

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Tuesday, 17 December 2019 at 7pm

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fleet

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Axam, Crookes (Chairman), Davies, Dorn, Farmer, Lamb, Makepeace-Browne, Smith, Worlock

In Attendance: Cockarill, Forster, Neighbour, Oliver

Officers:

Patricia Hughes	Joint Chief Executive
Mark Jaggard	Head of Place
John Elson	Head of Environment and Technical Services
Gill Chapman	Committee Services

85 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 19 November 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

86 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Councillors Drage and Wildsmith. Councillor Makepeace-Browne had replaced Councillor Collings on the Committee.

87 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that the item on Local Insurance Mutual would be taken later (see Minute 92) bearing in mind the exempt appendices.

88 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Neighbour declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Local Government Mutual item (Minute 92) as he was a member of the LGA Commercial Advisory Board and on the board of the LGA Commercial Services Ltd.

89 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ITEMS PERTAINING TO THE AGENDA)

A statement had been circulated from members of the Fleet Business Improvement District (Fleet BID) relating to Review of Hart Car Parking Charges (Minutes 94). Hook Parish Council also participated.

90 HEADS OF SERVICE ATTENDANCE

Members welcomed the new Head of Place, Mark Jaggard. Mark introduced his broad vision for the service.

91 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

The following item contained exempt information.

Members decided whether the public interest in maintaining an exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

DECISION

In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to, on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

92 INSURANCE: OFFER FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT MUTUAL

Members considered the purchase of insurance from the Local Government Mutual.

Members had a wide ranging debate which touched on the insurance market, risk assessment, procurement of quotes and benefits and governance of mutuals. Councillor Neighbour responded to questions and requests for clarification, which assured the Committee and led to the endorsement of this approach to Cabinet.

NB Appendices 1 and 2 were CONFIDENTIAL

DECISION

That the proposal to procure insurance from the Local Government Mutual, subject to a satisfactory offer being received, be recommended to Cabinet.

93 GARDEN COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

The Committee were updated on the governance arrangements for the Garden Community further to consideration by Cabinet in November.

There was substantial debate around partnership of forums and board and details of representatives and responsibilities, which led to the endorsement of the governance approach proposed.

DECISION

That the Governance approach as set out in Appendix I be recommended to Cabinet for adoption.

94 REVIEW OF HART PARKING CHARGES

The Committee's views were sought on proposed changes to Hart's car parking charges. Further information on responses from Odiham and Fleet parish Councils were circulated.

Members considered the report and its implications to the various areas in the district. After substantial discussions on the differing needs of each community, financial restrictions and implications, evaluation and evidence of the use of each car park, and the different options, Members acknowledged that there was no blanket solution to suit all localities.

It was agreed that the detailed information Parishes had requested on each car park would be forwarded as soon as possible in order for them to make informed decisions regarding their precept.

After lengthy discussion the responses of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were agreed as follows:

DECISION

That the Committee's response to the proposed changes to the Council's off street parking charges be considered as part of the 2020/2021 budget process:

- 1 That different communities have different needs regarding parking charges and issues in their locality, and all efforts should be made to try to tailor parking charges to local needs within the limits of Hart's financial capability
- 2 That more information to be given to Parishes and organisations regarding income and potential costs to help them in their views and feedback.

Committee did not resolve to leave confidential session, a technical fault with the camera at this point meant that the live streaming could not be resumed.

95 CABINET WORK PROGRAMME

The Cabinet Work Programme was considered and noted.

96 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme was considered and amended, and the knock on effect on the Cabinet Work Programme was noted:

- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - February
- Update on Peer Review - April
- Traffic management programme - February

The meeting closed at 9.34 pm