



## RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

*at the Council Offices, Farnborough on  
Thursday, 22nd October, 2020 at 7.00 pm*

**To:**

Cllr M.D. Smith (Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr Veronica Graham-Green (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr Gaynor Austin  
Cllr T.D. Bridgeman  
Cllr Sue Carter  
Cllr R.M. Cooper  
Cllr Christine Guinness  
Cllr L. Jeffers  
Cllr Mara Makunura  
Cllr S.J. Masterson

**Standing Deputies**

Cllr K. Dibble  
Cllr J.H. Marsh

Enquiries regarding this agenda should be referred to the Administrator, Adele Taylor, Democracy and Community, Tel. (01252) 398831, Email. [adele.taylor@rushmoor.gov.uk](mailto:adele.taylor@rushmoor.gov.uk).

# **A G E N D A**

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – (Pages 1 - 8)**

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd September, 2020 (copy attached).

2. **WORK PLAN – (Pages 9 - 22)**

To review the current Work Plan (copy attached).

3. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC –**

To consider resolving:

That, subject to the public interest test, the public be excluded from this meeting during the discussion of the undermentioned item to avoid the disclosure of exempt information within the paragraph of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 indicated against such item:

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Schedule 12A Para. No.</b>	<b>Category</b>
4	3	Information relating to financial or business affairs

4. **COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT – (Pages 23 - 112)**

To receive a presentation from Paul Brooks, Executive Head of Regeneration and Property, Helen Bristow, Property and Estates Manager and Chris Hornung, Managing Director LSH Investment Management, on the Council's commercial property investment portfolio. The presentation will cover the management arrangements, the quarterly performance report (copy attached of confidential report) and the impacts of COVID-19.

## **MEETING REPRESENTATION**

Members of the public may ask to speak at the meeting on any of the items on the agenda by writing to the Committee Administrator at the Council Offices, Farnborough by 5.00 pm two working days prior to the meeting.

Applications for items to be considered for the next meeting must be received in writing to the Committee Administrator fifteen working days prior to the meeting.

-----

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Remote meeting held on Thursday, 3rd September, 2020 at 7.00 pm.

## **Voting Members**

Cllr M.D. Smith (Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr Veronica Graham-Green (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr Gaynor Austin  
Cllr T.D. Bridgeman  
Cllr Sue Carter  
Cllr R.M. Cooper  
Cllr Christine Guinness  
Cllr L. Jeffers  
Cllr Mara Makunura  
Cllr S.J. Masterson

## **16. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July, 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

## **17. ALDERSHOT TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB - REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE SHOTS TRUST**

The Committee was informed that a request had been received from the Aldershot Town Football Club Supporters' Trust (the Shots Trust) for it to consider representations on issues relating to the Football Club. The representations related in particular to:

- the conclusion of a new lease of the site in line with the principles set by the Cabinet
- the engagement approach between the Football Club and its supporters
- future options for running the Football Club

The Chairman welcomed Alan Hilliar, Laura Smart (Trust Secretary), and Nick Bond (Trustee), to the meeting to make the representations. Mr. Hilliar, explained that they were representing members of the Shots Trust and wanted to raise concerns, on their behalf, for the future of the Club linked to the new long term lease and future potential development of the ground.

Ms. Smart gave an overview of the current financial position of the Club, it was noted that currently creditors stood at £1.2 million, up from £113,000 in 2014, when the Club was taken over by the current owners. These losses had been underwritten by loans, primarily from the Club's directors, who had contributed, to date, over £1 million to the Club. The Shots Trust felt that the Club saw the extension of the lease and potential redevelopment as a lifeline to pay back the loans leading to an

uncertain future for the Club. Ms Smart raised some questions on behalf of the Shots Trust relating to:

- The position of the new lease and the processes being followed
- The assignment of the lease and the conditions to be met by the leaseholder
- The viability of the Club in the long term

Mr. Bond, long term supporter of the Club and Trustee of the Shots Trust, raised concerns about the footballing aspects of supporting the Club, off field activity and the potential redevelopment. He pointed out that over the years the Club had slipped into non-league football, having once played against teams now at a higher level like Bournemouth, Reading, Swindon, Bradford City and Oxford United.

Mr. Bond was of the view that communication with fans was abysmal. He stated that recently the Club had taken the decision to stop free entry for under 11s with a paying adult. The Shots Trust felt that this would lose the Club more adult supporters, reducing gate numbers.

Mr. Bond then expressed the view that the Club needed to create a culture of intention and vibrancy to enable it to survive. The option to redevelop the ground could not be more welcomed by fans, and he felt that a successful team could command gates of 5,000 or more. Attendance was currently at 1,500 and falling due to a lack of success and leadership. He suggested that increased gate numbers would increase footfall in the town centre, generating income for the town. Change was needed, and help required to ensure the ground was redeveloped with a real say from fans on the facilities that could be made available.

Mr. Hilliar shared the Shots Trust's considered options for the future running of the Club, which were:

- Establishing a Community Interest Company (CIC)
- The Council taking on redevelopment responsibilities

The Chairman thanked the Trust for their representations and reminded Members that discussions and negotiations were ongoing between the Council and the Club on the lease and that these were commercially confidential. A record of the representations and discussions would be made from this meeting and would be relayed to the Portfolio Holder for Major Projects and Property.

The Committee then discussed various aspects of the representations and Members raised a number of issues including:

- The number of members of the Shots Trust – it was reported that there were around 200 direct paid up members and more who supported the Trust through different initiatives/fundraising activities.

- In response to a query regarding the Shots Trust’s membership of the Football Supporters Association (FSA), the representatives advised that some complaints had been made against the Trust, which had resulted in a temporary suspension from the FSA. Following agreement with the FSA a number of things had been done to rectify the situation, this included all the trustees being required to attend a diversity awareness course. The face to face course had been delayed due to COVID-19 and would be carried out as soon as restrictions allowed. A statement addressing the accusations had been issued by the FSA and this would be shared with Members after the meeting.
- The Committee considered it important that there was a thorough process to ensure the new lease agreement protected all parties involved.

The Committee **NOTED** the representations made by the Shots Trust and **AGREED** that the information be relayed to Cllr Martin Tennant, the Major Projects and Property Portfolio Holder.

**NOTE:** Cllrs T.D Bridgeman and Sue Carter each declared a personal but non prejudicial interest in this item, Cllr Bridgeman in respect of his ownership of share in Aldershot Town Football Club and Cllr Carter in respect of her status as a Trustee for the Shots foundation. In accordance with the Members’ Code of Conduct, both remained in the meeting during the discussion.

## 18. **COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POLICING - UPDATE**

The Committee welcomed Police Inspector Kirsten Troman and Police Sergeant Phil Mayne (Hampshire Police) and James Knight, Community Safety Team Leader, Safer North Hampshire, who were in attendance to give a general update on community safety in the Borough and to provide information on a number of issues raised by Members. These were:

- (1) **Crime clear up rates** – Members were advised that the integrity of the crime data was subject to high levels of scrutiny to ensure that the force correctly reported crime data and to instill the trust and confidence of the public. It was reported that the data for Rushmoor had been compared with data from the Hampshire and Isle Of Wight (HIOW) force area average. Some specific categories were as follows:

<b>Type</b>	<b>HIOW</b>	<b>RBC</b>
Outcomes attached to crimes where formal action was taken	-1.6% on previous year	-4% on previous year
Most serious violence where formal action was taken	+18% on formal action taken outcomes	stayed the same – key focus to achieve more
Violence with injury where formal action was taken	-8.7% compare to last year	dropped further – recruitment of Inspector Troman would free up PS Mayne to focus on

		this area and improve outcomes going forward
Burglary residential	+14%	up three times on previous year

(2) **Racial Issues** – Police use of stop and search was considered an essential tactic for the force and would help considerably with the work PS Mayne would be carrying out relating to high harm crime. An independent scrutiny structure was in place. It was also noted that each quarter Chief Inspector John Halfacre posted a stop and search scrutiny overview report on the Hampshire Police website, alongside the other forces across the region.

In the first 6 months of 2020 it was noted that 245 stop and searches took place, of which 24% resulted in positive action being taken. Of the 245 stop and searches that took place, 185 were white, 20 were Asian and 29 were black.

The Black Lives Matter movement was raised. In Rushmoor only one event had taken place and no real issues had occurred. Hampshire Constabulary had a very structured and staged approach to managing protests to enable the right to protest and community life to continue around it. It was noted that some scrutiny would take place over the coming months around engagement with different ethnic groups and cultures within the community. There was already a strong relationship with the Nepali Community Leaders but it was felt this needed to be built on with other groups within the community.

(3) **Speeding/Speedwatch** – it was noted that there was a three tier approach to speeding:

- Community Speed Watch – Volunteer led approach, halted due to COVID-19. It was hoped to reinstated this in late September, 2020. There was reliance on volunteers to highlight the dangers of excess speed and the implications should offenders continue
- Neighbourhood Policing enforcement teams
- Safer roads - road policing division

A request was made that the Road Safety Week that had taken place in the past could be reinstated. This would be looked at.

(4) **General** - PS Mayne reported on the serious violence and drug related violent crimes across the Borough. The county lines drug operation was highlighted and it was noted that recently some disruption had occurred to three of the known networks, with some key members receiving custodial sentences. Despite the successes, the police continued to target networks and in the past three months, 23 arrests for possession with intent to supply had taken place.

Knife crime, which was linked with drug crime, was also an issue across the Borough. Rushmoor was the only district in the County to have permanent knife bins, one on the Totland estate and the other located at the Aldershot Police Station. In

the previous six months, over 100 knives had been surrendered. It was hoped that the number of knife bins could be increased across the force area.

The Committee was advised that disruption had been caused by the spread of Covid-19. A district plan had been established, with emphasis to look at open spaces where Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) was considered an issue. Visits were being made and dispersal orders were enforced in some places. Across the force, 243 penalty notices had been issued, 11 of which were in Rushmoor. Work was continuing with shops and the community to support the safety guidelines and the use of the three E's – educate, engagement, explain.

James Knight, Community Safety Team Leader, then reported on street lighting. Contact had been made with Hampshire County Council (HCC) who had monitored the impacts and had concluded that there had been no measurable impact, either negative or positive, on crime as a result of the lights being out. It was noted that a small spike had occurred in June when COVID-19 restrictions had been relaxed.

It was advised that incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) had increased since the easing of lockdown. A significant number of complaints relating to late night noise, littering, vandalism and more recently vehicle meets/cruising had been reported by residents. Residents were encouraged, with support from the police, to report incidents via the 101 reporting system at the time of the incident to help build a picture. If individuals could be identified, the Community Safety Team could intervene to try and prevent further incidents.

The activities of the street attached in Aldershot Town Centre had been raised as a concern and Mr. Knight reported that ASB was considered a priority area for the Community Safety Team and gathering evidence to allow the issuing of community protection warning was also key. The situation had improved during COVID-19. However, with the relaxing of restrictions the group was larger than ever. A uniformed presence from the Community Patrol Officers had been used to gather statements from store owners to build an evidence base; Civil Enforcement Officers had also been utilised in the town centre as an additional uniformed presence. It was noted that CCTV logs had been reviewed, and a number of the individuals had been identified and Community Protection Warnings issued. This action could be followed up with a Community Protection Notice if ignored and no changes in behaviour were seen. Court proceeding could then be initiated should the notice be ignored.

Following discussions a number of queries were raised, including:

- In response to a query regarding an increase/decrease in hate crime reports since the BLM campaign, it was noted that there had been a 9.9 % increase in the last twelve months in Rushmoor and a 13.7% increase for the whole force. This type of crime was significantly under reported and an rise could show both an increase in confidence to report such crimes or/an increase of incidents. It was noted that reported hate crimes were reviewed daily and all directions and outcomes were fed through Inspector Troman.
- It was noted that residents trying to report crime via 101 had complained of a poor or no response from the telephone system. Inspector Troman advised

that online reporting had been available for about eight months and encouraged residents, with internet access, to report non-emergency crimes through this platform. All website reported crimes were triaged and handled accordingly. Data was requested on how many calls were dropped through the 101 phone system.

- In response to a query regarding the Independent Advisory Volunteers' Groups, who carried out independent scrutiny of police activities, it was advised that Hampshire Constabulary currently advertised for help to increase participation from seldom heard groups both strategically and locally across Hampshire.
- Reports of residents complaining of individuals/residents smoking suspected class B drugs was raised as a concern. In response it was advised that it was difficult for the police to enter a property without hard evidence. However, through working with the Community Safety Team a plan had been devised to utilise the Community Protection Warning notice system to collate information to give police more power to move forward. The police encouraged Members to continue asking residents to report incidents.

Following further discussion, it was **AGREED** that contact details for Inspector Troman and PS Mayne would be shared with Members to allow further question to be raised.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Troman, Police Sergeant Mayne and James Knight for their presentations.

## 19. **COUNCIL BUSINESS PLAN - Q1 PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

Cllr Adrian Newell, the Portfolio Holder for Democracy, Strategy and Partnerships introduced the Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring. It was noted that in July, 2020 the Council had agreed the updated three year Council's Business Plan based on four themes:

- People
- Places
- Partnerships
- Better Public Services

It was advised that quarterly update monitoring reports for Cabinet were provided on all four aspects of the Business Plan: Corporate Projects, the ICE Programme, the Regeneration Programme and the Organisational Health dashboard. For the purposes of this meeting the quarterly monitoring focused on the Corporate Projects only.

It was noted that overall 72 % of the projects were on track or completed. Key successes in the quarter had been highlighted and projects that had been delayed due to COVID-19 had been identified. It was also noted that since the last report a "trend" column had been added to compare progress since the previous quarter and a colour coded RAG (Red/Amber/Green) status checker had been added.



It was noted that the ICE and Regeneration Programmes would be focussed on at future meetings.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Newell for his presentation.

20. **WORK PLAN**

The Committee noted the current work programme and it was agreed that it would be considered further at the next meeting of the Progress Group.

The meeting closed at 9.12 pm.

CLLR M.D. SMITH (CHAIRMAN)

-----

This page is intentionally left blank

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The purpose of the work plan is to plan, manage and co-ordinate the ongoing activity and progress of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It will be updated regularly and presented to each meeting of the Committee. It will include issues that are currently being actioned as well as those that will be subject to future work.

The Committees Terms of Reference are as follows:

- to perform all overview and scrutiny functions on behalf of the Council;
- to appoint such formal sub-committees and informal task and finish groups as it considers necessary to assist it in discharging its functions;
- to prepare and approve the overview and scrutiny work programme so as to ensure that the Committee's time is effectively and efficiently utilised;
- to undertake investigations into such matters relating to the Council's functions and powers as:
  - (1) may be referred by the Council, Committees, the Cabinet, or the Leader; or
  - (2) the Committee may consider appropriate; or
  - (3) have been referred to the Committee pursuant to the "call-in" procedure set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this Constitution. (These can be decisions taken by the Cabinet, a Cabinet Member, key decisions taken by an officer or under joint arrangements).
- to monitor and review the performance of the Council and services against relevant performance indicators and adopted plans;

- to review and/or scrutinise decisions proposed to be made (pre-decision scrutiny) or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- to review existing policy and strategy with a view to securing continuous improvement in the way in which the Council's functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness;
- to make reports and/or recommendations to the full Council and/or the Cabinet in connection with the discharge of any functions;
- to review and/or scrutinise any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants;
- to discuss initiatives put forward for consideration by individual members of the Committee and any relevant 'call-for-action' in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution; and
- to consider petitions referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with provisions set out in the Petition Scheme set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

**(A) ISSUES CURRENTLY BEING PROGRESSED BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TASK AND FINISH GROUPS**

<b>ISSUE (PURPOSE OF REVIEW)</b>	<b>TASK AND FINISH GROUP (MEMBERSHIP 2020/21)</b>	<b>TIMETABLE</b>	<b>CURRENT WORK</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<p>To monitor the performance and activities of Registered Providers working in the Borough.</p>	<p>Task and Finish Group established consisting of:</p> <p>The Chairman (Cllr M.D. Smith), Vice-Chairman ((Cllr Mrs D.B. Bedford) Chairman of the Group)) and Cllrs T.D. Bridgeman, Sue Carter, R.M. Cooper and K. Dibble.</p>	<p>2020/21</p>	<p>At a meeting in September, 2020 it was agreed that the scrutiny of performance and activities should be limited to three registered providers per year and that the areas for questions should also focus on strategic issues.</p> <p>The group has selected Vivid, Accent and Southern Housing. Meetings are scheduled for 19th October and 16th November, 2020 and 18th January 2021. The review will include discussion on Climate Change, Deprivation, the impact of Covid-19 and the measures put in place by the RPs.</p> <p><b>NOTE</b> - VIVID are currently piloting in Rushmoor a new way of handling councillor emails. A dedicated email address just for councillor enquiries has been set up. Any councillor emails to this address are being prioritised for response the same working day (if received by 4pm). By having a small specialist team handle these contacts, VIVID will be better able to respond to</p>	<p>Green</p>

ISSUE (PURPOSE OF REVIEW)	TASK AND FINISH GROUP (MEMBERSHIP 2020/21)	TIMETABLE	CURRENT WORK	STATUS
			<p>emails effectively and to ensure that repairs are carried out in a timely way.</p> <p>A form is required to help deal with enquiries and to minimise further requests for information from the relevant councillor.</p> <p>This pilot started on 20th July 2020 for three months. Members will be asked to feedback at the end of the period when the procedure will be reviewed before it is rolled out to other local authority partners.</p>	
To review the Council Tax Support Scheme	Council Tax Support Task and Finish Group established, consisting of Cllrs M.D. Smith, Mrs D.B. Bedford (Chairman of the Group), A.H. Crawford, Veronica Graham-Green, Mara Makunura and M.J. Roberts.	June 2020 – January 2021	<p>The arrangements for the Council Tax Support Group would continue with the same membership being appointed for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.</p> <p>At its meeting held in October, 2020 the Group agreed that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Council Tax Support (CTS) Scheme will remain the same for 2020/21. However, the impacts of COVID-19 on CTS will remain under review.</li> <li>• Members will lobby Government to continue funding the Council Tax Hardship Grant</li> </ul>	Green

ISSUE (PURPOSE OF REVIEW)	TASK AND FINISH GROUP (MEMBERSHIP 2020/21)	TIMETABLE	CURRENT WORK	STATUS
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the unspent COVID-19 Council Tax Hardship Fund could be added to the existing Exceptional Hardship Fund pot</li> <li>• a report would be made to the Cabinet at its meeting on 8th December, 2020 with the Group recommendations</li> </ul> <p>The next meeting was scheduled for 13th January, 2021.</p>	
Educational Improvement	<p>A Task and Finish Group has been set up consisting of:</p> <p>The Chairman (Cllr M.D. Smith), and Cllrs Gaynor Austin, Sue Carter, Mara Makunura, Nadia Martin and S.J. Masterson.</p>	2020/21	<p>The last meeting was held on 10th February, 2020 following the release of the KS4 results. The County Council Executive Member for Education and Skills was present at the meeting and agreed to provide additional information on the performance of service children in the borough and information and guidance on appointment of governors.</p> <p>A further meeting will be arranged in autumn 2020 to review the position, particularly in light of the issues and implications caused by COVID-19. It is intended that some of the results in 2020 will be provided at this meeting</p>	Amber

ISSUE (PURPOSE OF REVIEW)	TASK AND FINISH GROUP (MEMBERSHIP 2020/21)	TIMETABLE	CURRENT WORK	STATUS
			to which representatives from HCC will also be invited.	
Highways Agency Task and Finish Group	<p>A Task and Finish Group has been set up consisting of:</p> <p>The Vice-Chairman (Cllr Veronica Graham-Green) and Cllrs Gaynor Austin, A.K. Chowdhury, Christine Guinness, L. Jeffers, S.J. Masterson and C.J. Stewart</p>	2020/21	<p>The first meeting was held on 12th August, 2020, which provided an overview on the current working arrangements and next steps. A further meeting will be arranged with representatives from Hampshire County Council to discuss working arrangements, following which there is likely to be a further meeting where the Group will be asked to consider proposed changes to those arrangements.</p>	Green



**(B) OTHER ISSUES CURRENTLY BEING PROGRESSED BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

ISSUE	TIMETABLE	CURRENT WORK	STATUS
To review the Council's approach to investment in commercial properties, including an assessment of the opportunities taken and the outcomes.	2019/20	<p>In May, 2019 a report was presented to the Committee which set out a review of commercial property investments. An independent external review has been undertaken of the property portfolio.</p> <p>An update on the management of the portfolio, performance monitoring and impacts of COVID-19 will be made at the Committee's meeting in October, 2020.</p>	Green
Town Centre Markets and Car Boots	2020/21	<p>A workshop was held on 10th August, 2020 at which a brainstorming exercise was carried out on how to achieve better sustainability for markets and car boots going forward. Members were asked to consider a number of questions and agreed that the provision of markets and car boots in the town centres should continue. A number of ideas to make improvements to the offer and arrangements have been put forward.</p> <p>The notes from the meeting can be found at the back of the Work Plan.</p>	Green
Safer North Hampshire and Policing Matters	2020/21	<p>At its meeting in September, 2020 representatives from the Hampshire Police and Safer North Hampshire teams gave an update on current issues and addressed a number of specific queries raised by Members.</p> <p>A number of outstanding issues had been raised with the Police after the meeting, a response to which, would be circulated in due course.</p>	Green

The Shots Trust	2020/21	<p>At its meeting in September, 2020 the Aldershot Football Club Supporters Trust (The Shots Trust) gave representations on issues relating to the Football Club, these included the conclusion of the new lease, the engagement approach between the Club and its supporters and future options for the running of the Club.</p> <p>The representations were noted and relayed to the Major Projects and Property Portfolio Holder for consideration.</p>	Green
-----------------	---------	--	-------

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### WORK FLOW – OCTOBER 2020- MARCH 2021

DATE	ITEMS
22nd October, 2020	Commercial Property Investment Portfolio
10th December, 2020	Review of Coronavirus Response Income loss due to COVID Regeneration Quarterly Monitoring – plus impacts of COVID-19
4th February, 2021	Aldershot Town Football Club
25th March, 2021	Review of Champion Activities Air Pollution Review Quarter 3 Performance Monitoring
Potential Future Items for Committee	Review of Rents in Council owned buildings Income Generation – Impacts of C-19 Major community support organisations - Rushmoor Voluntary Services and Citizens' Advice Healthy Weights Programme – Update Q4 Performance Monitoring – 10th June, 2021 ICE Programme Quarterly Monitoring

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### Progress Meetings 2020/21

(Circulate the Cabinet Forward Plan, the Committee Work Plan and notes of the previous Committee meeting to each meeting of the Progress Group)

DATE	NOTES/ACTIONS	OUTCOMES
6th August, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workforce Report</li> <li>• Housing Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrangements would be made for the additional information requested at the meeting to be circulated -</li> <li>• Landlord eviction of tenants - A briefing note would be requested regarding the current position on rent arrears</li> </ul>
1st October, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Shots Trust</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A query was raised regarding a letter sent out by the Trust, with a request for the Council to publish it – this would be followed up with the CEx.</li> </ul>
12th November, 2020		
7th January, 2021		
25th February, 2021		
Items for Future Progress Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue Protection and Debt Collection Procedures</li> </ul>	

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### Markets And Car Boot Workshop

10th August, 2020

**Present:** Cllrs Christine Guinness, Diane Bedford, Gaynor Austin, Mara Makunura, Mike Smith, Steve Masterson, Sue Carter, Terry Bridgeman and Veronica Graham-Green

**Apologies:** Cllrs Lee Jeffers and Rod Cooper

**Officers:** Adele Taylor, Adrian Long, Andrew Colver, Jake Parker and John Trusler

#### Notes

Andrew Colver gave a brief background to the purpose of the meeting.

The group then received a report on the current working arrangements and issues relating to markets and car boots in the Borough from John Trusler. Members were then given the opportunity to comment and ask questions.

A number of issues and comments were raised, these included;

- Entry charges – all buyers over 16's charged 50p. Consideration being given to charges for sellers, since COVID-19, now based on a standard pitch price rather than car size
- No defined plan for a site for car boots within the Civic Quarter and regeneration plans. Contingency planning taking place - learning on need for the two towns – very different
- Approaching others to have stalls, including community groups/businesses/charities – consider some comms around this
- Consideration of a survey of residents – what would bring them to the markets/car boots etc.
- Could craft traders join the regular markets?
- Outside locations for car boots – pros and cons list for all sites in the Council's ownership. Polo Fields – expensive rent/access issues. Current site with potential, Aldershot Park with overspill into Lido car park
- Aldershot market – permanent site to provide stability
- Homeless/street attached cause an issue within the towns, stopping residents wanting to visit – to be picked up with Police/Safer North Hampshire

An outline was provided on the stall holders currently in both towns:

Farnborough –

- 2x fruit veg
- Baker
- Watch repairer
- Mobile phones
- Clothing
- Rugs
- Olives
- Vegan coffee
- Food offer – noodles, donut stall, Thai food, burger van
- Handbags/bags
- Haberdashery

Aldershot -

- Fruit and veg
- Rugs
- Noodles
- Fabric/haberdashery
- general stall

Following discussions, the group were asked the following questions:

- a. *Given the performance of the current markets, the implications of COVID-19 and customer demand, do you consider that the provision of markets in Aldershot and Farnborough should continue in whole or in part?*

In response, Members resoundingly agreed that both markets and car boots should be retained in both towns.

- b. *What do you see as the barriers to the current markets and car boots being successful?*

The Following barriers were identified:

- Location – all sites due to regeneration projects, restrictions etc.
- Anti-social behaviour issues – particularly in Aldershot but also with an increase in homelessness in Farnborough
- Timings – in particular in Farnborough, an earlier start time would be beneficial for traders and customers
- Noise – restrictions in Farnborough did not allow for a vibrant atmosphere
- Offer – breadth of different stalls at each site, option to open up more often to local organisations/charities/crafters etc.
- Cost
- Accessibility – in particular car boots

c. *What changes could be made to enable the markets and car boot operations being more successful in Aldershot and Farnborough?*

The following issues and initiatives were raised:

- Free pitches to local organisations/charities
- Location
- Promotion – in arena and online via Facebook and the Nextdoor app – Members to help promote
- Costs – Buy One Get One Free/concessions

Members requested to be kept informed of alternative locations for car boot sales and options for the markets offer considering the significant regeneration projects in the town centres.

-----

This page is intentionally left blank



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank