

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12 January 2016 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Boad (Chairman); Councillors Bromley, Cain, Mrs Cain, Cooke, Gill, Margrave, Naimo, Parkins and Mrs Redford.

Also Present: Councillor Mobbs

50. **Substitutes**

- (a) An apology for absence was received from Councillor Davison.
- (b) Councillor Gill substituted for Councillor D'Arcy, Councillor Cain substituted for Councillor Edgington and Councillor Cooke substituted for Councillor Miss Grainger.

51. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

52. **Minutes**

- (a) The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2015 were unavailable and would be submitted to the February meeting.
- (b) The minutes of the Joint meeting of the Finance & Audit and Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 1 December 2015 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- (c) The minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee held on 24 November 2015, were noted.

53. **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 in December 2015.

Resolved that the report be noted.

54. **Portfolio Holder Update – Neighbourhood Services**

The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services, Councillor Shilton, was unable to attend due to ill health. It was therefore agreed that this item would be carried forward to the February meeting.

55. **Update on the Development of the Council's Car Park Strategy**

The Committee received a report from Neighbourhood Services which updated Members on the development of the Council's Car Parking Strategy for the District.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

Deputy Chief Executive (BH) presented the report to the Committee and highlighted the particular issue with regard to Linen Street car park in Warwick and the options being considered for its future.

Resolved that the report be noted.

56. Proposed "Vision" for Royal Leamington Spa Town Centre

The Committee received a verbal update from the senior Project Co-ordinators regarding the Proposed "Vision" for Royal Leamington Spa Town Centre.

They explained that they were working with all key partners within the town to develop proposals for the future of the Town Centre. This included finding how to meet aspirations and looking at the right formal structures for the work without duplicating current groups or organisations. They envisaged that a report would be brought before Members in April setting out their work to date.

57. Coventry & Warwickshire LEP Update

The Leader, Councillor Mobbs, addressed Members and updated them on the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership.

Councillor Mobbs summarised the minutes from the last Board meeting for the Committee, which were available on line. He also explained that it was anticipated that the creative quarter proposal would receive backing from the LEP Board in January 2016 and it would be necessary for the Council to try and gain external funding for this scheme.

The Chairman thanked the Leader for his update.

58. LGA District Councils' Network

The Leader, Councillor Mobbs, addressed Members and updated them on the Local Government Association District Council's Network.

The District Council's Network was a cross party member-led network of 200 District Councils which provided a single voice for District Council's within the Local Government Association. It lobbied government, the political parties and other stakeholders directly on behalf of its members, as well as commissioning research, providing support, and sharing best practice.

The network had an Executive of 21 Council Leaders, which included Councillor Saint of Stratford District Council, and had a Chief Executives network that included Ian Davies of Rugby Borough Council.

Warwick District Council only attended meetings when needed rather than as a matter of routine but recognised the importance of the network. For example, by being part of the network the Council had been able to be part of the case study and impact assessment of the Housing and Planning Bill on our Housing Revenue Account and new build aspirations. This had led to the Council being invited to a meeting with the Housing Minister to raise its concerns directly.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

Currently the network was lobbying on the future proposals for business rates retention and the impact of the Local Government Finance settlement.

The Chairman thanked the Leader for his update.

59. Review of the Work Programme & Forward Plan

The Committee considered its work programme for 2015/16 and the latest published version of the Forward Plan.

Resolved that:

- (1) Portfolio Holder Update – Neighbourhood Services be deferred to February 2016;
- (2) the consideration to set up a Task & Finish Group to look at adaptations for people with Disabilities be deferred to February 2016 so it can be considered in line with the report to Executive; and
- (3) the Forward Plan be noted.

60. Executive Agenda (Non-confidential items and reports) – Wednesday 13 January 2016

The Committee considered the following non-confidential items which would be discussed at the meeting of the Executive on Wednesday 13 January 2016.

Item number 10 – Review of the Sexual Entertainment Establishment Policy

The Committee noted the report.

Item 13 – Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure

The Committee noted the report.

(The meeting finished at 7.10 pm)