

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D170006CAB
Date: 31 January 2017

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Open Churchyards

(Report of Management Team)

Further to the Council's adoption of a Special Expenses Scheme and to Minute CB 16/60 (4) in respect of the open churchyard issue, the report gave details of the outcome of discussions with the Rural Deans. It was recommended that no budgetary provision should be made towards the maintenance costs of open churchyards and that the results of a burial capacity study commissioned in partnership with the Rural Deans should be reported back in due course, initially to the Communities and Housing Advisory Board.

The Cabinet resolved that:

- (1) it be confirmed that no future budgetary provision should be made in respect of discretionary financial contributions towards the maintenance costs of open churchyards;
- (2) it be noted that a "capacity study" of burial spaces within the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling has commenced in partnership with the Rural Deans;
- (3) the Management Team be requested to present a report on the results of that study to a future meeting; and
- (4) the Rural Deans be thanked for their understanding and assistance in progressing the project.

Reasons: As set out in the report of the Management Team.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 3 February 2017

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Overview and Scrutiny Review - Christmas Lighting and Hanging Basket Displays

(Report of Chief Executive)

Consideration was given to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting of 24 January 2016 on the outcome of a review of the future funding of Christmas lighting displays and hanging basket provision in Tonbridge.

The Cabinet resolved that:

The recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be endorsed as follows:

- (1) no change be made to the current arrangements for Christmas lighting grant support in the parished areas but these be reviewed again when necessary;
- (2) alternative funding options for Tonbridge Christmas lights and hanging baskets be explored for 2017/18. If these options are found not to be viable, the Council, as a last resort, be recommended to review the listed functions within the Council's adopted Special Expenses Scheme with a view to including the functions within that scheme from 2018/19;
- (3) a range of potential funding options be explored, including seeking direct support from local traders and achieving additional income generation from new events, markets, advertising and street trading concessions; this funding to be additional to any existing income already generated or planned for in the town centre;
- (4) the target income figure for 2017/18 be set at £17,000, being 50% of the annual costs of both the Christmas lights and hanging baskets; and
- (5) a review of the progress achieved with the above initiatives be undertaken in the third quarter of 2017/18.

Reasons: As set out in the report of the Chief Executive to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

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Hive Lotto - Commercialisation of Brand

(Report of Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer)

The report provided an update on progress since the Council's launch of an online lottery on 2 September 2016 to provide discretionary support to voluntary and community groups. Consideration was given to a proposal for further growth of Hive Lotto through the acceptance of other local authorities into the existing lottery, the proposed terms for which contained exempt information and were set out in the private part of the agenda.

The Cabinet resolved that:

- (1) the amended criteria at Annex 2 to the report be approved for acceptance of good causes into the lottery;
- (2) the Director of Central Services be authorised to negotiate and agree detailed terms with interested local authorities to join Hive Lotto; and
- (3) the Director of Central Services be authorised to complete all necessary legal documentation to give effect to the recommendation set out at (2) above.

Reasons: As set out in the report of the Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer (Annex 3 contains exempt information).

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

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Public Open Spaces Protection Order

(Report of Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer)

The report referred to new duties placed upon the Council under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to tackle anti-social behaviour, Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) being one of a number of tools for dealing with a nuisance or problem in a particular area. Details were given of a proposed PSPO for Tonbridge and Malling including Borough-wide restrictions and those for particular geographical areas, together with consultation arrangements. It was noted that the results of the consultation would be reported to the Cabinet on 21 March 2017.

It was suggested that the introduction to the consultation document should clarify that the proposed PSPO generally replaced existing enforcement arrangements rather than introducing significant changes.

The Cabinet resolved that:

The proposed Public Spaces Protection Order, as presented at Annex 1 to the report with the amendment to the introduction to the consultation document, be circulated for consultation.

Reasons: As set out in the report of the Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer.

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

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