

Policy & Resources Committee

Date:	1 November 2016
Title:	Reports - External Organisations

Thame Barns Centre (Cllr Dodds)

The Centre continues to operate very well. Forward bookings are strong, both for social events i.e. Weddings etc and for commercial bookings from local companies. In terms of working to its budget it is very much on track.

One issue that has been discussed by Trustees is compliance with the new pension regime and professional advice has been sought.

Citizens Advice Bureau (Cllr Austin)

Presentation by Jon Bright – Agenda Item 5.

Health Hub (Cllr Champken-Woods)

Waiting for information on the Cattle Market from SODC. Meetings still ongoing with Hallam land but nothing decided yet. Hallam to meet with NPWG

NALC (Cllr Dyer)

There should be no need for a detailed report as the Town Clerk regularly circulates copies of all communications from NALC, and of all TTC submissions to NALC consultations. Suffice to mention that the two main topics on which NALC is currently lobbying on behalf of the Town / Parish sector are the Neighbourhood Planning Bill currently going through Committee Stage in Parliament and the proposed precept capping that would impact the largest 120 Councils in the UK (including Thame). We are playing our full part in responding on these issues and also lobbying in our own right wherever the opportunity arises.

On a more local basis I joined the Town Clerk in attending an OALC Meeting in Witney two weeks ago, also attended by a senior officer from DCLG, at which these same topics dominated the agenda. We will be hosting the next OALC Meeting in Thame in April 2017.

Thame Business Forum (Cllr Dyer)

The meeting in September, held at Groves new facility in Thame, was particularly well attended. Groves made a short presentation about their business, and also offered a tour of their facility following the meeting.

Members were updated on the Neighbourhood Plan, the Open Doors event held in July, and changes to personnel in the SODC Economic Development team, but the main topic was a presentation, and subsequent discussion, of the SODC and AVDC new Local Plan consultations.

The next meeting on 22 November will be hosted at Chinnor Rugby Club and it is intended that the main topic will be to start gathering evidence towards identifying Thame's current deficiencies and future needs for industrial and commercial land and infrastructure. This is of particular concern not only in the context of new Local Plans but also following the loss of Goodsons Mews to housing development and the uncertainty regarding the future of the Tesco / DAF site.

Thame & District Housing Association (Cllr Butler)

Nothing to report as at 28/10/16.

21st Century Thame (Cllrs Emery & Fickling)

Nothing to report as at 28/10/16

Welfare Trust (Cllr Champken-Woods)

Nothing to report - next meeting will be in January.