

# Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30 September 2014 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Mrs Falp (Chairman); Councillors Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Mrs Bromley, Brookes, Copping, Ms Dean, Edwards, Gill, Guest, Mrs Higgins, Illingworth, Kinson OBE and Wreford-Bush.

**Also Present:** Councillors Hammon and Mobbs.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs Grainger.

## 42. **Substitutes**

There were no substitutes.

## 43. **Declarations of Interest**

Minute 46 - Executive Agenda (Non-confidential items and reports) – Wednesday 1 October 2014 - Item 6 – St Mary’s Lands Business Strategy

Councillor Kinson declared a personal interest because he was a Trustee of Hill Close Gardens.

## 44. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2014 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## 45. **Comments from the Executive**

The Committee considered a report from Democratic Services which detailed the responses the Executive gave to the comments the Overview and Scrutiny Committee made regarding the reports submitted to the Executive at the start of September.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

## 46. **Executive Agenda (Non-confidential items and reports) – Wednesday 1 October 2014**

The Committee considered the following non-confidential items which would be discussed at the meeting of the Executive on Wednesday 1 October 2014.

Item 6 – St Mary’s Lands Business Strategy

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report but suggested that no additional car parking should be considered as part of the plans for the development of the Golf Centre.

(Councillor Edwards joined the meeting during discussions on this item.)

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)**

### **Item 5 – Request to increase the Hackney Carriage Fares**

The Committee supported the recommendations in the report but wished to see improvements in standards going hand in hand with an increase in fares.

#### **47. Summary of the role, responsibilities and work of the South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership**

The Committee considered a report from Health and Community Protection which set out the role, responsibilities and work of South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership. This was the statutory body for reducing crime, disorder, substance misuse and reoffending in South Warwickshire.

Councillors were pleased to note that there was an overall downward trend with anti-social behaviour incidents and were informed that weather and holiday periods did affect the incident rate. However, it was noted that anti-social behaviour incidents were not worse this year when compared with the previous year, despite the good summer we had had.

The Committee thanked the Safer Communities Manager for the report.

(Councillor Brookes left the meeting during discussions on this item.)

#### **48. LEP Update**

Councillor Mobbs gave the Committee a verbal update on the work being done by the Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). He advised the Committee Services Officer that there was no necessity to take minutes whilst he was speaking as he would send her a copy of his notes to be to be circulated to Committee Members.

(Councillor Guest left the meeting at the start of this item.)

#### **49. Review of the Work Programme & Forward Plan**

The Committee considered its work programme for 2014/15 and the latest published version of the Forward Plan.

**Resolved** that:

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) a summary document of the purpose of each Partnership listed under point 8.10 in the report be provided for the meeting in November.

#### **50. Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee Minutes and Update**

The Committee received the draft minutes from the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee, held on 9 September 2014. The Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Councillor Wreford-Bush, informed Members that Councillor Mrs Knight had been co-opted onto the Sub-Committee as a non-voting member to allow the Council to capitalise on the knowledge she had built up of health scrutiny whilst she had been a member of the, now dissolved,

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)**

Health Scrutiny Working Party. He then gave a short synopsis of what had transpired at the meeting and plans for the following meeting, which included a talk on air quality in the District and a presentation from members of the Warwickshire Rural Community Council on the Community Voluntary Transport Service.

Councillor Mrs Higgins volunteered to substitute for Councillor Illingworth at the next Health Scrutiny meeting.

Councillor Copping asked for progress on appointing a Mental Health Champion and the Committee Services Officer informed Members that there had been a misunderstanding between her and the Democratic Services Manager, her manager. The request received from the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Mrs Sawdon, had not been for the Council to appoint a mental health champion, but had simply been an enquiry if the Council had such an appointee to accompany her to a meeting; in effect "wires had got crossed". After discussion, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members felt that such an appointment was unnecessary and that if any Councillor on the Health Scrutiny Sub Committee was interested in such work, they could simply volunteer to help next time the Council's Chairman needed any support at a meeting.

### **51. Executive Agenda (Non-confidential items and reports) – Wednesday 1 October 2014 (continued)**

#### Item 9 – Corporate Peer Challenge

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the report.

#### Item 10 – Planning Peer Review Update

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the report.

#### Item 11 – Skills Initiative Funding

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations in the report.

### **52. Public and Press**

**Resolved** that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the paragraphs 1,2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, as set out below.

### **53. Minutes**

The confidential minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2014 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

(Councillor Copping left the meeting at the end of this item.)

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

### 54. **Comments from the Executive**

The Committee considered a report from Democratic Services which detailed the responses the Executive gave to the comments the Overview and Scrutiny Committee made regarding the confidential reports submitted to the Executive at the start of September.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

(Councillors Mrs Blacklock and Gill left the meeting during discussions on this item.)

(The meeting finished at 8.40 pm)