address and contact details.

Councillors thanked staff for the work undertaken to gather the information.

Cllr. Cosgrove asked for it to be noted, that the information identified a number of publicly available community spaces and therefore he felt there was no case to be made that there was a need to provide further meeting spaces. Cllr. Goodheart felt it important that the Town Council owned its own Community Hall.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL

Following discussion Members AGREED to RECOMMEND to Council, that the collated information be published on the Town Council website available to the public as a downloadable PDF. Hard copies to also be available on collection from the office and any written request to be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. Neighbouring Parish Councils would be invited to share the information on their websites and for the information to be checked and updated bi-annually but any new venues to be added immediately.

Members further AGREED to RECOMMEND to Council, that a nominal budget, to a maximum of £30.00, be identified to cover any printing costs.

The Meeting closed at 3.30pm

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 14 - UPDATE ON THE PROPOSAL FROM A MEMBER OF PUBLIC TO PRODUCE A HOMELESS STREET SHEET FOR THE BOGNOR REGIS AREA - MIN. 87 REFERS

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

As agreed at the previous meeting (Min. 87 refers) the initial drafting of the "Street Sheet" has begun and a comprehensive list of the services to be included is being drawn up. If funding is forthcoming from this Committee as applied for by Grandads Front Room, under Agenda item 12, a draft design will be commissioned and work on production can begin.

Members are asked to consider if they are happy for Officers to support the applicant in the final delivery of the project.

DECISION

Should Grandads Front Room be successful in their bid for funding from the FCF to produce a "Street Sheet" for homeless people (to be determined under Agenda item 12), do Members AGREE for Officers to support Grandads Front Room in the final delivery of the project?

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 15 - FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSAL TO TACKLE BEACH LITTER INCLUDING PRODUCTION OF POSTERS FUNDED FROM THE MARINE NORTH WARD 2018/19 WARD ALLOCATION - MIN. 93 REFERS

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

The Member for Marine North Ward has agreed for the 2018/19 Ward Allocation to be used to fund the production of some posters for this initiative. The total amount available is £125.00

Members are asked to consider the quotations provided (attached as Appendix 1) and advise which posters they would like produced and how many.

Members are further asked to advise the exact locations where they would like the posters displayed.

DECISIONS

Members are asked to AGREE which quotation to accept

Members are asked to AGREE how many posters should be produced?

Members are asked to AGREE the locations for the posters to be displayed.

BIODEGRADABILITY POSTER

COMPANY

COST

Highlighted costs fall within budget available

COMPANY A

PVC POSTERS (BANNER MATERIAL) EACH

A0	N/A
A1	£17.00
A2	£15.00
A3	£11.00
A4	£8.00

COMPANY B

LAMINATED PAPER POSTERS

EACH

A0	£28.00 PLUS COST OF LAMINATION (OUTSOURCED)
A1	£16.00 PLUS COST OF LAMINATION (OUTSOURCED)
A2	£10.00 PLUS COST OF LAMINATION (OUTSOURCED)

PER 5

A3	£22.00 LAMINATED
A4	£13.00 LAMINATED

PER 10

A3	£42.00 LAMINATED
A4	£24.00 LAMINATED

PER 20

A3	£66.00 LAMINATED
A4	£36.00 LAMINATED

COMPANY C 1

200GSM POSTER PAPER (SILK)

PER 5

A0	£84.00
A1	£42.00
A2	£28.00
A3	£25.00
A4	£25.00

PER 10

A0	£168.00
A1	£84.00
A2	£56.00
A3	£26.00
A4	£26.00

PER 20

A0	£336.00
A1	£168.00
A2	£112.00
A3	£27.00
A4	£26.00

COMPANY C 2

200GSM POLYPROPYLENE WEATHER PER 5

A0	£200.00
A1	£117.00
A2	£66.00
A3	£35.00
A4	£33.00

PER 10

A0	£364.00
A1	£200.00
A2	£117.00
A3	£66.00
A4	£39.00

PER 20

A0	£669.00
A1	£364.00
A2	£200.00
A3	£117.00
A4	£67.00

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 16 - TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BEACH ACCESS TOPIC TEAM AND TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st MARCH 2019

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

Members are asked to receive the Notes of the Beach Access Topic Team Meeting held on 21st March 2019 (attached as Appendix 1) and to consider the following Recommendations:

The Topic Team agreed to recommend to the Community Engagement and Environment Committee that a project be considered to build a DDA compliant timber ramp, to provide access to the foreshore over the existing concrete ramp in the area at the bottom of West Street.

The ADC Engineering Service Manager has since given some indication of the estimated construction costs, which would likely be in the region of £200k. There will also be ancillary costs such, as consultant's fees, planning and licencing fees, piling rigs and other miscellaneous items to take into consideration. Therefore, Members should consider undertaking a feasibility study in the first instance noting that any expenditure incurred for this study would have to be funded from the Beach Access Topic Team Budget from the 2019/20, which is currently £2k.

A Member has raised a query relating to some historic Section 106 money and a report associated with a previous project undertaken by the Town Council back in the early 2000's to look at beach access and other related projects. Officers have undertaken some initial research (see spreadsheet attached Appendix 2) and can also confirm that whilst it had been reported at a BRTC/ADC Liaison Meeting in 2018 that £30k was made available to the Town Council, this money was not physically transferred. Any work undertaken or costs incurred were invoiced to ADC for remittance. This will make accounting for any unspent funds difficult to locate. To undertake a thorough investigation will require a large amount of Officer resource and Members are therefore asked to confirm if they wish Officers to continue with the research. It should be noted that if any of the funds available from the S106 were unspent, it is very likely that they would now have been returned to the developer and therefore would no longer be available.

DECISIONS

Members are invited to AGREE if they would like to initiate a feasibility study into the possibility of installing a ramp, as detailed above, noting that any expenditure is to be funded from the 2019/20 Beach Access Topic Team Budget.

Members are also invited to AGREE if they would like Officers to carry out any further research to try and identify any unspent funds or an associated report.

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
BEACH ACCESS TOPIC TEAM
MEETING 21st MARCH 2019

Attendees: Clive Mott (Chairman), Andrew Clark, Patricia Clow, James Hood, Neil Rider, Kristina Kosovskaya, Trudy Lockyer, Keith Lockyear, Marilyn Warner, Karen Allen and Marion Wells

BRTC Cllrs: Jim Brooks, Pat Dillon and Steve Goodheart

In Attendance: Roger Spencer - ADC Engineering Services Manager
Sheila Hodgson - BRTC, Projects Officer and Clerk for the Meeting

1. Chairman's welcome and introductions

The Chairman opened the Meeting at 6.00pm, welcomed those present and invited everybody to introduce themselves.

2. To receive the Chairman's resignation and to appoint a new Chairman

The Chairman announced his decision to stand down due to health reasons and members of the Beach Access Topic Team were asked to appoint a new Chairman.

It was agreed to appoint Andrew Clark as Chairman for the meeting.

3. To agree the Notes of the Meeting 31st January 2019

The Notes, having been previously circulated to all, were agreed.

4. Opportunity to put questions to Arun District Council's Engineering Services Manager, regarding the viability of providing beach access to the Bognor Regis shoreline and how this could be achieved

The ADC Engineer, Roger Spencer, was asked "If money was no object, could a ramp be installed on the beach at Bognor Regis and if so, where would it go?"

Roger explained why the teams original request to uncover one of the existing ramps would not be feasible. The sea wall including the steps down to the beach is a Victorian legacy that was installed as a sea defence at the time. However, as shown in the photographs circulated, violent storms and tidal surges have caused considerable flooding and damage in the past. To combat this, stones have been added to the beach as this is one of the best ways to take the energy out of the waves. Climate change and natural tidal patterns show that future sea levels could rise as much as a metre and graphs were circulated to show the expected levels. Whilst the priority will always be to ensure defences are maintained, it would however not be impossible to consider an installation located at the bottom of West Street.

In Roger's opinion this is the most stable area. The advice would be to disregard what is already there and consider constructing a ramp over the existing concrete ramp. In order to be DDA compliant (Disability Discrimination Act) the structure would need to be zig-zagged and the best material would be timber as this would allow shingle to wash through during storms and be easier to clear and maintain. It was also highlighted that Bognor Regis is meant to have a naturally shingle beach and has a 6.5 metre tidal range.

Further discussion took place regarding the suitability of rock cages in the sea like those at Elmer, but it was advised that the Environment Agency would see no justification in allowing this and any attempt to change the tide and current in one area can have an impact further along the coastline.

The Chairman thanked the ADC Officer for his informative and positive contribution and advice. Roger left the meeting at this point.

Following further discussion, the Topic Team agreed that they would like to investigate further the opportunity of building a new timber ramp over the existing ramp in the area at the bottom of West Street.

5. Recommendations to the Community Engagement and Environment Committee

The Topic Team agreed to recommend to the Community Engagement and Environment Committee that a project be considered to build a DDA compliant timber ramp to provide access to the foreshore over the existing concrete ramp in the area at the bottom of West Street.

8. Correspondence and items for future Agenda

There was no correspondence to report.

Items for a future Agenda include:

Communications and setting up of social media sites

Looking at the inclusion of 3 phases to the project

- Immediate walk way
- DDA compliant access
- Access relating and linked with the regeneration of Esplanade site

9. Date of next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 15th May 2019 at 6.00pm at the Liviability Centre.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the Meeting at 7.30pm

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 17 - WARD ALLOCATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS BUDGET INCLUDING UPDATE ON ANY EXPENDITURE AND REMAINING BUDGET FOR 2018/19 AND TO NOTE AN OVERSPEND OF £131.00 FROM MARINE WARD

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

Due to a miscalculation when the year-end accounts were finalised on the 31st March 2018 an overspend for Marine Ward of £131.00 has been identified. Members are therefore asked to note this.

Members are further asked to note that all Ward Allocation Funds for the 2018/19 have been now been utilised along with all previous earmarked funds.

Members may also like to note that the Victoria Road Car Park project is now complete.



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 18 - BOGNOR REGIS IN BLOOM WORKING GROUP -
CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND
REPORTS IN THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th MARCH 2019

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

Members are asked to receive the Notes of the Bognor Regis in Bloom Working Group Meeting held on 12th March 2019 (attached as Appendix 1) and to approve the following Resolutions and Recommendations:

1. To earmark the remaining £145.27 of the Competition Expenses budget for a new competition for 2019.
2. To earmark any remaining balances from the Environmental Projects budget 2018/2019 to pay for four new trees, to replace those that had gone missing at various locations around the Town, with remaining monies to fund plans for further improvements at the Health Centre and Railway Station.
3. To earmark the remaining balance of £128.62 from the Fundraising budget to use by the Working Group, as this was money that had been raised themselves at various In Bloom events throughout the year.

Members are also asked to approve the Recommendation to appoint a Tree Warden for Bognor Regis, with a possible 'trial' period*

**Members are advised this would be a voluntary position and although the post would be awarded by the Town Council, via the Bognor Regis in Bloom Working Group, West Sussex County Council will provide advice, training and support.*

DECISION

Do Members AGREE the RECOMMENDATIONS as detailed above?

NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bognor Regis Town Council
Bognor Regis in Bloom Working Group
Tuesday 12th March 2019

PRESENT: Cllrs. P. Dillon (Chairman), S. Goodheart and P. Woodall also Mr. S. Hearn, Mrs. M. Huntingdon, Mr. B. Jackson, Mrs. J. Jackson, Ms. P. Keane, Mr. D. Meagher, and Mrs. R. Vervecken (Committee Clerk)

The Meeting opened at 4pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr. K. Batley and Mr. J. Jones-McFarland (ADC Parks Manager)

2. APPROVAL OF THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th JANUARY 2019, AND ANY MATTERS ARISING THAT ARE NOT SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS

The three sets of Notes were APPROVED.

3. TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE UPON REMAINING BUDGET FROM 2018/2019 FUNDING

The Committee Clerk (CC) reminded Members of the current position of the In Bloom budget, as below:

Earmarked Reserves from 2017/2018, unspent after expenditure during current year:

Competition Expenses balance outstanding	£876.23
Environmental Project balance outstanding	£1, 096.08
Fundraising balance	£666.31

2018/2019 In Bloom funding unspent after expenditure during current year:

Competition Expenses	£145.27
Environmental Projects	£975.00
Fundraising	£128.62

With discussion on a new Competition for 2019 due to take place later in the meeting, Members AGREED to RECOMMEND to the Community Engagement and Environment Committee that the £145.27 remaining Competition Expenses budget be earmarked for this.

The CC in liaison with the Town Force Manager, suggested using some of the Environmental Projects remaining budget on replacing four trees within the Town at various locations that had gone missing. The CC provided Members with quotes, coming in at around £500. The Working Group (WG) AGREED they would like to proceed with this. Members would also like to see the trees surrounded with chicken wire and planted with a thick stake, to provide as much protection as possible. If the WG decide to employ a Tree Warden, to be discussed later, it was felt protecting these trees and liaising with local residents, within close vicinity to the new trees, could be an important job.

Members discussed various other ideas where the remaining few hundred pounds from the Environmental Projects could be put to good use. It was felt the Health Centre looked fantastic with the 'cloud trees' which In Bloom had recently funded and unanimously decided that it would add further impact and enhancement to the area, if more cloud trees were added.

Another Member informed of their ongoing discussions with the Railway Manager, regarding making 'green' improvements to the Station and in particular, the large concourse area. It was suggested that In Bloom could earmark some money to put towards planting up proposed railway planters, in conjunction with the Railway Station itself and ADC.

It was therefore AGREED to RECOMMEND to the Community Engagement that any remaining balance from the Environmental Projects budget 2018/2019 be earmarked to pay for four new trees, to replace those that had gone missing at various locations around the Town, with remaining monies to fund plans for further improvements at the Health Centre and Railway Station.

Members present AGREED to RECOMMEND to the Community Engagement and Environment Committee that the £128.62 from the remaining Fundraising balance be earmarked for use by the WG, as this was money that had been raised themselves at various In Bloom events throughout the year.

4. BOGNOR REGIS IN BLOOM (BRiB) INCLUDING:

- BRiB Annual Competition - Consideration of any changes and way forward for 2019
- Guides Competition - To decide upon Competition theme for 2019
- Schools Competition - To ratify cost of seeds and discuss finer details of Competition

- Discussion for a Competition to replace the Grow a Halloween Pumpkin - including update on possibility of working in partnership with Hotham Park Heritage Trust
- Rainbows Seed Planting 2019 - To arrange details

BRIB Annual Competition - Consideration of any changes and way forward for 2019

The CC reminded Members of the entry form for last year's competition and with no changes proposed Members AGREED this was ready for distribution at the appropriate time. Further details such as judging will be discussed nearer the time.

Guides Competition - To decide upon Competition theme for 2019

Members AGREED this year's theme would be the 50th Anniversary of the first moon landing. It was thought this would be of interest to the children and would provide opportunity for plenty of 'space' and 'rocket' themed designs for planting. The CC will advise the District Commissioner and send out entry forms.

Schools Competition - To ratify cost of seeds and discuss finer details of competition

Members RATIFIED the cost of £8.66 for the pea and lettuce seeds, which will now be sent to schools and nurseries along with entry forms and growing guides. As usual, judging for this competition will take place just before the summer break and a number of Members expressed interest in taking part. The Mayor will also be invited. Dates for judging will be discussed once all entry forms have been returned, along with any further details.

Discussion for a Competition to replace the Grow a Halloween Pumpkin - including update on possibility of working in partnership with Hotham Park Heritage Trust

Under Note 3, the WG had discussed the idea of working in partnership to plant up an area of the Railway Station. The suggestion was made that the design of the floral planters could be opened up as a competition to residents. The CC and SG will liaise with ADC and the Railway Manager, as to the feasibility of this, before reporting back and deciding on further details.

Rainbows Seeds Planting 2019 - To arrange details

As the Arun Park Officer (JJM) was not at the meeting, the CC reported that ADC were happy for the Rainbows to sow seeds again this year at the same spot in Hotham Park. The CC will ask JJM whether this can be made a permanent spot for Rainbows planting. Another area that was discussed was the small patch of land outside the café of The Regis Centre, which had been used a couple of years ago for Rainbows planting, however, the shingle and volatile location, does not make it an ideal area for planting of this sort. Members asked the CC to approach JJM, with the suggestion of turning the small site in to a rockery.

5. AREAS OF CONCERN/EYESORES IN THE TOWN FOR POSSIBLE IN BLOOM WORKING GROUP ATTENTION

Toilet block by Morrisons - After the proposed demolition of this was raised at the last meeting, the CC has asked JJM for some clarification on this. JJM confirmed that these are to be worked on in 2019/2020, but that he is not certain of the plans. If a new lock up for the Bognor Community Gardens (BCG) is needed, this will certainly be accommodated by ADC. JJM will keep Members informed.

Planter near to the Unicorn Pub - Unfortunately Heygates Bookshop had not responded to queries from JJM. However, PK confirmed that BCG had taken the planter over, and have a business willing to sponsor.

London Road Planters - These have been refurbished in the last couple of weeks

The above updates were NOTED.

London Road Ice House- Members discussed the Ice House on London Road, close to Edward Bryant School and the anti-social behaviour that this seems to attract. Various ideas on how to solve this 'eyesore' were debated, however it was AGREED in the first instance to contact ADC to see if it could be smartened up.

6. UPDATE ON THE QUEENS COMMONWEALTH CANOPY, IF AVAILABLE (JJM TO REPORT)

ADC were contacted by the office of Nick Gibb MP, to take part in the initiative of the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy by planting at least one tree in each constituency. JJM had informed the CC that this had currently gone quiet, but it would be chased up in the summer. He will keep Members updated. This was NOTED.

7. UPDATE ON SCHEDULE FROM FRENCH SCHOOL ON THEIR BEACH CLEAN AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON 15th MAY 2019

The CC had now received the final itinerary of the day and reported this to Members. As discussed previously, In Bloom will provide refreshments for pupils and teachers and a budget for this will be set at the next meeting, which is just before the visit. The CC asked as many Members as possible to be present for this and the new Mayor in post will also be invited.

8. TO DISCUSS DATE AND DETAILS FOR PARTICIPATION IN 2019 'GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN' (22nd MARCH - 23rd APRIL)

Since the last meeting, the CC had been in contact with a representative from Bognor Regis BID who had very kindly offered to get on board with In Blooms efforts for the Great British Spring Clean. Hot drinks will be provided for volunteers taking part along with, potentially, some high- vis jackets, marking the event. Bognor Regis BID will also help to promote the BRiB Spring Clean, when a date and location has been decided, which Members were delighted to hear. It was also noted that DM had been approached by Spirit FM, also potentially interested in highlighting the WG's efforts for the cause.

Further to the above, Members AGREED to do a beach clean, which had proven to be beneficial and rewarding in previous years, especially with the ever-highlighted damage litter is doing to our oceans. The CC will organise this for Friday 5th April between 2pm and 4pm, with volunteers to meet at the Bandstand at 1.45pm. The CC will now begin arrangements and contact both Bognor Regis BID and Spirit FM to confirm their involvement, as well as look into applying for funding from Tesco's 'Bag for Life' scheme, which is particularly keen to work with coastal organisations.

9. TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL TO APOINT A TREE WARDEN FOR BOGNOR REGIS, AFTER ENQUIRY FROM LOCAL RESIDENT

Members had been emailed with this information prior to the meeting and agreed to invite said applicant to the meeting, but unfortunately, he was not present. Members however discussed the potential benefits of having a Tree Warden for the Town, including having someone to look after and monitor trees 'of interest' to the WG and the Town, as mentioned in Note 3.

The Town Council has historically had Tree Wardens and it was discussed that this would come under the In Bloom umbrella. Other benefits of having a Tree Warden include having someone; to survey local trees and gather information; with knowledge of Trees to liaise with residents as required; to help protect trees and woods; organise in liaison with BRiB and WSCC planting of new trees, which also would be relevant to the Tree Charter, which the WG signed in 2017. Members asked the CC to liaise with JJM as to whether a Tree Warden could help In Bloom by ensuring the WG have 'first refusal' for any trees ADC are likely to remove.

Although the voluntary position is awarded by the Town Council, West Sussex County Council (WSCC) provide advice, support and training for any successful applicant.

After discussions, Members AGREED to RECOMMEND to the Community Engagement and Environment Committee, that the Town Council looks to appoint a Tree Warden for Bognor Regis, with a possible 'trial' period.

10. UPDATE FROM VOLUNTEER PROJECTS INCLUDING BOGNOR COMMUNITY GARDENERS AND GREENER BOGNOR NETWORK COMMUNITY ORCHARD PROJECT

Greener Bognor Network Community Orchard Project:

The Orchard has recently been pruned and litter picked and a spot chosen for a donated walnut tree, which will have real impact in the area. It is hoped the tree will be planted on 19th March.

Bognor Community Gardeners: One hundred 'lily of the valley' plants, potted by Kim, have been planted in Hotham Park, close to where the maple trees will be rooted. As well as BCG, the Hotham Park Heritage Trust are also helping.

The BCG are also improving the border entrance into Town Cross Cemetery.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

The CC reported the Beach Clean taking place on 14th April by 'Surfers Against Sewage', which has also been posted on the In Bloom Facebook page.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It has been suggested that afternoon meetings do not suit everyone and therefore the WG have agreed to alternate start time of meetings between 4pm and 6.30pm. As this was an earlier meeting, the date and time for the next has been agreed as Thursday 9th May at 6.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 5.15pm

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 19 - CONSIDERATION OF THE REFERRAL FROM THE PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEE AT THEIR MEETING ON THE 29th JANUARY 2019 - MIN. 189 REFERS, ON THE VIABILITY OF REFORMING THE OLD TOWN WORKING GROUP AND TO NOTE THE COMMENTS FROM THE BID COMPANY IN RELATION TO THIS

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION
& DECISION

At the Planning and Licensing Committee Meeting held on 29th January 2019 (Min. 189 refers), Members spoke about the viability of reforming the Old Town Working Group, with either the Bognor BID or Town Council taking on administration of it and referred the matter to this Committee.

The Projects Officer, as representative of the Town Council, had already raised this matter at the BID Company Board meeting of the 17th January 2019, asking their intentions for the Old Town Area. The minuted response from that meeting is as follows:

That whilst the initiative stemmed from the Coastal Revival period, there had been little recent activity with the exception of setting up the four markets per annum to increase footfall. He stated that the BID would continue to support events in terms of the market but suggested that the Working group was more relevant to ADC than the BID.

The ADC Group Head of Economy, who was also in attendance agreed, but observed that, *realistically, prioritisation could not be immediate.*

Following further communication with the BID regarding this issue the BID Chairman issued the following statement:

Regarding your recent enquiry into the Old Town Working Party I'm led to believe this was an Arun District Council initiative that was set up a few years ago and indeed did have some involvement from the previous Town Centre Manager. No meetings have taken place from my knowledge for at least 3 years and the last one I can recall took place when Arun District Council updated members on a possible public realm scheme. The Bognor Regis BID are now in frequent communication with the businesses in this area and liaising with them on various issues including a recent survey over a future event in the area. At this moment in time I don't see the need for a meeting. The BID are now holding regular business meetings where Town Centre businesses can attend and are actively seeking and working with the businesses in that area.

Members are asked how they wish to proceed but should be mindful that at this point in time, it is very likely that should the Town Council appoint another Working Group there would be little or no input from ADC or the BID.

DECISIONS

Do Members wish to RECOMMEND to COUNCIL that an Old Town Working Group should be appointed, noting that this would be a Town Council Working Group only with little or no input from either ADC or the BID?

If minded to proceed, Members are asked to AGREE their recommendation for the form this group should take, its membership and what its objectives would be.

BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2019

AGENDA ITEM 20 - REPORT ON MEETING HELD 18th MARCH 2019
REGARDING THE CURRENT SITUATION RELATING TO ROUGH SLEEPERS
IN THE TOWN CENTRE

REPORT BY THE PROJECTS OFFICER

FOR INFORMATION

Multi Agency Action Group Meeting

Attendees: Sussex Police, BID, Arun District Council: Community Safety Team, Cleansing, Housing, Legal and Properties and Estates & Bognor Regis Town Council.

Apologies: SWL Security Services (Business Wardens), West Sussex County Council Highways.

Briefing

A meeting was arranged by the Bognor Regis BID Company, with the aim of getting a multi-agency approach to tackle the increasing issues in the Town Centre relating to homelessness and anti-social behaviour. It was stressed that homelessness is not a criminal offence and a sensitive issue to deal with. Due to the sensitivity of the subject, much of the content from this initial meeting needs to remain confidential at this stage. However, as the work progresses a more detailed update will be forthcoming. On the 11th April a further meeting is being arranged by the Arun Community Safety Team to bring together the local charitable and voluntary organisations enabling their collective inclusion and participation in the ongoing partnership work.

To endeavour to manage public expectations there is a need to raise awareness to the fact that it is not legally possible to just remove and dispose of bedding and belongings. There are procedures and processes to be adhered to, which can take time. However, there are a number of actions currently ongoing.

The Police highlighted the powers that are available to them (see attached Briefing Paper) and re-iterated the importance of reporting all anti-social behaviour. For local businesses this should be done via the DISK system operated via the BID and for members of the public via telephone number #101 or online. <https://sussex.police.uk/contact-us/report-online/>

The importance of relaying as many facts as possible was emphasised such as; date, time and location of incident, and to give a description of the person/persons involved as this helps the Police with identification.

A joint communication strategy will be rolled-out, however, this initial meeting has shown that there is a willingness for all agencies to work together to tackle the issues.

**BRIEFING PAPER**

Number 07836, 27 February 2018

Rough Sleepers and Anti-Social Behaviour (England)

By Hannah Cromarty
Pat Strickland

The number of people sleeping rough in England has more than doubled from 1,768 in 2010 to 4,751 in 2017.¹ Rough sleeping is often associated with nuisance activities such as begging, street drinking and anti-social behaviour. Homelessness is a complex issue and entrenched homelessness presents particular difficulties; addictions and criminal and offending behaviour may be a symptom of homelessness as well as an underlying cause.²

Nuisance activities can have a negative impact on local communities. The police and local authorities have a range of powers to tackle these activities. However, voluntary sector organisations have voiced concerns that an increase in the use of these powers is criminalising homelessness and not addressing the root cause of the problem.

1. Powers to tackle anti-social behaviour

1.1 Criminal law

Begging is an offence under section 3 of the *Vagrancy Act 1824* (as amended). It is a recordable offence. The maximum sentence is a fine at level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1000). Other provisions also criminalise begging behaviour: wilfully blocking free passage along a highway is an offence contrary to section 137 of the *Highways Act 1980* (as amended), punishable by a level 3 fine. Using threatening or abusive words or behaviour is an offence under section 5 of the *Public Order Act 1986*, which also carries a level 3 fine.

In response to a Freedom of Information request, the Crown Prosecution Service in July 2016 released figures showing the number of prosecutions under the *Vagrancy Act 1824* in each of the last 10 years.³ The figures in **Table 1** overleaf show the number of prosecutions under section 3 of the *Vagrancy Act 1824* increased from 1510 in 2006-07 to 2365 in 2015-16.

¹ DCLG, [Rough Sleeping in England: Autumn 2017](#), 25 January 2018

² Department for Communities and Local Government, [Evidence review of the costs of homelessness](#), August 2012

³ This response to the Freedom of Information request is published online at https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/being_an_incorrigible_rogue [accessed 27/02/18]

Table 1: The number of offences charged and reaching a first hearing at Magistrates' court under section 3 of the Vagrancy Act 1824

2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
1510	1465	1763	1825	1889
2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
1573	1626	2771	3071	2365

Source: Crown Prosecution Service, Freedom of Information Release, 6 July 2016

1.2 Civil measures

Following its introduction by the *Crime and Disorder Act 1998*, the Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) was used extensively by local authorities attempting to address problems associated with begging.

The [Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#) replaced the ASBO, and other disparate powers developed to tackle a range of anti-social behaviour, with six new and much broader powers designed to be faster and more efficient to use. They include the following powers which may be used to deter anti-social behaviour:

Civil injunctions

Various agencies⁴ may apply for the Injunction to Prevent Nuisance and Annoyance (IPNA) to tackle people repetitively engaging in low level anti-social behaviour. Unlike an ASBO which was entirely prohibitive, an IPNA can both prohibit the individual from engaging in certain behaviour and/or impose requirements to engage in a particular activity in order to address the underlying causes of their anti-social behaviour. For example, an IPNA can require someone to attend alcohol awareness classes for an alcohol related incident. Breach of an injunction is not a criminal offence and is treated as civil contempt of court. The maximum penalty for breach of an injunction is two years in prison and/or an unlimited fine.

Criminal Behaviour Orders

The Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) can be issued by any criminal court when a person is convicted of a criminal offence, and is given alongside any sentence or conditional discharge. The anti-social behaviour which the offender has been involved in need not be part of the offence for which they were convicted. The prosecution can apply to the court for a CBO to be issued

In deciding whether to issue a CBO, the court must be satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that the accused has engaged in behaviour which has caused, or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any person and consider that making such an order will help prevent future anti-social behaviour occurring. Like an IPNA, a CBO can impose requirements as well as prohibitions. Breach of a CBO is a criminal offence and carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and/or a fine for adults, and a two-year detention and training order if the offender is under 18.

⁴ Those empowered to apply for IPNAs are: local authorities; the Chief Officer of Police for the local area; the Chief of the British Transport Police; a housing provider; Transport for London; the Environment Agency and the Natural Resources Body Wales; and NHS Protect and NHS Protect (Wales).

Community Protection Notice

The Community Protection Notice (CPN) can be issued if the behaviour of an individual or organisation is:

- detrimental to the quality of life of local community;
- unreasonable; and
- persistent.

A CPN can direct a person or organisation to stop a behaviour, or make requirements of them to take specified actions to prevent the problem from reoccurring.

Before they can issue a CPN, the police, social landlord or council must give a written warning to the person committing the unreasonable behaviour, explaining that should the behaviour continue a CPN will be issued. Failing to comply with a CPN is an offence which may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued.

Dispersal powers

Section 35 of the Act allows a police officer to disperse individuals or groups causing or likely to cause anti-social behaviour in public places or common areas of private land (such as shopping centres or parks), directing them to leave a specified area and not return for up to 48 hours. It is an offence for someone to fail to comply with a direction made under section 35 for which the maximum penalty is a level 4 fine (currently £2,500) or three months imprisonment. An example of its use in response to begging is the February 2016 order to force beggars out of Middlesbrough city centre.⁵

Public Spaces Protection Order

Local councils, following consultation with the police, may issue a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to place restrictions or impose conditions on activities that people may carry out in a designated area. They are designed to deal with issues identified in problem areas which are having a detrimental impact on the quality of life in a community. It is an offence for a person to breach the terms of a PSPO for which an enforcement officer (police constable, police community support officer, council officer or other authorised person) may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice.

1.3 Home Office guidance on anti-social behaviour powers

The Home Office published statutory guidance for frontline professionals in July 2014 to support the effective use of the new powers to tackle anti-social behaviour that were introduced through the *Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014*. The guidance was updated in December 2017 in the light of experience since the new powers were introduced.⁶

The updated guidance emphasises “the importance of ensuring that the powers are used appropriately to provide a proportionate response to the specific behaviour that is causing harm or nuisance without impacting adversely on behaviour that is neither unlawful nor anti-social”.⁷ The guidance makes it clear that local authorities should not use Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) to target rough sleepers:

⁵ [‘Was begging dispersal order in Middlesbrough town centre necessary?’](#), *Gazette Live*, 17 February 2016

⁶ Home Office, [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers Statutory guidance for frontline professionals](#), updated 24 December 2017

⁷ Home Office, [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers Statutory guidance for frontline professionals](#), updated 24 December 2017, p1

Public Spaces Protection Orders should not be used to target people based solely on the fact that someone is homeless or rough sleeping, as this in itself is unlikely to mean that such behaviour is having an unreasonably detrimental effect on the community's quality of life which justifies the restrictions imposed. Councils may receive complaints about homeless people, but they should consider whether the use of a Public Spaces Protection Order is the appropriate response. These Orders should be used only to address any specific behaviour that is causing a detrimental effect on the community's quality of life which is beyond the control of the person concerned.

Councils should therefore consider carefully the nature of any potential Public Spaces Protection Order that may impact on homeless people and rough sleepers. It is recommended that any Order defines precisely the specific activity or behaviour that is having the detrimental impact on the community. Councils should also consider measures that tackle the root causes of the behaviour, such as the provision of public toilets.

The voluntary sector welcomed the updated guidance.⁸

2. Local authority use of anti-social behaviour powers

Advocates of PSPOs, and other enforcement measures, regard them as a useful tool to address localised problems with anti-social behaviour and ensure the safe-guarding of the wider community and public spaces. It is argued that it is the anti-social behaviours that can be associated with rough sleeping (aggressive begging, street drinking, leaving personal belongings in doorways etc.) that are targeted with PSPOs and not the rough sleepers themselves. The Government has asserted that the right safeguards are in place to ensure that PSPOs are used appropriately:

We do not collect national level data on the use of Public Space Protection Orders by local authorities in relation to anti-social behaviour associated with rough sleeping.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) are designed to deal with anti-social behaviour in public places where this is having a detrimental effect on the quality of life in our communities, and not to criminalise rough sleeping. It is right that local authorities, who know their area best, should have the powers they need to solve the anti-social behaviour problems they experience locally. The right safeguards are in place to ensure that PSPOs are used appropriately – councils must consult with the police and relevant community representatives before making the order and publish the draft order before it is made.⁹

However, a survey of local authorities in England and Wales by the national homelessness charity Crisis in 2016 found that 36% (29 out of 81) of respondents had specifically targeted rough sleeping with enforcement measures.¹⁰ This was reported to be a response to increasing levels of rough sleeping alongside reported rises in anti-social behaviour such as begging and street drinking.

In some cases the use of PSPOs by local authorities to prohibit begging and other street activities has caused controversy, forcing authorities to deny they have sought to target rough sleepers.¹¹

⁸ ['Home Office updates Public Spaces Protection Orders \(PSPO\) guidance'](#), *Homeless Link*, 17 January 2018

⁹ [PQ 52388 \[on Sleeping Rough\] 15 November 2016](#)

¹⁰ ['Rough sleepers being targeted by legal powers designed for antisocial behaviour'](#), *Crisis Press Release*, 2 April 2017

¹¹ See, for example: ['Hackney council in east London drops threat to fine rough sleepers'](#), *the Guardian*, 5 June 2015; ['Another fine mess' as Liverpool council shelves controversial street drinking ban](#), *Liverpool Echo*, 5 November 2015; 'PSPO UPDATE: Controversial power to strip Exeter homeless of tents could be dropped from order', *Express & Echo*, 4 March 2016; ['New powers 'not targeting rough sleepers', council](#)

A letter from the Leader of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead to the Police and Crime Commissioner of Thames Valley Police¹² urging the police to take action to address "anti-social behaviour, including aggressive begging and intimidation" in Windsor ahead of the Royal wedding in May 2018 has also focused national media attention on this issue.¹³

3. Criminalising rough sleeping?

Voluntary sector organisations have voiced concerns that the use of anti-social behaviour powers to tackle rough sleeping is criminalising homelessness and leaving vulnerable people in an even more marginalised position.¹⁴ According to Liberty, a Human Rights organisation, "PSPOs don't alleviate hardship on any level. They are blunt instruments which fast-track so-called "offenders" into the criminal justice system"¹⁵. Liberty has urged the Government to rethink these powers: "handing hefty fines to homeless people ... is obviously absurd, counterproductive and downright cruel".¹⁶

There is also a concern that enforcement activity in one area simply displaces street activity to another geographical area, and can sometimes lead to the displacement of activity (e.g. from begging into acquisitive crime).¹⁷ Moreover, it does not address the underlying causes of rough sleeping:

Mark McPherson, of Homeless Link – an umbrella charity for groups working with homeless people around England, said the use of PSPOs did little to tackle the root causes of rough sleeping.

"Those who sleep on the streets are extremely vulnerable and often do not know where to turn for help. These individuals need additional support to leave homelessness behind, and any move to criminalise sleeping rough could simply create additional problems to be overcome," he said.

"If local authorities are concerned about people sleeping on their streets we would urge them to work with local homelessness charities and authorities to connect people with the structured help they need to get off the streets for good."¹⁸

The national homelessness charity Crisis has called on councils to use enforcement measures against rough sleepers as a last resort, and to ensure that they are integrated with tailored support and accommodation. The Chief Executive of Crisis, Jon Sparkes, said:

We understand that councils and the police have to strike a balance between the concerns of local residents and the needs of rough sleepers, and where there's genuine antisocial activity, it's only right that they should intervene. Yet people shouldn't be targeted simply for sleeping on the street. In fact, homeless people are far more likely to be victims of crime than perpetrators, and rough sleepers are 17 times more likely to be victims of violence compared to the general public. They deserve better than to be treated as criminals simply because they have nowhere to live.

[claims](#)', *Shoreham Herald*, 16 April 2016; and '[Windsor council drops plans to fine rough sleepers after outcry](#)', *The Guardian*, 14 February 2018

¹² [Cllr Simon Dudley letter to Anthony Stansfeld: 2 January 2018](#)

¹³ For example: '[Royal wedding: Theresa May joins Windsor begging row debate](#)', *BBC News*, 4 January 2018; '[Theresa May opposes Windsor council leader over homeless people](#)', *The Guardian*, 4 January 2018; and '[Clear beggars from streets of Windsor ahead of royal wedding, says local council leader](#)', *The Telegraph*, 4 January 2018.

¹⁴ '[Charities warn councils against criminalising rough sleepers](#)', *The Guardian*, 22 May 2015; '[Councils should help rough sleepers, not fine them](#)', *The Guardian*, 3 June 2015

¹⁵ '[The curious incident of the PSPOs in the night-time](#)', *Liberty*, 27 June 2016

¹⁶ '[Revealed: More than One in Ten Local Councils Are Moving to Criminalise Homelessness](#)', *Vice Magazine*, 29 February 2016

¹⁷ Joseph Rowntree Foundation, '[The impact of enforcement on street users in England](#)', 11 July 2007

¹⁸ '[Charities warn councils against criminalising rough sleepers](#)', *The Guardian*, 22 May 2015

There is a time and place for enforcement, and as a last resort it can play an important role in helping people off the street. However, if it is used against a rough sleeper for genuinely antisocial behaviour then councils and police must make sure it is accompanied by accessible, meaningful support and accommodation to help that person escape the streets and rebuild their life. Without that support, they risk further marginalising rough sleepers and making it even harder for them to get help.¹⁹

4. Other deterrent measures

In addition to the criminal and civil measures outlined in Section 1 of the paper, a range of other less formal measures may be used by businesses, security companies and planners to deter rough sleeping, including:

Physical deterrents (sometimes referred to as 'defensive architecture'): street furniture and the urban environment may include features such as spikes, curved or segregated benches, and gated doorways, to deter rough sleeping;²⁰

'Wetting down': – spraying and hosing down doorways/alleyways with water or cleaning products to stop rough sleepers using the space;

Noise pollution: sounds, such as loud music, are projected through speakers to deter rough sleepers;

Moving-on: security guards/enforcement agencies tell rough sleepers to move out of an area;

Diverted giving schemes: local authority sanctioned schemes that promote and advertise in begging hotspots asking members of the public to reconsider giving money to beggars and give to local charities instead.²¹

These measures do not incur legal penalties or sanctions, but use of such measures is also controversial.²²

The national homelessness charity Crisis has identified widespread use of such deterrent measures. A Crisis survey in summer 2016 of more than 450 rough sleepers in England and Wales found that:

- 73% of rough sleepers had experienced some form of enforcement in relation to their sleeping rough in the previous 12 months. Of these enforcement experiences, 70% were informal measures.
- 56% had been moved on by the police or an enforcement agent within the previous 12 months.
- 35% had found it difficult to find anywhere to sleep or rest in the previous 12 months because of defensive architecture.
- 20% had experienced noise pollution in the previous 12 months effecting their ability to sleep and rest.

¹⁹ ['Rough sleepers being targeted by legal powers designed for antisocial behaviour'](#), Crisis Press Release, 2 April 2017

²⁰ For some photographic examples see [hostile design.org](#)

²¹ B. Sanders and F. Albanese, *An examination of the scale and impact of enforcement interventions on street homeless people in England and Wales*, Crisis, April 2017, p5

²² See for example: ['Reducing heat and shedding light in debates about homelessness and 'social control'](#), Heriot Watt University blog, 7 February 2018; ['Bournemouth's 'anti-homeless' bench bars to be removed'](#), BBC News, 5 February 2018; and ['Anti-homeless spikes: 'Sleeping rough opened my eyes to the city's barbed cruelty'](#), *The Guardian*, 18 February 2015

- 21% had experienced the street cleansing or 'wetting down' of sleeping areas in the previous 12 months.
- 63% had seen an increase in security guards and wardens patrolling public spaces in the previous two years.²³

Commenting on these findings the Chief Executive of Crisis, Jon Sparkes, said:

The rise of anti-homeless spikes, noise pollution and other hostile measures is a sad indictment of how we treat the most vulnerable people in our society. Rough sleeping is devastating enough without homeless people having to endure such hostility from their surroundings.

We can all be guilty of adopting an out of sight, out of mind attitude when it comes to homelessness. Instead we need to acknowledge that it is rising and that we need to work together to end it. Councils, developers, businesses and other proponents of hostile architecture need to think again about the obvious harm these insidious measures are causing. People who are forced to sleep rough need access to the appropriate help, not to be regarded as a problem to be swept under the carpet...²⁴

5. Further information

The following Commons Library briefing papers may be of interest:

[Rough sleeping \(England\)](#) (SN02007) provides background information on the problem of rough sleeping and outlines Government policy on this issue.

[Rough sleepers: access to services and support \(England\)](#) (CBP07698) provides an overview of the support and services - including accommodation, health, welfare, training, employment and voter registration - that are available for rough sleepers in England, and the challenges rough sleepers can face in accessing them.

[Anti-social behaviour- new provisions](#) (SN06950) gives an overview of the powers stemming from the anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

[Constituency Casework: Anti-Social Behaviour](#) (CBP07270) provides information to assist MPs and their staff in dealing with enquiries from constituents regarding anti-social behaviour.

²³ B. Sanders and F. Albanese, [An examination of the scale and impact of enforcement interventions on street homeless people in England and Wales](#), Crisis, April 2017, p20, para 2.3

²⁴ [New research from Crisis uncovers dehumanising effects of defensive architecture](#), Crisis, 12 December 2016

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
25th MARCH 2018
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email Post Office Ltd – advising of temporary closure of the Victoria Park PO21 2PE post office
2. Email member of public – regarding toilets on promenade