

Meeting Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods

Date 16 November 2015

Present Councillor Carr

In Attendance Councillor Hunter

16. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests in the business of the agenda. None were declared.

17. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods Decision Session held on 12 October 2015 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

18. Public Participation

It had been reported that they had been one registration to speak on item 4 – Introduction of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) within the Groves.

A shop owner in the Groves who was also the petition organiser spoke on behalf of the Groves Association and local residents. He highlighted the anti social behavioural issues within the Groves area and confirmed some street drinkers had verbally abused residents and local parents with children. He expressed residents concerns and confirmed they felt vulnerable walking around the area. He stated that residents strongly agreed that option 1, to introduce a PSPO in the Groves area, should be approved.

19. Introduction of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) within the Groves

The Executive Member considered a report that determined whether to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) within the Groves area, to combat the levels of anti social behaviour that was occurring.

The Executive Member noted that a petition had been brought to the council from local residents highlighting the issues in the Groves area and that in April 2015 it was agreed that officers would consult with residents more widely about the possibility of introducing a PSPO.

Officers confirmed they had gathered evidence and had invited local residents to complete a short survey. A total of 91 responses were received with 90% confirming they had seen people drinking in public in the last 12 months and 85% supported the introduction of a PSPO.

In answer to the Executive Members questions officers confirmed that the proposed charge set in terms of any Fixed Penalty Notice's issued was a maximum limit of £100 with a reduced amount of £75 if paid within 14 days.

The Executive Member noted residents concerns and the information received from officers and agreed that option 1 would help address the anti social behaviour in the Groves area

Resolved: That option 1 be approved:

To introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) within the Groves, and setting the amount that is charged at £100, which would be reduced to £75 if paid within the first 14 days.

Reason: To ensure that the council actively addresses the issue of anti social behaviour in our communities.

20. Repositioning of Service Provision Peasholme Centre

The Executive Member considered a report that proposed a subtle repositioning of the accommodation services offered at Peasholme Centre. This would include an entry point service which would align it with other CYC hostel provision (young people and statutory temporary accommodation) and was fundamental in providing a responsive service for people who were homeless.

Officers gave an update and confirmed the proposals to reposition the Peasholme Centre would provide consistency and would ensure City of

York Council had access to emergency beds in youth homeless, single homeless and statutory homeless services.

The Executive Member noted that the Peasholme Centre would no longer be used as a stepping stone service and would reduce the need for people to move several times between hostel/supported housing services.

Resolved: That the Peasholme Centre be repositioned to align with other CYC hostels and provide an entry level service.

Reason: To ensure the council is able to respond effectively to emergency homelessness and continues meet its statutory responsibilities and supports the most vulnerable in society

Cllr Carr, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 11.30 am and finished at 11.40 am].

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