



Minutes of the meeting of the **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** held Virtually on Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 2.00 pm

**Members Present:** Mr A Moss (Chairman), Mrs C Apel, Mrs T Bangert, Mr G Barrett, Mrs N Graves, Mr D Palmer, Mr C Page, Mr H Potter, Mrs C Purnell, Mrs S Sharp and Mr T Johnson

**Members not present:** Mr K Hughes

**In attendance by invitation:**

**Officers present:** Mrs L Rudziak (Director of Housing and Communities), Ms P Bushby (Divisional Manager for Communities), Mr S Ballard (Senior Environmental Protection Officer), Mr A Buckley (Corporate Improvement and Facilities Manager), Mrs S Peyman (Divisional Manager for Culture), Mrs M Rogers (Benefits Manager), Mrs E Thomas (Wellbeing Manager) and Mr F Jones (Social Prescriber)

**81 Chairman's Announcements**

Apologies were received from Mr Hughes.

**82 Appointment of Vice-Chairman for the Meeting**

In the absence of the Vice-Chairman it was proposed and seconded that Mrs Apel be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for today's meeting.

**RESOLVED**

That Mrs Apel be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for today's meeting.

**83 Minutes**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2020 were approved as a correct record.

There were no matters arising.

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 17 November 2020 be approved as a correct record.

84 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

85 **Declarations of Interests**

Mrs Bangert declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 8 as a Trustee of Tuppenny Barn.

Mrs Purnell declared a personal interest as a member of West Sussex County Council.

Mrs Purnell declared a personal interest as a member of Selsey Town Council.

Mrs Purnell declared a personal interest as Chairman of Manhood Peninsula Partnership.

86 **Public Question Time**

There were no public questions.

87 **Progress on Social Prescribing**

The Chairman informed the Committee that this item would be discussed under Agenda Item 8.

88 **Cabinet Member for Community Services and Culture Address**

The Chairman invited Mr Briscoe, Cabinet Member for Community Services and Culture to address the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Mr Briscoe informed the Committee of the work undertaken by teams within his portfolio during the Covid 19 pandemic and how they have adjusted to the challenges faced over the last year.

**Communities Team**

- Tackling crime and disorder and low level anti- social behaviour. To do this the team are supported by;
  - the Community Safety Partnership a statutory partnership (chaired by Mr Briscoe) which focuses on Domestic Abuse, Acquisitive Crime and Road Safety;
  - the Community Wardens;
  - CCTV cameras.

- Working with the voluntary sector to help them access both services and grants, and ensure residents can access the support necessary to help them achieve fulfilling and productive lives.
- Choose-work service targets the long term unemployed who require additional support to either get back into the workplace or be ready for the next leg of their employment journey.
- Grants and Concessions Panel; administering the discretionary grants programme and New Homes Bonus scheme, as well as S106 contributions for community buildings and public art.
- Leading on safeguarding; delivering regular training to staff and Members, facilitating the internal safeguarding working group and supporting the county wide safeguarding agenda.
- Raising the awareness of issues around exploitation and modern slavery. They are also a lead partner in the Arun and Chichester Serious Organised crime group which is focussed on Organised Immigration Crime, Extremism and drug related harm.
- Supporting Sussex Police in responding to unauthorised encampments, making immediate contact with the Gypsy Travellers to identify any welfare issues and establish the probable length of stay. They also set some ground rules around behaviours and littering, to help mitigate the impact of encampments on the wider community

## **Wellbeing Team**

Mr Briscoe explained that 2021/22 was the final year of the current 3-year contract with WSCC Public Health (PH); however, discussions were currently in place regarding a new contract.

He explained that the team was currently providing a telephone-based service, with a new 15 min telephone wellbeing check in, to encourage people to engage with the service.

The team provide the support the following services;

- Weight management programmes
- Pre-diabetes information and advice
- Smoking cessation service and free nicotine replacement therapy
- Support to reduce alcohol consumption
- Support for CDC staff and workplaces to stay healthy and well during this
- Falls prevention service
- Home Energy service,
- Family Wellbeing, working with families to help the children maintain a healthy weight through healthy cooking and increased exercise
- The NHS health checks programme and Heart Smart Walks have currently been suspended, but will resume once lockdown restrictions

## **Support during Pandemic**

Mr Briscoe informed the Committee that a small response team had been established during the first lockdown. Team members had been appointed specific roles including;

- taking the referrals directly from the WSCC Community Hub
- collecting and delivering essential food to those residents in the district shielding
- collating offers of voluntary support

In addition the response team had taken it in turn to be on call at weekends throughout the first lockdown, the model worked very effectively and delivered support to well over 100 residents.

The Covid Recovery grants were established to help voluntary groups and local business that were economically impacted by Covid 19. Applications were open from August 2020 until late January 2021.

Mr Briscoe informed the Committee that the team were also working in partnership with Arun District Council and local voluntary food providers via a newly formed Food Partnership looking to tackle food poverty.

## **Sport and Culture**

Mr Briscoe informed the Committee that the Covid Pandemic had forced many of the Culture and Sport services to close, which has impacted on sports pitches; land hire and events; leisure centres; the museum and wider cultural partners. However, even though services were impacted, staff continued to work hard behind the scenes to support the local community and the work of the council.

### **The Novium Museum**

- Before the pandemic the Museum was on target to exceed the annual visitor number target of 55,000, the highest number to date. During February 2020 with The Mystery Warrior Exhibition, there were 6,481 visitors which is an increase in attendance of 116% for February 2019 and a 73% increase on February 2018 figures.
- Museum staff were redeployed during the pandemic to support other council services including; Public Relations, Revenues and Benefits and Economic Development, some staff also assisted Stonepillow with the preparation and delivery of food for the homeless during the first lockdown.
- There have been six successful grant applications totalling a sum of nearly £40,000. The funding will be used by creating new online services and physical measures to protect staff and museum visitors.
- Staff continued to share Chichester's history during lockdowns, as well as expanding and updating the Virtual Museum content, and allowing museum

resources and exhibitions to be accessed online. Highlights from the museum collection have also been posted on social media every Saturday since the start of the pandemic as part of 'Spotlight Saturdays' and monthly 'Changing Times Articles' which have been produced for Chichester Observer.

- Three new field trip films have been created and launched as part of the learning programme, including a competition that generated 179 nominations from schools from as far as Kent, Swindon and Coventry.
- A new exhibition funded by the South East Museum Development Fund, curated by our museum staff marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the closure of the cattle market. A city trail looking at markets and reminiscence activities is also being developed as part of the grant.
- Funding has been received from the South Downs National for a project looking at sustainable farming in the South Downs. We have recently finished filming with local farmers and organisations for a short documentary and are in the process of developing a small exhibition to display at the museum.
- The team have delivered their lecture series with five online lectures. A total of 327 tickets were sold
- There have been a number of successful partnership projects over the last year including; the Friends of the South Downs and Chichester Community Development Trust.
- A series of short films were released on social media during February half term these tied with the Dark Skies festival.
- Father Christmas visits were able to go ahead with sold out events spread across 2 Saturdays.
- A successful stage 1 grant application was made to The Pilgrim Trust for a project to remove remaining corrosion on the sword from Mystery Warrior burial; work has now commenced on the stage 2 applications for funding.
- A further grant application has been made to ICON Collections Care Stimulus Grant to conserve the museum's 18<sup>th</sup> century wallpaper samples
- Major conservation work is being carried out on the museum's Roman lead coffin.
- The Novium has provided content for the ART UK Project to Catalogue Sculptures within museums across the country.

Even with reduced numbers of visitors the average transaction value has increased, and with donations this year to date the museum has generated £4000 through in person donations and nearly £2,700 through online donations (based on 6,835 visitors). Following feedback from some Councillors an additional donate button has been included on the website.

## **Leisure Centre**

Mr Briscoe informed the Committee that the Council had continued to support to Everyone Active over the past year to ensure there provision of sport and leisure activities at the three Council leisure centres.

- A successful application was made to Sport England for £210k from the National Leisure Recovery Fund.
- Everyone Active developed EVERYONE ON DEMAND, which provided an at-home solution to maintaining activity and fitness levels throughout the pandemic and during lockdown periods.
- All sites were re-opened a number of times throughout the year with Covid secure measures in place. To date there have been no reports of Covid-19 transmissions within any of the three leisure centres.
- The online app and website have been adapted to enable all customers to book all activities online.
- The leisure centres supported key services including; Nursery provision at Westgate, access and facilities for education at Bourne and a revised Library Service at The Grange, Midhurst.
- There is a Covid mobile testing unit in the Midhurst Car Park and Westgate Leisure Centre is currently being used as a mass vaccination site for the NHS.

## **Sports and Events**

Staff have advised many sports clubs and organisation on grant funding opportunities and continued to share government guidance on requirements for operating under covid restrictions.

- The team have processed 11 successful grant applications totalling almost £47k for local sport and leisure organisations. As well as awarding S106 funds to four community projects.

Due to national and local restrictions there has been reduced activity on the Council's sports pitches, and many planned events were also cancelled. However, bookings are now been taken for pitches and staff are working with event organisers on rebooking and considering what measures will need to be in place in the coming months and year to deliver safe, compliant and successful events.

## **Season of Culture 2022**

The summer of 2022 marks major anniversaries for a number of Chichester's key cultural organisations including:

- Chichester Festival Theatre (60th);

- Pallant House Gallery (40th);
- Chichester International Film Festival (30th)
- The Novium Museum (10th),
- Festival of Chichester (10th).

£5000 of funding has been allocated from the Vision Budget, Chichester Festival Theatre and Pallant House Gallery to appoint a Freelance Project Manager to help shape and drive the season forward. .

### **Chichester Festival Theatre and Pallant House Gallery**

Support was given to both CFT and PHG during lockdown. Both undertook much community work during the last year and we worked closely with CFT on the planning and delivery of the outdoor Cinema in partnership with New Park Road Cinema and The Outdoor Theatre in Oaklands Park.

### **Visit Chichester**

Mr Briscoe informed the Committee that Visit Chichester's request for additional financial support from the Council was agreed, staff are working closely to agree targets for next years' Service Level Agreement.

Visit Chichester successfully launched the new brand 'The Great Sussex Way' and new website. The Council is working closely to help promote their free membership scheme to encourage future partnership working within the industry.

Mr Briscoe, supported by Mrs Bushby, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Peyman responded to members' comments and questions as follows;

- The NHS will be the lead agency in the management of long Covid and its effects. However, it is likely that referrals to both the Social Prescribing and Wellbeing teams will start to include people suffering from Long Covid, and in these instances the teams will work closely with NHS partners to ensure the best service provision. In addition, Mrs Bushby informed the Committee that a new health partnership had been established – the Local Community Health Network, the partnership was in the process of agreeing priorities.
- The telephone service provided by the Wellbeing team supports the NHS; the team are able signpost referrals to aid in recovery. The team also help relieve pressures on the NHS by supporting those who are suffering from less severe mental health issues and preventing them from worsening.
- On the matter of dangerous on street parking in the Witterings, Mr Briscoe acknowledged the Committee's concerns. He informed the Committee that he had spoken to the Chief Inspector and extra officers had been made available to patrol the area when resourcing allowed. Unfortunately, there are other pressures on the Police which prevent them from being able to patrol the popular coastal locations within the District as often as some may like. Support has been provided and will continue to be by the Community Wardens and Parking Enforcement Officers. In addition, Mrs Bushby agreed

that she would raise the issue of on street parking at the next partnership meeting.

- Mr Briscoe confirmed that Chichester District Council were responsible for the removal of litter and issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices. In addition he informed the Committee that he had been liaising with Mr Carter, CCS, Divisional Manager who is currently in the process of establishing a partnership group to tackle the issue of Flytipping within the district.
- On the matter of accessing GP services during the pandemic, Mrs Bushby informed the Committee that she was unaware of any specific issues. In addition, Healthwatch have not been made aware of any specific issues, nor have they raised it as a priority at the Local Community Health Network.
- Mrs Bushby confirmed that the funding for Choose Work had been extended until 2023. In addition, a successful funding application had been secured enabling a youth hub to be established which would support 16-25 year olds into employment.
- Mr Briscoe informed the Committee that the cost of Flytipping to the authority was currently in the region of £200,000 - £300,000 per annum.

The Chairman thanked Mr Briscoe and commended officers on all their work, especially during the Covid 19 Pandemic.

## 89 **Social Prescribing Update**

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Thomas, Ms Bielsa from the Hyde Foundation, Mr Jones and Ms Haynes from the Tuppenny Barn.

Mrs Thomas presented her report to the Committee, providing an overview of what Social Prescribing is and how the service operates. She highlighted that the service was very much focused on the individual and what their needs are.

Ms Bielsa informed the Committee that the Hyde Foundation had been working with the Social Prescribing team for just over 12 months. During that period a very successful relationship had been established between all partners including the Successful Tenancies Team. Ms Bielsa, explained that the Successful Tenancies team worked with individuals who were suffering from social isolation, had mental health issues or were struggling to access services, through their work with the Social Prescribing team they had been able to help a much larger number of higher risk individuals.

Ms Bielsa commended the Social Prescriber team and the support they had given to a number of other projects. Feedback from residents has been very positive, many of whom would not be where they were today if it had not been for the support given by the Social Prescribers. Ms Bielsa informed the Committee that the Social Prescribers were a key part of Hyde's service provision and that they were very keen to continue working with them.

Mr Jones highlighted the benefits that he had experienced in Homeworking over the past year including; improving relationships with service providers and partners; the ability to see more people as a result of not having to travel and the opportunity to look at the issue of Digital Inclusion.

Mr Jones presented two case studies to the Committee.

Mrs Haynes provided the Committee with an overview of the Horticultural Therapy work undertaken at the Tuppenny Barn and what it set out to achieve. She explained that the project had started in 2019, with clients referred to the service via a number of ways including; GP's, Social Prescriber's as well as self-referrals. Prior to the pandemic there had been up to ten clients a week accessing the service. During the lockdown period a weekly Zoom meeting was arranged to support clients, however, not everybody was able to access this service. For clients who were not able to access the online support the phonecalls were made to ensure support was still given.

The Chairman invited Cllr Bangert, as a trustee of the Tuppenny Barn to speak. Cllr Bangert commended the work undertaken at the Barn and emphasised the importance of supporting the people who attended. In addition she informed the Committee of the youth work undertaken at the Barn in partnership with the Bourne Community College.

Officer's, with support from Ms Biesal, Mr Jones and Mrs Haynes responded to Members' comments and questions as follows;

- Mrs Haynes confirmed that the Tuppenny Barn had received funding from the Sussex Community Trust.
- For the purpose of clarification Mrs Bushby informed the Committee that Public Health were the lead authority for Suicide Prevention.
- Mrs Thomas informed the Committee that whilst the majority of housing referrals did come from Hyde Housing, the team also worked closely with Clarion but the number of referrals was much smaller.
- On the matter of demographics and the age and sex of referrals, Mrs Thomas informed the Committee that the service worked with all ages. She agreed to circulate a breakdown outside the meeting.

The Chairman proposed that the recommendation set out in the report be amended to include the following addition; *'The Committee thanks all those that deliver the service in the community.* This was seconded by Cllr Bangert and supported by all.

The Committee voted in favour of the amended recommendation.

**Resolved;**

**The Committee noted the progress and outcomes to date for the Social Prescribing service.**

**The Committee thanks all those that deliver the service in the community.**

The Chairman invited Mrs Rogers to present her report to the Committee. Mrs Rogers explained that the roll out of Universal Credit had been impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic, with the number of claims increasing significantly, particularly during the first lockdown period after the furlough scheme was announced.

Mrs Rogers highlighted to the Committee how the Council supports residents in migrating over to Universal Credit.

Following her presentation Mrs Rogers and Mrs Rudziak responded to members' comments and questions as follows;

- Mrs Rogers explained that the Department of Work & Pensions were responsible for the administration of Universal Credit, however, it was her understanding that the six week delay was improving.
- Mrs Rogers explained that the council has no control over the administering of Universal Credit, however they can offer assistance in other ways including;
  - Delaying council tax payments
  - Mirroring the £20 uplift within the Council Tax Reduction
  - Offering discretionary support to those who have been most impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic. However, members were made aware that the discretionary grant is a limited budget.

In addition, Mrs Rudziak informed the Committee that the Government had launched a Hardship Scheme which provided the sum of £150 towards council tax payments for individuals that met certain criteria and had been impacted by the Covid pandemic; this was in addition to Chichester's own council tax discretionary scheme which continues to offer 100% relief in some cases.

- Mrs Rogers informed the Committee that individuals could apply for an advance on their first payment of Universal Credit; however, this could cause further issues later on.
- On the matter of Universal Basic Income, Mrs Rudziak explained that the council was not able to pilot such a scheme as the financial support was too great. It was also her understanding that local authority which had considered piloting the scheme was also not in a financial position that would allow them to run the pilot, instead they had written to the Government to request that they run a government funded pilot should the government wish to consider the proposal.
- Mrs Rogers explained that the figures quoted within section 5 of the report were based on those provided by the DWP; however, she would confirm figures outside the meeting. Demand for Universal Credit within the district had increased significantly at the start of the pandemic, particularly before the furlough scheme was announced. In addition, Mrs Rudziak explained that figures may also appear high as people who were on Housing Benefit transfer over to Universal Credit, managed migration has been put on hold till 2024.

The Committee voted in favour of the recommendation.

**Resolved;**

**The Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the contents of the report which provides and update on the impacts of Universal Credit within the district. In addition the report details how the Council is working to mitigate any negative impacts on residents.**

*\*The Committee took a short break.*

91 **Draft Revised Air Quality Action Plan**

The Chairman invited Mr Ballard to present his report to the Committee. Mr Ballard informed the Committee that the Air Quality Action Plan had been recommended by the Environment Panel to Cabinet for its approval to be published for public consultation. The consultation period would run from 17 May to 28 June 2021.

Mr Ballard explained to the Committee why the authority was required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan and that this would be the third plan adopted by the authority. Mr Ballard highlighted some of the initiatives which had been established through the previous plans including;

- The Chichester Car Club
- The Local Cycling Walking and Infrastructure Plan
- Electric vehicle charging points
- Introducing the Cycle to work Scheme

Mr Ballard explained that unlike previous plans this Plan included Midhurst, due to an Air Quality Action Management Area (AQMA) being declared at Rumbolds' Hill in 2020.

Mr Ballard informed the Committee of the evidence base that was used in developing the plan, and how air quality was monitored. Future trends suggest that there will be significant levels of improvement in the air quality of Chichester and by 2025 it is expected that all four sites will be compliant with the NO<sub>2</sub> level set by Government.

Mr Ballard explained that the main actions of the plan were to;

- undeclare both Orchard Street and Stockbridge Road as AQMA's
- decommission the air quality monitoring station at Orchard Street
- decommission the air quality monitoring station in Lodsworth

Mr Ballard explained the different responsibilities that came under each authority (CDC and WSCC), for example WSCC is responsible for the highways and buses.

In response to a recent court case that had been reported in the press, Mr Ballard informed the Committee that Chichester District were not one of the 33 failing authorities that were failing to deliver Government targets and objectives and as such the court case was not relevant to Chichester.

Mr Ballard shared a number of graphs with the Committee, including a graph showing the impact of Covid 19 on NO<sub>2</sub>, he explained that it was important that the Committee noted that the AQAP was based on pre Covid datasets.

Mr Ballard explained that that it was important to adopt an Air Quality Action Plan, as having such a document in place also for funding applications to be made for the actions (identified on page 58 of the plan) that will bring about the required changes in air quality.

Mr Ballard responded to comments and questions as follows;

- Mr Ballard explained that when the Highways Agency (HA) had originally consulted on their options in 2016, air quality modelling was included as part of that consultation. Chichester District Council had reviewed the modelling data and submitted a response accordingly.
- Mr Ballard was unaware of whether a specific impact assessment would be undertaken on the Southern Link Road if it was adopted and would check outside the meeting with Mr Ayling, Divisional Manager Planning Policy. However, he did inform the Committee that as part of the Local Plan Revision some Air Quality modelling was been commissioned.
- Mr Ballard acknowledged the comment made regarding the lack of any new secondary school provision on the southern side of the A27 and would relay this back to Planning Policy colleagues.
- Mr Ballard would liaise with colleagues in Planning Policy regarding the Southern Gateway and feedback outside the meeting.
- Mr Ballard informed the Committee that West Sussex County Council had just begun the process of developing their new Local Transport Plan.
- Mr Ballard explained that statutory technical guidance states; that where there are annual mean levels of less than 60mg, then it is unlikely that there will be any exceedance of hourly levels.
- With regards to the level of Air Quality on the Hornet, Mr Ballard informed the Committee that there were two monitoring sites on the Hornet. The data collected from these stations indicates that air quality on the Hornet is compliant with statutory standards for both NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>, as a result there is no evidence to suggest that WSCC need to alter the road layout at that location.
- Mr Ballard explained that Westhampnett Road does not form part of an Air Quality Management Area; however, they had been monitoring the site for a number of years, with an air quality monitoring station being installed approximately 12 months ago. Despite concerns data collected shows that the road is compliant with air quality standards.
- In response a question regarding the rise in levels of pollution during 2016, Mr Ballard was unable to explain what had caused the increase. However, he

explained that within air quality there are a number of variables which could affect the data, including the weather, wind, greater car movements etc.

- In response to a comment regarding the disconnect between the public and air quality, Mr Ballard acknowledged the comments and agreed that as a result of national media and the link between certain health conditions and levels of air quality the public were much more concerned about their exposure to poor air quality. He explained that the report focused on NO<sub>2</sub>, however going forward PM<sub>10</sub> will be of greater priority, and the introduction of the Environment Bill will see a binding standard for PM<sub>10</sub> set.
- In response to a question from parishes regarding the reduction of speed along the A259 to help improve air quality, road safety etc, Mr Ballard explained that the majority of highway decisions are taken on an evidence based approach and a level of monitoring would need to be undertaken.
- Mr Ballard explained that air quality monitoring had taken place at a number of locations over the years; there are currently 18 sites within the district being monitored on an annual basis. When the data collected shows that a site is significantly compliant with air quality standards then that site will no longer be monitored. Previous monitoring had been undertaken at the Witterings and data had shown that the site was compliant.

The Committee voted in favour of the proposed recommendation.

**Resolved;**

**That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommends to Cabinet that the revised Air Quality Action Plan be approved for public consultation.**

92 **The Novium Museum Task and Finish Group**

The Chairman invited Mrs Peyman to introduce her report to the Committee. Mrs Peyman explained that the report provided information about work undertaken following the conclusion of the Novium Museum procurement process in 2018.

Mrs Peyman drew the Committee's attention to 5.1 of the report which detailed the proposals put forward by the consultants, all of which were not only very costly, but had long payback periods. Therefore the Task and Finish group agreed that officers should look at smaller and less costly projects that would still deliver a positive visitor experience, these included; external advertising banners, provision of an external biomass hopper, removal of the large reception desk to provide increased retail space and improvements to the audio visuals for the roman baths.

In addition Mr Briscoe provided the Committee with an update following the most recent meeting of the Task and Finish Group. He explained that Ms Bangert had accepted an invitation to join the group. The meeting had been very productive and will continue to meet to progress discussions and ideas. Mrs Peyman informed the Committee that the group had voted in favour of developing the following;

- Seeking and developing new funding opportunities

- Exploring and developing new and existing partnership arrangements with other museums.
- Subject to planning consent, looking at the banners on the building
- Considering the biomass boiler as part of the wider Climate Change programme

Cllr Briscoe and Mrs Peyman responded to comments and questions as follows;

- With regards to the Terms of Reference of the Task and Finish Group going forward Mr Briscoe confirmed that, following discussions with officers, the current terms were still relevant.
- On the matter of considering the possibility of future relocation of the Novium within the Terms of Reference, Mr Briscoe agreed to consider the suggestion.
- Mrs Peyman explained that the Novium was a key component in both the economic and cultural offer of the City and wider district. In addition working with cultural partners such as the Great Sussex Way, as well as the work being done as part of the Cultural Partnership for 2022 will further increase opportunities of bringing people together.
- Mrs Peyman explained that the cost of the banners was only an estimate; the quote was for four banners, however they would need to be made specifically to fit the building which did increase cost. With regards to the cost of the reception desk, this included the removal of the large desk, reinstating the floor, rerunning electrics and the provision of two new pods; this project has not been proposed by the TFG to progress at this time.
- Mrs Peyman confirmed that she would welcome any feedback from the community on the Novium. She informed the Committee that the Novium worked closely with the local community, for example the recent Cattle Market Exhibition which had been developed in partnership with the local community. There were also a number of new projects coming forward which had all been developed with the community including; a project on Graylingwell and the effects of Covid-19.
- In response to a comment regarding the future of the museum, Mr Briscoe informed the Committee that he did not envisage a city without the museum and work would continue to be done to help secure its provision.

The Chairman proposed that the recommendation be amended to the following;

*The Committee note the actions of the Novium Museum Task and Finish Group and support the ongoing work of the Task and Finish Group.*

This was supported by all members. The Committee voted in favour of the amended recommendation.

**Resolved;**

**The Committee note the actions of the Novium Museum Task and Finish Group and support the ongoing work of the Task and Finish Group.**

93 **Forward Plan**

Item deferred.

*Cllr Bangert left the meeting at 5.25pm.*

94 **Late Items**

There were no late items.

95 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Cllr Moss proposed and read the part II resolution in relation to the Efficiency Programme Progress Report agenda item, which was seconded by Cllr Purnell.

96 **Efficiency Programme Progress Report**

*Please note this item was discussed in part II.*

Mr Buckley presented the report to the Committee, and then responded to members' question and comments.

The Committee made the following resolution;

**Resolved;**

1. The Committee notes the projected total for the programme, as detailed in Appendix 1 now stands at £2.07m of annual revenue savings compared to the original position of £2.09m
2. The Committee notes that only 75% of this figure is assumed in the Council's financial projections.
3. The Committee notes that the 2021-22 budget assumes a net saving of £747,000 from the efficiency programme, but the latest projections predict a net saving of £800,000

The meeting ended at Time Not Specified

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CHAIRMAN

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Date:

