

COMMUNITIES CABINET ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, 14 November 2018

**Present: Councillor Jane March (Chairman)
Councillors Weatherly (Vice-Chairman), Dr Basu, Elliott, Ellis, Hill, Huggett, Nuttall,
Ms Palmer, Scholes and Thomson**

Officers in Attendance: Nicky Carter (Head of HR, Customer Service and Culture) and Paul Taylor (Director of Change and Communities)

Other Members in Attendance: None

APOLOGIES

COM37/18 Apologies were received from Councillor Thomson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

COM38/18 There were no disclosable pecuniary or other significant interests declared at the meeting.

NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS WISHING TO SPEAK

COM39/18 There were no visiting Members who had registered as wishing to speak.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 03 OCTOBER 2018

COM40/18 Members reviewed the minutes. No amendments were proposed.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting dated 03 October 2018 be approved as a correct record.

WORK PROGRAMME AS AT 06 NOVEMBER 2018

COM41/18 **RESOLVED** – That the Work Programme as at 6 November 2018 be noted.

UPDATE ON THE CULTURE AND LEARNING HUB: COSTS AND FUNDING

COM42/18 The Director of Change and Communities, Paul Taylor, introduced the report which included the following comments:

There was a 10 percent contingency within the budget to mitigate the funding target not being met. There were also a number of processes in place for value engineering. However, there was confidence that the funding levels would be managed.

As part of the project the Council had made a commitment to the HLF to delivering a set number of activities and these would be met. The staffing had been restructured towards an integrated team that would deliver the requirements of the Culture and Learning Hub. There was a commitment to deliver activities jointly with the other services in the Hub such as the library and the Adult Education Centre. The activity plan started in August 2018.

The allocated running costs were included in the business plan and members

were able to see the full suite of papers that had been delivered to the Culture and Learning Hub Board. The Business Plan was being reviewed at each stage to ensure it was current. The documents were not publicly available.

The Kent County Council (KCC) funding stream had not reduced. KCC were going to sell the building to the Council at a reduced amount of £400,000 which meant there would not now be a cash-flow issue for the Council. KCC's total contribution would amount to approximately £6 million.

The costs of moving the Library function in to Royal Victoria Place had been covered by KCC's contribution and £475,000 had been allocated for decant, recant and fit-out of the Library. The Museum would have five display cases in the RVP and the work in the interim period would focus on outreach work and delivery of the activity plan.

Negotiations with the Corn Exchange for the decant of the Adult Education Centre were going well and heads of terms had been agreed. The move of some of the work to Tonbridge was only temporary and the intention was for a full return to Tunbridge Wells. This was also included in the collaboration agreement. A state of the art silver-smithing facility and an increased kiln space would also be part of the new facilities.

The revenue streams within the Hub were included in the Business Plan – KCC were signed up to approximately £600,000 per annum and there was an additional £300,000 coming into the facility.

RESOLVED to support the recommendations in the report.

URGENT BUSINESS

COM43/18 There was no urgent business.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

COM44/18 It was noted that the date of the next scheduled meeting was Wednesday 17 January 2019 at 6.30pm in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

The following items were scheduled on the Forward Plan (which was subject to change) to be discussed:

- Air Quality Action Plan

NOTES:

The meeting concluded at 7.00 pm.

An audio recording of this meeting is available on the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council website.