

# Minutes

## Braintree Local Committee

24th November 2009



### MINUTE EXTRACT

#### 32 LOCAL COMMITTEE BUDGET AND PRIORITIES

**INFORMATION:** Consideration was given to a report on the Braintree Local Committee budget and priorities for 2009/10 and 2010/11. The report included a financial summary of the 2009/10 budget as at 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

Members were reminded that an Action Plan and priorities for the Committee's 2009/10 budget had been determined, but it had been agreed that specific funding should not be allocated until a business case and detailed costs had been calculated for each project. It was proposed that a Sub-Group of Braintree Local Committee Members should be formed to assess each business case and to approve the allocation of funding.

With regard to the 2010/11 budget, a consultation event had been held on 29th September 2009 at which Members of the Committee had been joined by representatives of community groups, public service providers, and local people to discuss how to make the area a better place in which to live and to identify priority issues and projects. The results of the Place Survey which had been undertaken in 2008 to determine the views and perception of local people about Council services, and the Comprehensive Area Assessment process, which examined how effectively local public services were performing and working together to meet the needs of local people, had been used to assist the discussions.

People attending the consultation event had been asked what they considered was needed to make the Braintree locality a better place and the key priorities which had been identified were anti-social behaviour; transport; town improvements; open spaces; and obesity. Ideas on how these priorities could be tackled were also discussed and a list of potential actions/projects was identified. This was attached to the Agenda report at Appendix C.

It was noted, that in the current economic climate it was even more important for organisations to work in partnership and many of the ideas put forward would require further discussion with partner organisations and members of the public before they could be developed.

Members were requested to identify which projects should be given the most importance in order that the Cabinet could be recommended to allocate funding for these in the 2010/11 financial year. The other projects listed in Appendix C would be included in a one/two year work programme. The final decision on which projects would be taken forward for 2010/11 would be made in February 2010.

Members were reminded that Councillor Simon Walsh had been appointed to represent Braintree Local Committee on a Focus Group which would consider how to involve people in the work of the Local Committees. It was noted that the Focus Group would be meeting in the New Year.

**DECISION:**

- (1) That the Braintree Local Committee budget 2009/10 financial summary as at 8th October 2009 be noted.
- (2) That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee together with Councillors Ms Flint, E Lynch, McArdle, Mrs Shepherd and Wilkinson be appointed to a Sub-Group to meet in early December 2009 to assess all business cases and be delegated authority to approve projects and allocate funding from the 2009/10 budget.
- (3) That the projects set out in Appendix C of the report be included in a one/two year work programme and that representations be made to the Local Strategic Partnership regarding those proposals which do not relate to Braintree District Council services.

**That it be Recommended to Cabinet** that the proposed Local Youth Forum and increase/extension of the community transport scheme, as set out in Appendix C of the report, be identified as priorities for funding from the 2010/11 budget.