

SRP 2 - "COMMUNITY CENTRES"
DECISION SHEET
Thursday, 28th January 2016

PRESENT: Councillors: Natasha Ahmed-Shaikh (Chair), Jon Ball, Paul Conlan, Fabio Conti, Kamaljit Dhindsa, Swarn Singh Kang, Ciaran McCartan, Tariq Mahmood, Mohinder Midha, Joy Morrissey (Vice-Chair), Gareth Shaw, Chris Summers and Simon Woodroofe.

Also Present:

Janpal Singh Basran - Ealing CVS & Manager of Southall Community Alliance
Jane Coughlan - Hospitality and Events Manager, LBE
Jonathan Kirby - Assistant Director, Major Projects, LBE
Laurie Lyle - Democratic Services Officer, LBE
Anna-Marie Rattray - Scrutiny Review Officer, LBE
Tim Ryder – Chair of Greenford Community Association
Paul Woodgate - Chair of Acton Vale Community Association.

1. Apologies for Absence
(Agenda Item 1)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Aysha Raza.

2. Urgent Matters
(Agenda Item 2)

There were none.

3. Matters to be Considered in Private
(Agenda Item 3)

There were none.

4. Declarations of Interest
(Agenda Item 4)

There were none.

5. Minutes
(Agenda Item 5)

Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Panel held on 26th November, 2015 be agreed as a true and correct record.

6. Hospitality and Events - Community Use of Facilities
(Agenda Item 6)

The Panel gave consideration to a report by the Council's Hospitality and Events Manager which provided Members with details of the facilities managed by the Hospitality and Events department, as well as the facilities available for community hire, including information on the lettings and the pricing policy, marketing and usage by community groups.

Members were also provided with a briefing note from the Council's Head of Regeneration, to be read in conjunction with the substantive report, which advised Members of the progress made on the redevelopment of Ealing Town Hall, and of the work being undertaken at present to enable the relevant community groups and organisations who hire the Town Hall, to find alternative premises.

Resolved: (i) That the Panel note the report by the Council's Hospitality and Events Manager which provided details of the facilities managed by the Council's Hospitality and Events department and the facilities available for community hire, including information on the lettings and the pricing policy, marketing and usage by community groups;

(ii) That the Panel agree to endorse the objective for the redevelopment of Ealing Town Hall as set out in the developer Marketing Brief which requires that; 'There will also be a need to be public access to the building and provision of rooms, including the Victoria Hall, for hire by community and commercial organisations on a similar basis to existing provision'.

(iii) That the Panel was pleased to note that work is being undertaken to support community groups who use Ealing Town Hall to find alternative premises on either a temporary or permanent basis, as appropriate for each organisation.

(iii) That the Panel notes and formally congratulates the officers concerned on the progress made, in particular the significant increase in the use of Ealing Town Hall and Greenford Hall since 2010, during which time over 4300 meetings/events have been hosted at these two venues, by 52 different organisations, comprising a wide range of community activities as well as public sector organisations.

7. **Ealing Community and Voluntary Service (ECVS)**

The Panel received a report and presentation by Janpal Singh Basran, Ealing CVS, and Manager of Southall Community Alliance, on the work being undertaken in the local community by Ealing CVS and the Southall Community Alliance.

Resolved: (i) That the Panel records a vote of thanks to Janpal Singh Basran for attending the Panel meeting, and for providing Members with a detailed presentation on the work being undertaken in the local community by Ealing CVS, and the Southall Community Alliance;

(iii) That the relevant officers be requested to develop a community premises strategy, in conjunction with ECVS, which identifies current need, and which examines the potential for using accessible space in a more creative way at an affordable cost;

(iii) That the Panel requests that 'ECVS' are considered by the Council as potential partners for the managing of community assets.

8. Acton Vale Community Centre

Paul Woodgate, Chair of Acton Vale Community Association attended the meeting and provided a verbal update to the Panel on the work of Acton Vale Community Centre, which is a Council-owned centre, based on the Acton Vale Housing Estate.

Resolved: (i) That the Panel records a vote of thanks Paul Woodgate, Chair of Acton Vale Community Association, for attending the Panel meeting and for providing Members with a detailed verbal update to the Panel on the; aims, objectives, activities and achievements of Acton Vale Community Centre;

(ii) That the Panel formally records its congratulations to Paul Woodgate, and to the staff, volunteers and all those concerned at the Acton Vale Community Centre, for their hard work and diligence, which has seen the Acton Vale Community Centre achieve in past year; charitable status, up to 80% capacity, and an operational surplus;

(iii) That the relevant officers consider using the example provided by the Acton Vale Community Association, as a model for informing best practice in the management of other Community Centre's in the borough

9. Environment and Customer Services - Consultation with Community Associations - Update

Jonathan Kirby, Assistant Director Major Projects submitted a report which updated the Panel on the progress made with regards to Council's consultation with local community associations.

The report also provided information pertaining to the market rent assessments for the sites, the rent post 80% subsidy, and the criteria for the awarding of subsidies.

Resolved: (i) That the Panel note the progress made with regards to Council's consultation with local community associations, and the information provided information pertaining to the market rent assessments for the sites, and the rent post 80% subsidy, as well as the criteria for the awarding of subsidies;

(ii) That the Panel agrees to request that an appropriate Scrutiny Committee or the 'Overview and Scrutiny Committee,' monitors the progress of the implementation of the new operating models for the borough's Community Centres, at regular intervals.

10. The Panel Work Programme

The Scrutiny Review Officer submitted a report which updated Members with regards to the Panel's remaining work programme in 2015/2016.

Resolved: (i) That the Panel notes the outline work programme for 2015/2016, as set out in the appendix to the substantive report;

(ii) That Members note that the items of business for consideration at the Panel's next and final meeting is likely to include the following:

- 'Update on the Environment & Customer Services Department's - consultation with Community Associations'
- 'Recommendations and Final Report of the Panel'

(iii) That the Panel note Appendix 2 of the substantive report which contained the response provided by Ealing CCG (see below), following on from the Panel's previous meeting (28.11.15), concerning the commissioning of services:

"The CCG is very interested in commissioning services from any space in the Borough that is already within the public domain. A Strategic Estates Group has been established to bring all stakeholders together and look collectively at the maximising the space we already pay for."

(iii) That the Panel agree to record a vote of thanks to the management and staff of the Oaktree Community Centre, for their efforts in providing a pleasant and congenial ambience in which to host the Panel meeting.

11. Date of Next Meeting (Agenda Item 6)

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting of Scrutiny Review Panel 2, is on Thursday 31st March, 2016, and is scheduled to take place in Ealing Town Hall.

Councillor Natasha Ahmed-Shaikh, Chair.

The meeting ended at 9.35pm
