

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6.00 P.M.

19TH JUNE 2019

PRESENT:- Councillors Tricia Heath (Chair), Stephie Barber (substitute member for the Conservative vacancy), Alan Biddulph, Tim Dant, Roger Dennison (substitute for Debbie Jenkins), Stewart Scothern and David Whitaker

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillors Debbie Jenkins and Abi Mills

Officers in attendance:-

Daniel Bates
Stephen Metcalfe

Director of Corporate Services
Principal Democratic Support Officer

1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

The Chairman requested nominations for Vice-Chair of the Committee. It was proposed by Councillor Patricia Heath, seconded by Councillor David Whitaker and unanimously agreed:

“That Councillor Stewart Scothern be appointed Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.”

Resolved:

That Councillor Stewart Scothern be appointed Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2019 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR

There were no items of urgent business.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5 APPOINTMENTS

The Committee was requested to make the following appointments:

- Scrutiny Champion
- Pre- Scrutiny Champion

Also to appoint to the following bodies:

- Homelessness Forum
- Lancaster, Morecambe and District Fairtrade Group

Resolved:

- (1) That Councillor Patricia Heath be appointed Scrutiny Champion for the Municipal Year.
- (2) That Councillor Debbie Jenkins be appointed the Pre-Scrutiny Champion for the Municipal Year.
- (2) The following appointments were agreed to outside bodies:
 - Homelessness Forum – Councillor Roger Dennison
 - Lancaster, Morecambe & District Fairtrade Group - Councillor Tim Dant.

6 UPDATES ON THE EDEN (NORTH) PROJECT

The Director of Corporate Services provided the Committee with an update on the Eden (North) project.

It was reported that the first planning report for the proposed attraction had been submitted to the City Council. It was noted that the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report was the first stage in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment and planning application for the project.

The Committee was informed that a further report was scheduled to be submitted to the August Cabinet meeting for consideration.

Resolved:

That the oral update be noted.

7 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TRAINING EVENT

The Committee discussed issues that had arisen as a result of the Overview and Scrutiny training event held on Monday, 17th June 2019.

8 WORK PROGRAMME REPORT

The Committee was requested to consider the process for selecting items for the Committee's Work Programme. It was noted that the Committee was responsible for setting its own Annual Work Programme within its Terms of Reference.

The report advised all Councillors had been emailed and a press release and a social media release had been produced for issues to be considered for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme.

The Committee had previously agreed to the following processes for considering current and future scrutiny Work Programme topics and agenda items:

A meeting be arranged with the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Chair of Budget & Performance Panel, the Pre-Scrutiny Champion and members of the Council's Senior Management Team (Note: now Executive Team). This meeting will allow a preliminary prioritisation of submissions to be conducted and report back to this Committee. This being subject to the arrangements for consulting on future Work Programme items as set out in the Constitution continuing and the Work Programme being finally agreed by this Committee.

Following consideration of the report the Committee noted the process for considering the current and future scrutiny Work Programme topics and agenda items as set out in Section 2 of the report.

It was also noted that it was usual, after an election, for the new Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee to meet informally to discuss Cabinet's plans for the forthcoming year and how scrutiny can become engaged in the decision making process.

The event gave both Cabinet and Scrutiny Members the chance to get to know one another, explore Cabinet Member's portfolios and make suggestions for the Committee's Work Programme for the year. This meeting had been arranged for July, details would be circulated once this was confirmed.

Resolved:

- (1) That the Committee notes the report and the processes for considering current and future scrutiny Work Programme topics and agenda items as set out in Section 2 of the report.
- (2) That, subject to (1) above, the Committee notes that a report on any suggestions for the Work Programme will be provided at the next meeting.

Chair

(The meeting ended at 6.35 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
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