

## Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 20 July 2017

Present:

| <b>Attendance</b>  |                   |                    |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Ben Adams          | Michael Greatorex | Natasha Pullen     |
| Charlotte Atkins   | Gill Heath        | Kyle Robinson      |
| Philip Atkins, OBE | Phil Hewitt       | David Smith        |
| Ann Beech          | Syed Hussain      | Paul Snape         |
| David Brookes      | Keith James       | Mike Sutherland    |
| Gill Burnett       | Julia Jessel      | Mark Sutton        |
| Ron Clarke         | Trevor Johnson    | Stephen Sweeney    |
| Tina Clements      | Dave Jones        | Simon Tagg         |
| Maureen Compton    | Jason Jones       | Martyn Tittley     |
| John Cooper        | Ian Lawson        | Carolyn Trowbridge |
| Mike Davies        | Alastair Little   | Ross Ward          |
| Derek Davis, OBE   | Robert Marshall   | Alan White         |
| Mark Deaville      | Johnny McMahon    | Philip White       |
| Alan Dudson        | Paul Northcott    | Conor Wileman      |
| Janet Eagland      | Jeremy Oates      | Bernard Williams   |
| Ann Edgeller       | Ian Parry         | David Williams     |
| Helen Fisher       | Kath Perry        | Victoria Wilson    |
| Keith Flunder      | Jeremy Pert       | Mark Winnington    |
| John Francis       | Bernard Peters    | Susan Woodward     |
| Colin Greatorex    | Jonathan Price    | Mike Worthington   |

Apologies for absence: Jill Hood

### **PART ONE**

#### **22. Declarations of Interest under Standing Order 16**

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

#### **23. Confirmation of the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 25 May 2017**

Mrs Woodward referred to paragraph 8 of the minutes and indicated that the additional cost of the Special Responsibility Allowances was quoted as £29,687 whereas in the Addendum to the Interim Annual Report by the Independent Remuneration Panel it was shown as £31,780. In response, the Director of Strategy, Governance and Change undertook to send to all Members a detailed breakdown showing how the figures were calculated.

Mr C Greatorex referred to minute number 7 and indicated that, at the meeting, Members had also paid tribute to Terry Finn, Frank Chapman and Mike Lawrence and that the minutes should be amended to reflect this.

**RESOLVED** – That, subject to the amendments referred to above, the minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 25 May 2017 be confirmed.

#### **24. Chairman's Correspondence**

##### **County Councillor Graham Burnett**

The Council were informed of the recent death of County Councillor Graham Burnett.

Mr Burnett was elected to the Council in May 2017 and represented the Hednesford and Rawnsley (Cannock Chase) Electoral Division on the County Council.

##### **Former County Councillor Dylis Cornes**

The Council were also informed of the recent death of former County Councillor Dylis Cornes.

Mrs Cornes represented the Audley and Chesterton (Newcastle) Electoral Division on the County Council between 2009 and 2013.

She served on a number of the Council's Committees including the Health Scrutiny Committee, the Social Care Scrutiny Committee and the Safeguarding Scrutiny Committee.

Members paid tribute to the contributions Mrs Cornes and Mr Burnett had made to the work of the Council, and the District/Borough Council's on which they had also served, and observed a one minute's silence in their memory.

The Chairman moved that the order of business be varied by taking items 6 and 7 on the agenda before item 5.

#### **25. Consideration of Petition - Save Leek Moorlands Hospital. Stop the Closure of Community Hospitals**

Members were informed that under the Council's Petition Scheme any petition that exceeded 5,000 valid signatures automatically triggered a debate at the next available Council meeting.

A petition had been received stating: "Save Leek Moorlands Hospital. Stop the Closure of Community Hospitals". The petition consisted of a paper petition and an e-petition with a total number of valid signatures in excess of 23,000.

Mrs P. Wood, as Chair of the Save Leek Hospital Action Group and spokesperson for the petitioners, outlined the reasons for the petition which included:

- The need to stop the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) from down-grading health care in North Staffordshire and the systematic closure of Community Hospitals.
- The North Staffordshire CCG was no longer fit for purpose.

- The CCG had some of the worst waiting times in England for people attending Accident and Emergency Departments.
- There was a severe problem with bed-blocking.
- The CCG had a severe financial overspend.
- The CCG closed Longton Hospital and was then forced to re-open it at short notice.
- The CCG failed to adequately staff the recently up-graded minor injuries clinic at Leek Hospital.
- The CCG had invested heavily in the building which they now wished to close.

In responding to the petition Mr. White moved, and Mrs Atkins seconded, the following motion:

“This council welcomes the petition and understands residents’ concerns and will press the Clinical Commissioning Group to communicate and consult with residents and address their concerns.”

Following a debate, during which Members expressed their support for the motion, it was:

**RESOLVED** – This council welcomes the petition and understands residents’ concerns and will press the Clinical Commissioning Group to communicate and consult with residents and address their concerns.

## **26. Notices of Motion**

Mrs Atkins moved, and Mr D. Jones seconded, the following motion:

This Council recognises the vital role played by Leek Moorlands and other Staffordshire community hospitals and urges our Clinical Commissioning Groups to reconsider their proposals to close our community hospitals against the wishes of local people.

Mr White moved, and Mr Atkins seconded, the following amendment:

To delete all the words after “Clinical Commissioning Groups” and to replace them with the words “to look again at their proposals in relation to our community hospitals to make sure that they are in the best interests of patients and that the views of local residents have been heard.”

There then followed a debate during which Members raised a number of issues including:

- The hospital was well used by the local community.
- It would take five years to implement the proposals in Sustainability and Transformation Plan.
- There was a shortage of GP’s in the area and, if the hospital was to close, there was not therefore the capacity to pick-up the additional work.

- Leek Hospital was the furthest community hospital away from an Acute Hospital in the county.
- The closure of the Hospital would put vulnerable people at risk and would increase pressures on home-based care.
- It was more difficult to recruit care workers in rural areas.
- The need for the public to engage with the CCGs.
- The need to address the consequences of changing demographics and technological innovations.
- The need to focus on services rather than buildings.
- The important role played by community beds and extra-care facilities.
- The need for communities to have Centres of Excellence.
- The impact of proposed changes to NHS services elsewhere in the county.
- The need to have capacity to cope with peaks in demand i.e. the winter pressures.
- The role of the County Council in helping residents to stay healthy.
- The need to use limited resources effectively and meet the needs of local people.
- The need for CCG's to improve engagement with service users.
- The role of Members in being the voice of local people.
- The CCG's history of poor consultation.

Following a vote, it was:

**RESOLVED** - This Council recognises the vital role played by Leek Moorlands and other Staffordshire community hospitals and urges our Clinical Commissioning Groups to look again at their proposals in relation to our community hospitals to make sure that they are in the best interests of patients and that the views of local residents have been heard.

## **27. Statement of the Leader of the Council**

The Leader of the Council presented a Statement outlining his recent work since the previous meeting of the Council.

### **Staffordshire Youth Offending Service Review** (Paragraph 2 of the Statement)

In response to a question from Mr Robinson in relation to the potential number of redundancies arising from the review of the Youth Offending Service, Mr Atkins indicated that, at this stage, the proposals were the subject of a consultation with stakeholders and that no decisions had yet been taken. He added that the Council would be informed of the outcome of the consultation in due course.

### **Children's and Families System Transformation** (Paragraph 3 of the Statement)

Mrs Woodward indicated that the transformation proposals would bring significant changes and asked if each of the local member priority meetings could receive an explanation of the impacts within their respective areas. In response, Mr Sutton undertook to ensure that such briefings would be held.

**Primary Alternative Education Provision**  
(Paragraph 4 of the Statement)

In response to a question from Mr Tagg, Mr Sutton indicated that previously there had not been provision in the County for children under the age of 11 to attend a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU). The decision to extend the age range of the Lichfield PRU would ensure that such provision was available and that action could be taken to try to get excluded children back into mainstream education.

Mrs Woodward expressed a concern that the opening of a PRU for primary school aged children may prompt some schools to use the facility as a way of getting rid of a difficult pupil. In response, Mr Atkins indicated that a review would be undertaken to ensure that the PRU was being used appropriately.

**Better Care Fund and Adult Social Care Grant**  
(Paragraph 5 of the Statement)

Mr D. Jones requested an update on the “Discharge to Assess” programme. In response, Mr White indicated that the programme was going well in North Staffordshire although there were some issues to be addressed in Stoke-on-Trent.

**Ironman**  
(Paragraph 6 of the Statement)

In response to a question from Mr D. Jones, Mr Winnington agreed to provide him with details of the County Council’s costs associated with the sponsorship of Ironman events in Staffordshire. He also agreed to provide Mrs Beech with details of the Council’s costs in supporting Staffordshire Day. Mr Atkins added that the Ironman events had generated a lot of additional spend in the local economy.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting until 2:00 pm

Present at 2:00 pm:

|                    |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Ben Adams          | Michael Greateorex | Natasha Pullen     |
| Charlotte Atkins   | Gill Heath         | Kyle Robinson      |
| Philip Atkins, OBE | Phil Hewitt        | David Smith        |
| Ann Beech          | Syed Hussain       | Paul Snape         |
| David Brookes      | Keith James        | Mike Sutherland    |
| Gill Burnett       | Julia Jessel       | Mark Sutton        |
| Ron Clarke         | Trevor Johnson     | Stephen Sweeney    |
| Tina Clements      | Dave Jones         | Simon Tagg         |
| Maureen Compton    | Jason Jones        | Martyn Tittley     |
| John Cooper        | Ian Lawson         | Carolyn Trowbridge |
| Mike Davies        | Alastair Little    | Ross Ward          |
| Derek Davis, OBE   | Robert Marshall    | Alan White         |
| Mark Deaville      | Johnny McMahon     | Philip White       |
| Alan Dudson        | Paul Northcott     | Conor Wileman      |

Janet England  
Ann Edgeller  
Helen Fisher  
Keith Flunder  
John Francis  
Colin Greatorex  
Michael Greatorex

Jeremy Oates  
Ian Parry  
Kath Perry  
Jeremy Pert  
Bernard Peters  
Jonathan Price

Bernard Williams  
David Williams  
Victoria Wilson  
Mark Winnington  
Susan Woodward  
Mike Worthington

### **Broadband**

(Paragraph 7 of the Statement)

In response to a question from Mrs Clements concerning Broadband speeds in Tamworth, Mr Winnington indicated that Tamworth had amongst the highest Broadband speeds in the Country. He added that 96% of Staffordshire residents had access to Superfast Broadband but there was still work to do to connect the remaining 4% who predominantly lived in rural areas.

### **Shire Hall**

(Paragraph 8 of the Statement)

In response to questions from Mrs Edgeller and Mrs Compton about the future use of the Shire Hall, Mr Parry and Mr Winnington indicated that the Prince's Regeneration Trust had been tasked with looking at possible future uses for the building and how it could contribute to the Masterplan for Stafford Town Centre.

### **Consultation**

(Paragraph 9 of the Statement)

Mrs Woodward indicated that the consultation on the review of subsidised bus journeys provided an opportunity to make sure that public transport in Staffordshire was fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Mr Deaville indicated that the consultation was to commence shortly.

Mrs Compton referred to how young people and older people were the sectors in society most dependent on bus services and Mr Lawson spoke about bus usage in his area. Mr Adams added that the County Council encouraged the use of buses through concessions for older people and also via the Young Persons Travel Card. He also encouraged communities to take part in the consultation in order to inform future public transport provision in their areas. Mr Atkins indicated that 90% of bus services in Staffordshire were operated commercially.

### **A50**

(Paragraph 10 of the Statement)

Mr Brookes and Mr Deaville commended the progress of the construction works to provide a new bridge on the A50 in Uttoxeter.

## **28. Local Business Case for Joint Governance of Police and Fire and Rescue in Staffordshire**

The Council considered a report of the Director of Strategy, Governance and Change regarding the consultation on the Business Case proposing that the Police and Crime Commissioner takes on the functions of the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority.

Members noted that The Policing and Crime Act 2017 received Royal Assent on 31 January 2017 and contained, among other things, a statutory duty for emergency services to collaborate and the opportunity for Police and Crime Commissioners to make a local case for taking on responsibility for the governance of their Fire and Rescue Services.

The Act offered three options for future governance:

- A Representation Model: which enabled the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to have representation on their local Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) with voting rights, where the local FRA agrees;
- A Governance Model: where the Police and Crime Commissioner takes on the functions of the FRA;
- A Single Employer Model: where a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) takes on the responsibilities of their local FRA, further enabling him or her to create a single employer for police and fire personnel.

Where a PCC proposed to adopt either the Governance or Single Employer models, the PCC must demonstrate, through a local business case, that a change in governance is in the interests of economy, efficiency and effectiveness; or of public safety.

Staffordshire's PCC was looking to maximise the possible synergies between local police and fire and rescue services, potentially by taking on responsibility for the governance of Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service. He had therefore commissioned an independent business case which considered whether a change to the governance of Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service would be in the interests of economy, efficiency and effectiveness; or public safety.

Mr Atkins moved, and Mrs Woodward seconded, the following motion:

That the county council involve all Members in looking carefully at this business case by –

(i) using the Safe and Strong Communities Select and Corporate Review Committees to review the Business Case for Joint Governance of Police and Fire and Rescue in Staffordshire, consult with stakeholders and report thereon to the Full Council at its meeting on 12 October 2017.

(ii) to seek an extension to the consultation period until 20 October 2017 to fit with the Council's cycle of meetings and, if that is not possible, to request the Chairman to call a special council meeting at the beginning of September, so the county

council can consider the Safe and Strong Communities Select and Corporate Review Committees recommendations on the Council's response to the Consultation on the Business Case.

Mr Davis requested that all Members of the Council be invited to the meeting of the Safe and Strong Communities Select and Corporate Review Committees to make their representations on the proposals. Mr Atkins confirmed that Members would be invited to submit their evidence to the Committees.

Mr Francis, Mr Cooper, Mr Robinson and Mr Sweeney expressed their support for the motion. Mr Francis added that a special meeting of the two committees to consider the Business Case was to be held on 14 August 2017. Mr Sweeney also indicated that the Fire and Rescue Authority was also to submit its comments on the proposals.

**RESOLVED** – That the county council involve all Members in looking carefully at this business case by –

(i) using the Safe and Strong Communities Select and Corporate Review Committees to review the Business Case for Joint Governance of Police and Fire and Rescue in Staffordshire, consult with stakeholders and report thereon to the Full Council at its meeting on 12 October 2017.

(ii) to seek an extension to the consultation period until 20 October 2017 to fit with the Council's cycle of meetings and, if that is not possible, to request the Chairman to call a special council meeting at the beginning of September, so the county council can consider the Safe and Strong Communities Select and Corporate Review Committees recommendations on the Council's response to the Consultation on the Business Case.

## **29. Recommendations to Council**

### **a) Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Asset Pooling**

The Council considered a report of the Director of Strategy, Governance and Change regarding proposed amendments to the County Council's constitution to clarify that the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Strategy, Governance and Change have the delegated authority to make all of the required decisions in relation to the formation, ongoing operation of and all other dealings in connection with the LGPS Asset Pooling arrangements (including, but not limited to, entering into all of the necessary legal agreements relating to this project).

They were informed that at the Council meeting on 23 March 2017 it was resolved that certain changes would be made to the County Council's constitution to (amongst other things) empower the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Strategy, Governance and Change to enter into the Shareholder's Agreement and the Inter Authority Agreement in relation to the new Pensions Pooling arrangements.

It was noted that there would be other legal agreements which would need to be entered into from time to time and decisions which would need to be made in relation the above Pensions Pooling arrangements. It was therefore necessary to clarify that the above



officers would be empowered to take all actions and make all decisions in relation to those arrangements.

Mr Marshall and Mr C. Greatorex expressed their support for the recommendations contained in the report.

**RESOLVED** – That the County Council’s constitution be amended to clarify that the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Strategy, Governance and Change have the delegated authority to make all of the required decisions in relation to the formation, ongoing operation of and all other dealings in connection with the LGPS Asset Pooling arrangements (including, but not limited to, entering into all of the necessary legal agreements relating to this project).

#### **b) Procurement Regulations**

Members considered recommendations of the Audit and Standards Committee seeking the Council’s approval to revised Procurement Regulations for inclusion within the Constitution.

It was noted that the procurement regulations were last updated in 2011 and that the following things had led to a review of the regulations:

- The enactment of the Public Contract Regulations 2015
- A number of audit report observations
- The imminent introduction of a new financial management system

In addition, a number of system and process improvements had been implemented since the creation of a corporate commercial unit within the Council and these improvements were formalised in the revised regulations.

**RESOLVED** – That the revised Procurement Regulations (Appendix 1 to the report considered by the Council) be approved for inclusion within the Constitution.

#### **c) Independent Remuneration Panel - Addendum to the Interim Annual Report 2017-18**

Members were informed that, as resolved by the Council at its meeting on 23 March 2017, the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) met to reconsider the scheme for recommendation to the new Council following the Annual Meeting in May, with a view to proposing such changes as concluded to be appropriate to the structure of the new Council.

The new Council had made some considerable changes affecting the availability of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs).

Whilst the scheme had foreseen the possibility of a number of Cabinet Support Members there would now be three levels rather than one, i.e. –

- Three Cabinet Support Members with specific portfolios.
- Four Cabinet Support Members to chair and lead the All Party Member Groups.

- Eight Community Cabinet Support Members to support the Cabinet Member for Communities

This had resulted in an increase in the availability of SRAs by twelve.

It was noted that the results of the elections were such that there was no longer the need to provide a minority opposition leader allowance and a decision to limit the majority opposition allowances to Leader, Deputy Leader and one shadow cabinet SRA [which was to be shared between three members]. This resulted in a reduction of five SRAs.

Mrs Woodward indicated that the number of available SRAs remained a considerable concern to the Panel, with the changes resulting in an increase in cost of the member allowances of £31,780. She expressed her disappointment that the Panel did not intend to make further recommendations for the scheme in 2017/18. Mrs Woodward also indicated that it was understood that a system of self-appraisal was being introduced for members of the Conservative Group and she confirmed that members of her Group would also be participating in the scheme. She concluded by expressing her disappointment that she had not been contacted by the Eight Community Cabinet Support Members or by the four Cabinet Support Members in relation to the proposals to establish All Party Member Groups.

It was noted that, after some deliberation, the Panel concluded that, in part, these new arrangements were so different from those previously in place that there was a need to allow them to be established and to show their worth prior to any further review. Bearing in mind the points detailed above, the Panel had expressed the view that the existing scheme remained fit for purpose in the short term.

The Panel had also indicated their intention to review the effectiveness of those members undertaking new arrangements and the increased workloads and responsibilities for which the SRAs were paid. They also intended to review the level of allowances payable to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council as part of the 2018-19 report.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received.

### **30. Outcomes of Overview and Scrutiny Work: November 2016 - May 2017**

The Council considered a report which provided an overview of scrutiny work undertaken between November 2016 and May 2017, highlighting how scrutiny had added value to the democratic process.

Mr Brookes recorded his thanks to former County Councillor Philip Jones for the contribution he had made during the time he had served as Chairman of the Corporate Review Committee.

Mrs Woodward commended the report to Members and referred to the value which Scrutiny had added to the work of the Council.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received.

### **31. Committee Membership and Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees**

On the motion of the Leader of the Council, it was:

**RESOLVED** – (a) That Ben Adams be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee in place of Paul Snape

(b) That Paul Snape be appointed to the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority in place of Graham Burnett.

### **32. Report of the Chairman of the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority**

In moving the consideration of his report, Mr Sweeney commended the progress of the Community Sprinkler project. Mr Robinson expressed the view that the Government should be urged to make additional funding available to enable sprinkler systems to be installed in local authority housing stock.

Members also discussed the Grenfell Tower Fire and the Fire and Rescue Authority's resolution of 13 July 2017 to urge the Government to undertake a detailed review of all the circumstances which led to the fire with a view to establishing a fire safety routine, guidance and, if necessary, legislation that would reduce the prospects of a similar incident occurring in the future.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be received.

### **33. Questions**

Mrs Atkins asked the following question of the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing whose reply is set out below the question:-

#### **Question**

What is the outcome of the Review into the support for the maintenance and repair of fixed disability equipment?

#### **Reply**

Following the resolution of the Full Council at their meeting on 16 February 2017 calling on the Cabinet to review its decision regarding the costs of maintaining fixed equipment to assist people with disabilities in their own homes, we have reviewed the options available to the Council and discussed these with equipment maintenance companies.

We believe that we will be able to offer equipment maintenance to Staffordshire residents at a discounted price for new customers and at a subsidised rate for existing customers for a transition period. I expect to make a final Cabinet Member Delegated Decision in early August.

We have written to all existing customers in March to update them about the progress of the review.

The District Council are working on a new pathway for providing equipment and home modifications funded by Disabled Facilities Grants. We anticipate that this will be in place from April 2018. This will clearly set out the offer to new customers as well as their own responsibilities for ongoing maintenance at the point at which equipment is provided.

### **Supplementary Question**

Will the County Council be retaining the ownership of this disability equipment and, if so, what will the County Council do if families do not maintain the equipment, remembering that most people who live with a disability are on low incomes?

### **Reply**

I will find out the answer and will get back to you.

Mr. Hussain asked the following question of the Cabinet Support Member for Highways whose reply is set out below the question:-

### **Question**

Can the Cabinet Support Member tell me what the total net budget for Highways maintenance has been for each of the past 5 years?

### **Reply**

The revenue budget for highway maintenance covers a wide range of day to day highway management activities. Just over 50% of the budget covers activities like:

- Reactive pot hole repairs;
- Gully emptying;
- Grass cutting; and
- Winter gritting operations.

The other half of the highway maintenance revenue budget is ring-fenced to finance the 25-year Street Lighting renewal (PFI) contract and the associated annual energy bill.

The total net Revenue Budget for Highway Maintenance in each of the last 5 years is as follows:

- 2013/14 £25.5m
- 2014/15 £23.9m
- 2015/16 £22.2m
- 2016/17 £21.7m

- 2017/18 £21.9m

Between 2013/14 and 2017/18 this marks a reduction of £3.6m (14%). This is comparable with other budget pressures experienced by the County Council and reflected in the savings that have had to be made within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

These savings are being managed through a combination of:

- Improved durability provided across large parts of the network by the extra £50m investment made between 2009-2014;
- Ongoing capital investment in preventative maintenance techniques, that reduces the pressure on revenue funded activities such as pothole repairs;
- Constantly refining and improving the operational efficiency of revenue maintenance operations, all of which already benchmark extremely well against other Councils;
- Working with the Parish Council Association, as part of the Council's People Helping People strategy, to devolve local amenity and environmental maintenance activities to Parish Councils and local communities; and
- Looking at new ways to generate additional income streams and recover costs from things like damage caused to street furniture during road accidents.

### **Supplementary Question**

I requested the past five years' figures and you have only provided the last four years. Also, what assurances can I expect from the Cabinet Support Member that they will arrange the repair of the roads in my Division?

### **Reply**

I apologise that you have not received all of the information you have requested and I will ensure that the figures for 2012/13 are sent to you as soon as possible. I would be happy to meet with you to have a look at the issues you are concerned about in your Division.

Mr. Hussain asked the following question of the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing whose reply is set out below the question:-

### **Question**

Can the Cabinet Member inform me what the Council are actually doing to address the health inequalities in Anglesey and Stapenhill, Burton upon Trent?

### **Reply**

The following activity is taking place to address health inequalities in Anglesey and Stapenhill Burton upon Trent:

- **The Healthy Communities service** will start on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and will target adults within 3 geographical areas within Anglesey, Burton and Stapenhill.

- **Childhood weight management** service delivery provided by Time 4 Sport has been prioritised for and is delivering in East Staffordshire.
- **Stop Smoking in pregnancy** support provided by ICE Creates, works across Staffordshire and will see all women who are referred via their midwives following their booking appointment.
- **Risk Assessments for heart disease are provided via the NHS Health Check Programme.** All the GPs in East Staffordshire are part of the Alexin GP Federation (the prime provider for NHS Health Checks - NHSHC).
- **Families and Communities** – Support is provided for all children (aged 0-5) and families by Health Visitors. In Burton, Ripplez provide an intensive home visiting programme and the Family Nurse Partnership programme for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable children and families. The Children and Young People's Health and Wellbeing Programme (known as the school nursing service) provide information, advice and guidance to all children, young people and their families.

### **Supplementary Question**

With regard to obesity rates, what improvements can we expect from the Council in my Division?

### **Reply**

We have detailed information about the health outcomes for your Division, as we do for every Division in the County. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment details obesity, smoking and teenage pregnancy rates; a whole range of metrics on the outcomes for people's health. At every meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board we look at what progress we are making. Much of the public health services we provide are commissioned based on the need of the population so that we can target those resources to where they are needed. I can assure you that we strive to get the right services in the right places dependent upon the needs of the local population. I would be happy to provide you with further information on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment if you would wish.

Mr. Smith asked the following question of the Leader of the Council whose reply is set out below the question:-

### **Question**

Will the Leader of Council give Members an update on the progress of partnership working particularly in relation to Shenstone Library?

## **Reply**

### **Partnerships**

- Shenstone CML Committee are working closely with Staffordshire County Council and have forged effective working partnerships with Libraries and Arts Staff over the last 12 months.
- They have also developed effective partnerships also with local schools and the wider community in the surrounding area.

#### *(i) Staffordshire County Council*

- District Commissioning Lead (initial scoping of the project)
- Community Capacity Manager (through the transition)
- Community Support Officer (volunteer support, training and capacity building)
- Stock Services and Activities Officers (SSAOs) (helping volunteers understand the stock and working of the Library Offer)
- The SSAOs facilitate Graysbrook Primary School attending the Library every Tuesday and all children are members and borrow books.
- The CML is participating in the National Summer Reading Challenge initiative and is supported by the LAS.
- Entrust Surveyor (new Disabled Toilet provision and support with the Coffee Bar).
- Shenstone CML Group now attend the county-wide CML Network Forum facilitated by the LAS.

The Libraries and Arts Service are attending a meeting on the 28th July 2017 with Shenstone CML Group to look at learning points, their experience to date and how the wider LAS can share their initial successes regarding partnership working, fundraising and in-kind support.

#### *(ii) Shenstone Community*

The Committee have forged strong partnerships with the local community. This can be evidenced by donations from partners which includes;

- Pro-bono support from Pickering's Solicitors to work through Lease and Contracting details with SCC Legal Team.
- Local Architect who designed the Coffee Bar and seating area.
- Local Interior Designer who provided designs for the same.
- Local Businessman provided consultancy on Coffee Bar
- Local Businessman who provided consultancy on Coffee Bean roasting business.
- New kitchen donated for the CML from a local business.

### **Background**

- Shenstone Library Transferred on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 into Community Management. The group taking the Library on are called Shenstone Community Managed Library Group

- Presently there are 39 volunteers. Figures correct at 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017
- 33 of these volunteers are trained in the key 'Library Volunteer Role'.
- A further 6 are volunteers the adjoining Coffee Bar.
- The Libraries and Arts Service (LAS) estimated 25 volunteers to enable a successful transition, so Shenstone CML Group has a very solid volunteer base.
- They have recruited volunteers to key roles including CML Co-ordinator and CML Manager.
- The Group have drawn down significant funds from a variety of funders to enable the creation of a Coffee Bar and adjoining seating area.
- A formal re-opening event of the CML and Coffee Bar took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2017 attended by nearly 100 people.

### **Supplementary Question**

May I ask the Leader to write to the Shenstone CML Committee to thank them for the work they have done or, better still, come and meet my constituents?

### **Reply**

I will certainly write to the organisation to thank them for the work which has been done and also come and visit to have a look at what's been going on in your Division.

Mr. Smith asked the following question of the Cabinet Support Member for Highways whose reply is set out below the question:-

### **Question**

Will the Cabinet Support Member for Highways please inform the Council how many miles of roads in my Division of Lichfield Rural South have been completely resurfaced in the last three months?

### **Reply**

Within the Division of Lichfield Rural South almost 11 miles of roads have received surfacing treatments within the last three months, including the whole of Shenstone. This is part of a Countywide programme of 200 miles of surface treatment work that will be delivered as part of the 2017/18 highway capital maintenance programme.

Road surfacing treatments, such as surface dressing, are a proven part of road life-cycle maintenance. At very low cost they help to prevent defects like potholes from occurring, which we all know present a danger to the public as well as being disruptive and far more expensive to repair.

Preventative road maintenance programmes are carried out at key sites across the County each year, in-line with their life-cycle maintenance plan. By also trying to get whole localities on to the same maintenance life-cycle means that we're also able to maximise coverage each year.



As well as the programme of preventative maintenance treatments, this year we will also be delivering £6.4m of resurfacing and reconstruction works to replace around 10 miles of roads and footpaths across the County that have gone beyond economic repair.

### **Supplementary Question**

Can I thank you for the tremendous work which has been done. Having seen the success of the work in my Division, how quickly can we see similar works completed in other parts of the County?

### **Reply**

Thanks to the additional £5m funding for highway maintenance we are now starting to see some progress in dealing with the backlog of repairs.

## **34. Petitions**

### **(i) Safe Walking Route from Rocester to Dove First and Ryecroft Middle Schools**

Mr Atkins presented a petition from local residents supporting proposals for a safe walking route from Rocester to Dove First and Ryecroft Middle Schools.

**Chairman**