

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

7 JUNE 2018

Present: Councillor J C Goold, Chair

Councillors: D Bagshaw
M Brown
B C Carr
E Cubley
T A Cullen
D A Elliott (substitute)
G Harvey
S Kerry
R I Jackson
J W McGrath
J M Owen

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Radulovic MBE.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J M Owen declared a non – pecuniary interest in item number 6 due to her membership of Nuthall Parish Council, minute number 6 refers.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 22 March 2018 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. PRESENTATION FROM REDTHREAD CHARITY

The Committee was due to receive a presentation from Redthread, but this was postponed as their representative was unable to attend.

4. FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY AUDIT

The Committee was advised of the latest position with respect to the Food Standards Agency's audit of the Council's food hygiene function. The Committee noted that of the 480 outstanding inspections identified at the start of the audit, 471 had been completed, in addition to all of the scheduled inspections for 2017/18.

Discussion centred on the level of resource that had been made available to conduct food hygiene inspections and the strong intention that the situation should not be allowed to deteriorate again. A request was made that the full action plan be brought before the Committee when the audit was considered next.

5. BASIL RUSSELL PLAYING FIELDS PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

Members were updated on the results of a consultation on the creation of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) at Basil Russell Playing Fields to assist with controlling dogs.

Councillor J M Owen made the following statement:

First of all I object to the complainant's name being withheld which I know is normal but my name is published; this is unfair, particularly as this was sent to me in an email and I have in fact answered it as it wasn't accurate, and so, if I wished I could now give out the name of the person, I will read you my reply sent from me as Chairman of Nuthall Parish Council.

"I don't know the breed of dog which has frightened children as you will know there are many varieties of dog which use the park. We had two types of complaints, one being comments to the Staff, Clerk and Councillors and the other being more formal complaints which are logged by the Clerk.

The Public Space Protection Order was obtained two years ago in response to numerous complaints received by the Council concerning dogs that were out of control and harassing other park users. In addition there were reports of dogs attacking other dogs and I believe at least one such incident was reported to the Police. All of these incidents were documented at the time by the Parish Council Staff and were submitted as part of the original application for the Public Space Protection Order. This was agreed by all Councillors."

RESOLVED:

- 1. That a PSPO be made, in accordance with the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, as detailed in appendix 2.**
- 2. The Chief Executive be authorised to enter into a delegation agreement with Nuthall Parish Council under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and all other enabling powers to enable the administration and enforcement of the Basil Russell PSPO and all matters ancillary thereto including, but not limited to, the service of Fixed Penalty Notices and enforcement where these are not complied with.**

6. LITTERING FROM VEHICLES

The Committee was informed of regulations which had recently come in to force allowing local authorities to give a penalty notice to a person who is the keeper of a vehicle where the Authority has reason to believe that a littering offence has been committed in respect of the vehicle. There was an exemption for licenced taxi vehicles.

There was concern that this legislation would not apply to vehicles littering on private property and it was agreed that further clarity on this would be provided. It was noted that any revenue created from the fixed penalty notices would be received by the Council.

A discussion was had as to whether a councillor was a member of the public and an amendment to the recommendation was proposed by Councillor R I Jackson to make it read “That evidence for the service of a fixed penalty notice be a written statement from a councillor or an officer of the Council, or a minimum of two corroborating statements from members of the public.” On being put to the meeting the amendment was carried.

RESOLVED that:

1. **The provisions of The Littering from Vehicles Outside London (Keepers: Civil Penalties) Regulations 2018 be adopted.**
2. **The Head of Public Protection be given delegated authority to serve penalty notices and to authorise officers to serve penalty notices.**
3. **That the penalty amounts be set at the same level of those set by the Authority for littering in the street (currently £75 or £50 if paid within 14 days).**
4. **That evidence for the service of a fixed penalty notice be a written statement from a councillor or an officer of the Council, or a minimum of two corroborating statements from members of the public.**

7. TOBACCO CONTROL ACTION PLAN

The Tobacco Control Action Plan 2018-19 was considered with particular reference to the new action plan which detailed efforts to cut the harm caused by smoking to those who live or work in the borough.

The Committee discussed how employees of the Council smoking on the curtilage of Council property could be perceived by members of the public. It was noted that this was covered by the Smoke Free Policy.

RESOLVED that the Tobacco Action Plan 2018/19 be approved.

8. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF BUSINESS PLAN - ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY - OUTTURN REPORT

The Committee noted the performance of indicators for Community Safety and Health with particular reference to the exploration of commercial opportunities for the Mediation Service. There was also a discussion regarding anti-social behaviour and how it was reported.

There was a discussion about how safe residents felt in their local areas. It was noted that during the day people felt safer, but they felt less safe at night. It was considered that this reflected a national trend whereby people felt less safe after dark.

9. WORK PROGRAMME

There was a discussion about the question and answer session that was to take place with the Nottinghamshire Police Crime Commissioner at the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED that the work programme, as amended, be approved.